

with this uniformly favorable experience and successful operation of their railroads by other governments to guide us, I say again, the people of this country are ready to adopt government ownership of railways.

**A Good Book.**

Have you read "The Tattlings of a Retired Politician," by Forrest Cressey? If not you ought to do so. Some of the stories are true ones with only the names altered and all of them might be true so faithfully do the characters portray political life in the United States. The lessons taught are not the less valuable because made palatable by an entertaining style. The book is sold at all book stores and is published by Thompson & Thomas, Chicago.

**Pagan Rite at a Grave.**

An interesting feature connected with the burial of ex-State Senator George B. Sloan here today was the carrying out of a pagan rite at the grave by Kitawaga, for many years his Indian valet. Mr. Sloan was an Episcopalian, and after the services at the church the rector, the Rev. L. G. Morris, went to the cemetery, where the final services were conducted at the grave.

At the conclusion Kitawaga appeared at the head of his master's grave, and after pronouncing an invocation to the gods of his countrymen, opened a cage and liberated six white doves.

The affair was arranged with the consent of the family.—Exchange.

**First Use of Tea**

By whom or when the use of tea for drinking purposes was first discovered is lost in antiquity. It is spoken of as a famous herb in Chinese literature as far back as 2,000 years B. C., at which time its cultivation and classification were almost as thorough and complete as they are today. One of the ancient legends says that its virtues were accidentally learned by King Shen Nung She, the Chinese monarch who is also known as "the divine husbandman," who, the record says, flourished forty centuries ago. He was engaged in boiling water over a fire made of the branches of the tea plant and carelessly allowed some of the leaves to fall into the pot.

The liquid which he expected to come from the vessel simply as sterilized water was miraculously converted into an elixir of life by the accidental addition of the tea leaves. Soon after it became highly esteemed in all the oriental cities and was used as a royal gift from the Chinese monarchs to the potentates of southern and western Asia.

This same King Shen Nung She not only earned the title of respect by which he was known through the discovery of the virtues of tea, but because of being the first to teach his people how to make and use plows and many other implements of husbandry.—Omaha True Voice.

**Burns' Manuscript**

The original manuscript of "The Cotter's Saturday Night"—which Burns himself thought his finest poem—has been sold at Sotheby's for \$2,500.

Curiously enough, this is just the sum with which Burns returned to Ayrshire from Edinburg as the net proceeds of the first edition of his poems, after he had been lionized by all the men of light and leading in Modern Athens, and now the manuscript of only one of his effusions has fetched as much.

Burns wrote a fine, bold hand—full of character and force—and as big as Cromwell's or Bismarck's—what is called in Scotland "half-text."—London Cablegram to New York American.

**"The Kingdom of Never-Grow-Old."**

RICHARD L. METCALFE, in Omaha World-Herald.

That is a pretty scene in Ethel Barrymore's simple little play, "Cousin Kate," where the happy Irish lover throws open the gates of "the Kingdom of Never-Grow-Old." This Irish lover, a man who has learned, as Francis Murphy would say, that "it's time enough to be dignified when you're dead," had ever kept himself in touch with the children and had not permitted himself to become a stranger to the things that most delight the children's hearts. By chance he meets with "Cousin Kate," with whom he falls desperately in love. He mentions the famous old tale of the "Three Bears and Silver Locks," and "Cousin Kate" asks him if he is interested in such stories. He confesses the truth and admits that he has made it a practice to fight off the ravages of increasing years by keeping in touch with the simple things of life and mingling with the little ones. He tells her that it is just such things as these that keeps men and women young, and he adds that these pastimes are merely journeys to "the kingdom of never-

