

The enemies of the dogs in Massachusetts are said to have given up all hope of achieving anything while this pioneer protector of animals still lives.

From this time on Mr. Harriman is going to give the public his confidence, but the public mustn't ask for anything more than that.

If taxation can drive notes and mortgages into hiding on April 1, why might it not drive objectionable signs out of sight all the year round? Instead of prohibiting them, as some cities propose to do, a New York legislator would impose a tax of twelve cents a square foot on all signs everywhere having an area of more than thirty-two square feet.

The decision of the Pennsylvania railroad to increase the limit of age at which new employes may be taken on from thirty-five to forty-five years merely reflects the condition of scarcity in the labor market. The company prefers to fill all vacancies with young men, and the increase in the age limit indicates that under present conditions they are not to be had in the desired abundance.

A Minnesota newspaper suggests that saloon licenses ought to be issued directly to the brewers rather than to the irresponsible dummies who are projected into the business by them. That might do in Minnesota, but in Nebraska, where the man who retails intoxicants must first be shown to possess a "good moral character," the same as an applicant for a teacher's certificate, that would never do at all.

Negro railway mail clerks will continue to take chances on having to work in the same cars with white clerks, notwithstanding a desire among some of the latter that runs so arranged that this will not happen. That is to say, mail clerks will be treated as men, not as whites and negroes. Uncle Sam could hardly do otherwise, and the only recourse of the men who wish to be exclusive is to resign.

Current comment upon the retirement of Senator Spooner shows the need for an efficient information bureau of some kind at the national capital. The Outlook, for example, finds the resignation to be a "public calamity" and the cause of it "near being a public disgrace," for it believes that the senator goes out of public life because of poverty and because the senatorial salary does not leave him any margin to support his family and provide for his old age. The Wisconsin people who understand the senator to be worth from half to three quarters of a million dollars will naturally receive the Outlook's views upon the resignation with a skeptical grin.

In response to many requests for information it may be well to explain:

Under the "open primary" you go to the polls and are handed all the tickets offered by different parties. You enter the booth, vote as a republican or democrat or a prohibitionist or as a socialist, poke all the ballots into the box and go away without telling anybody what primary you participated in.

Under the "closed primary" you declare your party affiliation and receive the ballot of that party only on which to mark your preferences.

Politicians as a rule prefer the "closed primary" because they believe it helps keep up the party organization. Political idealists prefer the "open primary" because they believe it gives better government.

An article by C. D. Howard of the New Hampshire experiment station will serve jointly to warn candy dealers and candy buyers against adulterated sweets. Glucose, which enters largely into the manufacture of cheap candies, is frequently treated with concentrated bisulphite of soda to bleach it, and remove a tendency to stickiness in the candy product. Numerous samples examined showed the presence of considerable quantities of sulphurous acid, enough to bring the person to blame for its presence into direct relations with the enforcers of the pure food law. This, of course happens only in case the bad candy is made in another state. Until the Nebraska legislature gives us a pure food law Nebraska people can protect themselves from adulterated goods only by refusing to patronize home industry.

Militiamen, cadets and others who have "drilled" know no more familiar command of their early training than some form of "chest out, stomachs in," or the less elegant substitute command common to the drill squad. The ideal soldierly bearing has been on the order of the puffer pigeon for chest prominence. It is reported that all this is to be done away with in the British army and the Swedish method substituted. It is claimed the expanded chest is bad for the heart,

and that the whole formula is unnatural and therefore impractical. The repudiation of this athletic notion after more than a hundred years of acceptance will tend to increase skepticism of all athletic, hygienic, medical and dietetic creeds. This can hardly be helped as long as it seems possible to confront high authority for any notion along these lines with equally high authority for a conflicting idea.

It is considered settled around the county court houses of Nebraska that the primary bill will pass, and that all of the nominations will be made under it for the next election. Hence a general stirring around and numerous announcements of candidates. Other things being equal, the primary is advantageous to the men in the court houses. They have had a chance to develop a big acquaintance. If they have also been efficient officers or deputies or even clerks, they have a better chance for getting a nomination than men on the outside. The system of direct nominations is counted a good thing for young men who have served a few years in deputy positions and feel that it is time for a promotion. It is also a comfort to officials to have served only one term with a good record. They will be nominated again without trouble unless an unusual combination of circumstances is made against them.

What does "Uncle Joe" Cannon mean by selling his Nebraska farms? Throughout the winter the speaker has engaged in what in Wall street they call profit-taking. The Cass county farm is typical. Bought in 1901 for \$15,580. Rising prices generally, assisted perhaps by an effort to tax cash and securities, drove the price upward until now he cashes in for \$27,115. Why? His salary has just been raised, so he can not need the money. Perhaps from the attitude of the speakership he sees an oncoming storm and decides to take in sail. Maybe he really thinks Nebraska land is as high as it is going to be, and wants to put his money into "western" land. Perchance he supposed the duty on Philippine sugar would be reduced to the great detriment of Nebraska agriculture, or feels that the failure of the ship subsidy spells disaster to the farmers. The speaker is as foxy an investor as politician, if we may judge by his success in either role. It would be almost as interesting to know why he withdraws his capital from Nebraska as to know who he really expects will be the next president.

