



Mayor Busse of Chicago demanded the resignations of twelve members of the board of education. Four responded and the mayor removed the others. It is claimed that the dismissals were made to insure the retention of E. G. Cooley as superintendent.

Abraham Hummel, the New York lawyer sentenced to Bridewell for a year on the charge of perjury, has been put to work in the prison bakery.

Through its attorney, the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific Railroad company pleaded guilty in the United States district court to two counts in the indictment charging it with violations of the Elkins law in granting rebates to the American Sugar Refining company and other corporations. A fine of \$20,000 was imposed on each count.

In an explosion in a fireworks factory at Newton Upper Falls, Mass., one employe was killed outright and a score seriously injured. Eight others are thought to be buried in the ruins of the factory.

The superintendent of police and two chiefs of detectives of Odessa were killed by the explosion of an infernal machine in police headquarters. Seven other persons were injured. The machine was left by two men and a girl. The men were captured but the girl escaped.

A "short circuit" caused an \$80,000 fire in Buffalo, N. Y. A score of costly automobiles were destroyed.

Two thousand freight handlers in Buffalo struck for an increase of two and one-half cents an hour.

Rioting marked the strike of street railway employes at Evansville, Ind.

At Port Townsend, Wash., the United States immigration authorities discovered six Japanese girls hidden in boxes on board the steamship Canfa. The girls were nearly suffocated when the hold was fumigated with sulphur.

The New York Herald says that Frederick A. Burnham, president of the Mutual Reserve Life Insurance company, has been asked by the directors of the company to resign. In the event of his failure to resign steps will be taken to declare his office vacant and also to elect Archibald C. Hayes to his place.

In a collision of the Buffalo-Cleveland special, west bound from New York City on the New York Central railroad, and a pile of wreckage just outside the limits of Little Falls, N. Y., one man was killed and two were seriously injured.

A series of hearings has been begun before the interstate commerce commission at Washington involving the freight rates on petroleum and its products, particularly in the territory of the Central Freight association. The allegation is made by the complainants that they are discriminated against in favor of the Standard Oil company. It is charged that whenever the railroads come into competition with the water carriers they give reduced rates, but when their competitor is a pipe line,

owned and controlled by the Standard Oil company, the rates are increased to a point where they become unjust and discriminatory.

The strike of 200 granite cutters at Milford, Mass., has been compromised. The strikers accepted 42 cents an hour instead of the 43 cents demanded. This is an increase of two cents an hour.

"Dollar wheat" caused great excitement on the Chicago board of trade recently. The dollar price was only temporary.

Recently in Buffalo, at one of the Central Railway club meetings, an English expert read a paper on the use of vanadium steel for rails. Since that time several of the largest mills have been experimenting with the new metal and tests have shown it to be particularly adaptable for rails. One railroad, it is stated, has already placed an order for some of the rails, which will be laid and given a practical test.

Five men were killed and four are in the hospital as a result of another furnace explosion at the Eliza furnaces of the Jones & Laughlin Steel company, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

Five workmen were killed and a dozen others seriously injured when an ammonia pipe exploded in the beef killing department of Armour & Co.'s plant at the stock yards, Chicago. The building was full of workmen at the time, and the deadly ammonia fumes escaping from under high pressure penetrated through every department in the building in such a short time that twenty of the men were overcome before they could make their escape to the fresh air. All but five of these men were dragged from the place by their companions, in such a serious condition that it was necessary to take them to a near-by hospital.

Collapsing buildings in the City of Mexico resulted in the killing of seven people and the probable fatal injuring of eight others.

The state tax board created by the recently adjourned Texas legislature met and fixed the intangible asset valuation of forty-seven railroads in Texas at \$228,000,000, this being the only number out of seventy-five roads in the state which the board considered had tangible assets.

Heavy rains throughout Kansas, Nebraska and Oklahoma have dissipated fears of permanent injury to the wheat crop.