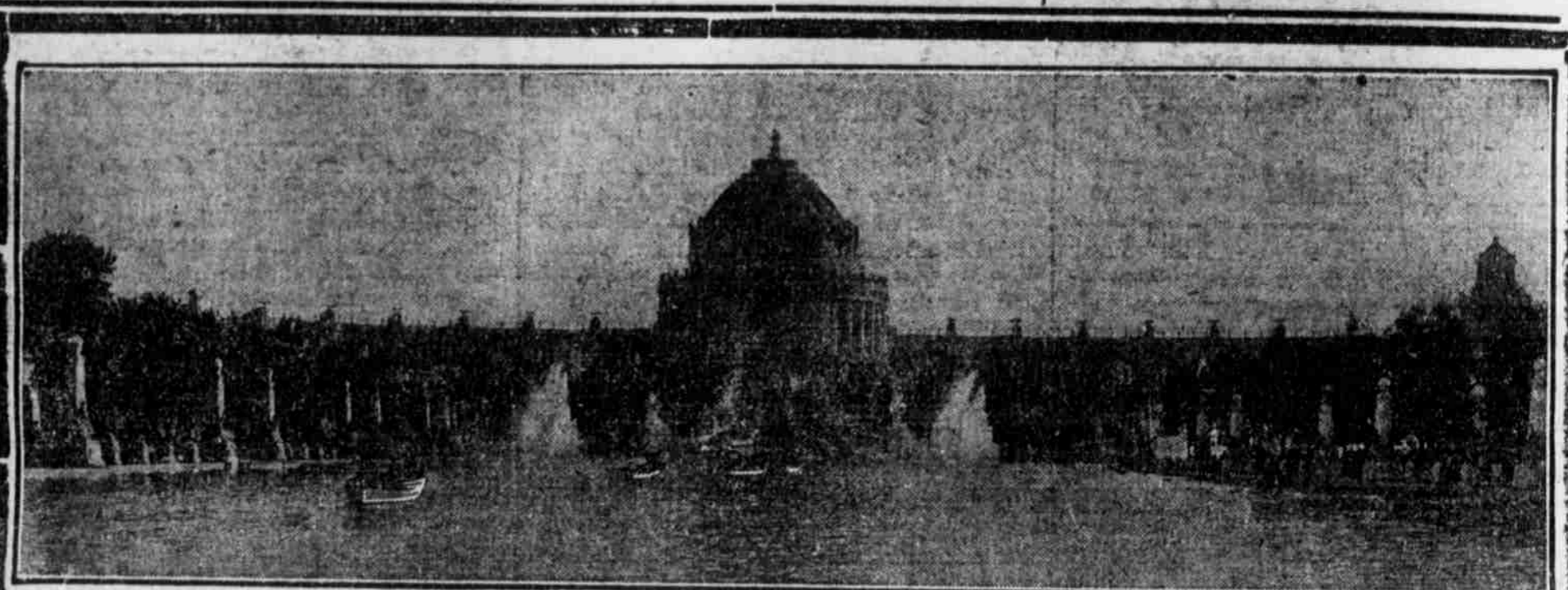
grow-old." "Cousin Kate" drops into a seat and says: "Tell me the story of the 'Three Bears and Silver Locks.'" The young Irishman begins the tale and when its conclusion is anticipated by his fair listener, showing that she has a familiarity with such stories, her lover takes a seat beside her and with a fine display of enthusiasm, says: "You are one of us; you, too, are of the kingdom!"

Stage folks have no monopoly in the touring of this kingdom. There are many busy men and women in this world today, as there have been busy men and women in the past, who make frequent journeys to those hallowed precincts. "And a little child shall lead them" is not all a prophecy; it is history. Some of the world's strongest men have been led by little ones; not led from the path of duty, but kept in that path by the influence which the association with little children had upon their lives. Several years ago when Benjamin Harrison, then president of the United States, visited Omaha, he addressed a great gather-

ing of children on the high school grounds. Always happy in his speeches to men, General Harrison showed that he was, as well, a children's orator. He knew how to command their attention; he knew how to touch their hearts; and, president though he was, he made the bold confession, then and there, that he had made it a practice to seek the company of little children in order to obtain the relaxation necessary in a busy career and that in the company of these little ones he had found the very best in life.

The man who confines his association to grown folks ignores opportunities for developing the mind, for rejuvenating the soul and for renewing faith in mankind. In the marts of trade there is selfishness and brutality; in the political arena there is hypocrisy and insincerity; in the social circle there is double dealing and lack of candor; but in the temple of childhood there is sincerity and truth; in "the kingdom of never-grow-old" there is relief from the meanness and the malice of the world.

He who would seek rest from the toil and the anxiety of a busy life may find it if he but cast dull dignity to the winds and cultivate the acquaintance



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