Some spreading of the idea of a general interest lobby to offset the special interest lobby with which we are only too familiar is indicated by recent movements in New York. The citizens union was formed in New York city after public spirited men had been forced to the conclusion that it was impossible to depend upon their representatives in the legislature to defend legitimate rights and interests of the city. It is now proposed to form a coalition of this and local organizations of the kind in other parts of the state for the purpose of establishing a central organization to devote its efforts to all state and local affairs, opening the way to full publicity of the acts of the legislature and the votes and conduct of each member. As the members of the Nebraska legislature have no doubt learned long since, the legislation which lobbies ask to be passed in the interest of one business or locality at the expense of all the rest. Well intentioned members of any legislature would not resent an organized effort to expose such schemes. Not the least value to such movements is the local civic spirit which they tend to generate.

At a time when political feeling ran high even for Colorado, when important cases were being adjudicated by the state supreme court strictly along party lines, Senator Patterson's papers captioned and lampooned the court very much as if it were any other political body. The senator was haled before the court for contempt, fined \$1,000 and ordered to jail till the fine should be paid. Mr. Patterson admitted his responsibility for the articles in question, and by way of defense offered to prove that they were accurate and justifiable. The court refused to hear his evidence on this point. Mr. Patterson then appealed to the supreme court, claiming that in punishing him for alleged "wanton defamation" without giving him a chance to prove that the articles were neither wanton nor defamatory but the truth, involves a violation of sacred constitutional rights. The decision in the case, which is now being heard in Washington, will be of importance as defining to some extent the freedom of the press in criticism of the courts, also the defensive rights of persons accused of contempt and haled before a bench which is at once judge, jury, and complaining witness.

QUESTION BOX

A bet that the population of Des Moines, Ia., has decreased from 1900 to 1907 in proportion to the increase of population in Lincoln during that time. Kindly decide.

We presume you would not be satisfied with anything less certain than official figures, and there have been no official figures for Lincoln since 1900. Des Moines has made a good increase, and Lincoln also.

Kindly explain the system of government recently established in Persia.

Since the establishment of a legislature, the constitution recognizes the sovereign power as vested in the dynasty of the Khajars. The rulers must govern, however, in co-operation with the representatives of the nation, and in conformity with its laws. The executive power is exercised by the shah through his ministers. Whether the latter are to hold office at the pleasure of the parliament, is one of the mooted questions. The legislative power is vested in a popular chamber, elected for two years and comprising at present 162 members, a number which may be increased to 200, and a senate of sixty members, of whom half are elected and half nominated. Laws may be originated by parliament or by the government, and after being passed by both houses receive the royal sanction, which would appear to be a formality, since the right of veto is not conceded. Financial bills may originate only in the chamber. The shah may dissolve the lower house in case of conflict with the senate, but the consent of two-thirds of the latter body is necessary to such action, and it may be exercised only once in two years. New elections must follow within a month, and the chamber assembles immediately after the close of the elections, irrespective of the absence of members from the more distant provinces. Freedom of the press is guaranteed.

Please give the number of horses and sheep in the United States.

	Horses.	Sheep.
	Number.	Number.
Maine	115,500	267,325
New Hampshire	60,600	78,292
Vermont	92,721	223,087
Massachusetts	80,800	44,573
Rhode Island	13,667	8,050
Connecticut	60,345	33,566
New York	695,877	1,120,000
New Jersey	101,886	44,198
Pennsylvania	607,010	1,102,058
Delaware	35,503	12,104
Maryland	158,180	164,873
Virginia	307,920	512,261
West Virginia	186,850	675,000
North Carolina	185,846	223,965
South Carolina	83,026	60,034
Georgia	189,297	276,632
Florida	51,278	101,255
Ohio	940,440	3,140,720
Indiana	798,102	1,190,828
Illinois	1,575,000	777,022
Michigan	636,518	2,108,795
Wisconsin	637,500	1,023,933
Minnesota	723,141	436,593
Iowa	1,390,950	703,902
Missouri	948,420	997,500
North Dakota	580,880	674,409
South Dakota	548,760	863,980
Nebraska	994,850	457,834
Kansas	1,085,750	233,581
Kentucky	387,327	1,060,000
Tennessee	315,435	344,954
Alabama	158,245	189,729
Mississippi	257,236	183,289
Louisiana	224,076	189,142
Texas	1,277,641	1,665,963
Indian Territory	296,400	30,977
Oklahoma	432,361	58,385
Arkansas	278,761	295,740
Montana	291,970	5,636,711
Wyoming	119,054	4,986,796
Colorado	261,655	1,677,561
New Mexico	119,258	4,559,365
Arizona	99,249	859,397
Utah	113,827	2,853,250
Nevada	95,541	1,509,977
Idaho	149,551	3,648,133
Washington	295,400	824,129
Oregon	282,240	2,688,000
California	391,680	3,422,423
Jan. 1, 1907	19,746,583	53,240,232
Year 1906	18,718,578	50,631,619

Is the question of who was the youngest soldier of the civil war settled yet?