George Henry Finch, known as the "father of the house of commons," having represented Rutland in the house for forty years, died in London.

Mrs. McKinley, widow of President William McKinley, died Sunday, May 26, as a result of a stroke of paralysis on May 23.

The state department at Washington is in receipt of the following dispatch from Athens: "Owing to great numbers of refugees arriving in Greece from Bulgaria and elsewhere in Turkey, the Greek chamber of deputies, before adjourning for the Easter holidays, authorized

a loan of 10,000,000 francs for the purpose of furnishing these refugees with the implements, etc., necessary to enable them to begin life in their new homes."

The legislature of Florida has passed the anti-bucket shop bill and it now goes to the governor for his signature.

A report comes from Pittsburg to the effect that Charles M. Schwab and William E. Corey have agreed on a move whereby they will unite to the extent of their holdings in the Bethlehem Steel Works. This will mean strong competition for the steel trust.

The New York senate by a vote of 37 to 9 passed the two-cent fare bill. As it had already passed the lower house the bill now goes to Governor Hughes.

The Presbyterian general assembly at Columbus, O., adopted without a dissenting voice resolutions declaring that the permanent committee on temperance should not embark upon or interfere in political work, and indorsing the anti-saloon league as a safe, sane and effective organization. In the advancement of temperance "the assembly pledges to the league the fullest cooperation consistent with the constitution of the church."

The Lake Mohonk conference on international arbitration has closed its thirtieth session. The following officers were elected: President, Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler, New York; secretary to conference, Clinton R. Woodruff, Philadelphia; permanent corresponding secretary, H. C. Phillips, Mohonk Lake; treasurer, Alexander C. Wood, Camden, N. J.

THE COMMONER PICNIC

The sixth annual picnic of The Commoner force was held at Milford, Neb., on Saturday, May 25. On invitation of General J. H. Culver the picnic was held on his grounds at Shogo Springs. The working force of The Commoner, together with members of families, took a special train at 9:15, there being nearly seventy on board the special. On the way to Milford the special was stopped for twenty minutes to afford the passengers an opportunity to watch the operations of a huge steam shovel on some new railroad work. Milford was reached at 10:30, and soon after arrival on the beautiful picnic grounds near the Soldiers'

Home dinner was served. Immediately after dinner the annual baseball contest between the business force, captained by C. W. Bryan, and the editorial force, captained by W. J. Bryan, was pulled off. The business force won this year's game, thus re-capturing the trophy lost last year. Hon. George Fred Williams of Massachusetts played third base for the losing side, upon which fact no comment will be made, none being necessary.

As soon after the conclusion of the ball game as possible, the score being 9 to 6, the force visited the Soldiers' Home, and upon invitation of Commandant Presson Mr. Bryan and Mr. Williams addressed the veterans.

At 4:45 luncheon was served, and immediately preparations were made for the return journey. At 7 o'clock the special reached the station in Lincoln and the sixth annual picnic of The Commoner force had become history. The day, which looked gloomy and threatening early in the morning, turned out to be one of the best. The sun came out before Milford was reached, and the day was bright and warm.

DIDN'T NEED A LAWYER

"This man claims you stole his silk umbrella," said the judge.

"What have you to say?"

"Not much, your honor," replied the prisoner. "In the first place the ownership of this umbrella has not been established. The man says it belongs to him. That proves nothing when an umbrella is the article in question. Second, there was no criminal intent. For further enlightenment on that point, see the decision of the New York court of appeals in the case of the insurance officials who gave away other people's money. And third, there is the unwritten law—"

"Discharged!" thundered the judge.—Chicago Daily Journal.

THE INDUSTRIOUS HEN

A billion, two hundred and fifty million dozen eggs were produced in this country last year. That means that the hen, the greatest trust-buster of the age, took fifteen billion whacks at the octopus in 1906. So, when you wax eloquent about the splendor and permanency of American institutions, don't forget one of the mightiest of them all—the industrious hen.—Bristol Courier.

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