It seems not. One of the latest claims is put forward for Colonel Bernard F. McGuire, who lives at 231 West 139th street, New York. With the consent of his parents, Colonel McGuire enlisted and was accepted the 5th day of May, 1861, at the age of twelve years and two months. He entered the army as a drummer boy, but he had a higher ambition, and as soon as he got to the front he punched holes in his drum, "by no accident," said his superior officer, and carried a musket until mustered out on the 15th day of October, 1865. He proved a faithful and efficient warrior, and took part in a great number of battles and skirmishes, including the fights at Big Bethel, Monocacy Junction, siege of Port Hudson (forty-five days), Saline Cross Roads, Pleasant Hill, Cane River, Cedar Creek, Va., and numerous less important events. He saw

General Sheridan in his great ride of twenty miles, being one of the thousands who cheered his welcome to the demoralized wing of the army at the battle of Cedar Creek.

What is at present the longest tunnel in existence? The Simplon, under the Alps, twelve miles long.

Does the amount of paper according to population signify anything regarding the development of its people?

We should think so. Judge for yourself from this: The consumption per head in Canada and the United States is almost 18 kilos (a kilo equals 2.2046 pounds), in England 17, in Norway 14, in Sweden 13, in Switzerland 12, and about 10 kilos in France, Belgium, Holland and Australia; but it fluctuates between 1 and 2 kilos only in Hungary, Russia, Finland, Brazil, Mexico and Japan, and falls to 100 grams (2.5274 ounces) in India, where the use of paper is limited.

Are cardinals of the Catholic church chosen with reference to the Catholic population of the different countries? No. You will see from this table:

Country.	Population.	Cardinals.
Italy	32,000,000	31
Spain	19,000,000	5
Portugal	5,000,000	1
Austria-Hungary	30,000,000	5
Germany	30,000,000	3
France	40,000,000	4
Great Britain	1,500,000	0
Ireland	3,000,000	2
United States	8,000,000	1

Please print the record of pugilistic championships since Sullivan's time.

1882—John L. Sullivan defeated Paddy Ryan, champion of America, Mississippi City, Miss. (London prize-ring rules), 9 rounds, Feb. 7.

1885—Jem Smith beat Jack Davis on the Surrey and Sussex border, for \$500 a side and championship of England.

1887—Jake Kilrain and Jem Smith, a draw, 106 rounds, \$10,000 and the championship, Isle St. Pierre, France, Dec. 19.

1889—Jem Smith and Frank P. Slavin fought to a draw, 14 rounds, for \$2,500 a side and championship of England, Burges, Dec. 23.

1891—Robert Fitzsimmons defeated Jack Dempsey, middleweight champion of the world, 13 rounds, New Orleans, Jan. 14.

1891—James J. Corbett and Peter Jackson fought their memorable draw, 61 rounds, San Francisco Cal., May 21. Declared "no contest" by referee.

1892—James J. Corbett beat John L. Sullivan, championship of America, 21 rounds, New Orleans, La., Sept. 7.

1894—James J. Corbett beat Charles Mitchell, of England, 3 rounds, Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 25.

1895—Peter Maher, by gift. He beat Steve O'Donnell in 1 round in 1 minute 3 seconds, at Maspeth, L. I., Nov. 11, and was given the championship by James J. Corbett, who retired.

1896—Robert Fitzsimmons beat Peter Maher in 1 round, in 1 minute 35 seconds, in Mexico, opposite Langtry, Tex., Feb. 21.

1897—Robert Fitzsimmons won undisputed title from James J. Corbett, at Carson, Nev., in 14 rounds, Mar. 17.

1899—James J. Jeffries beat Robert Fitzsimmons at Coney Island, N. Y., in 11 rounds, June 9.

1899—James J. Jeffries won from Thomas Sharkey on points, Coney Island, N. Y., in 25 rounds, Nov. 3.

1900—James J. Jeffries knocked out James J. Corbett, 23 rounds, Coney Island, N. Y., May 11.

1901—James J. Corbett won from Hank Griffin in 4 rounds at Los Angeles, Sept. 17; knocked out Joe Kennedy in 2 rounds at Los Angeles, Sept. 24, and won from Gus Ruhlin in 5 rounds at San Francisco, Nov. 15.

1905—James J. Jeffries knocked out

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