

KILLS DANDELIONS.

An eastern agricultural authority claims to have found a weapon that will kill off the pestiferous dandelion. His formula is stated to be not only effective, but quite simple and inexpensive. Here it is:

Dissolve two pounds of sulphate of iron in a gallon of water, and add about two and one-half ounces of sulphuric acid. Place the liquid in an ordinary sprinkling can and get busy. This potion will serve to send an ordinary sized lawn to witherland.

Should Mr. Dandelion have possession of a large tract of land and it is desired to kill the encroacher head, body and roots, use the admixture in the following proportions:

Add a hundred-pound sack of sulphate of iron to a 52-gallon barrel of water, mix thoroughly, and add ten pounds of sulphuric acid. Use a regular spraying machine, and the dandelion is a dead one.

Sulphuric acid being a deadly poison, considerable care should be exercised not only in its use, but in its handling before it is used.

Inquiry at a local drug store discloses that five pounds of sulphate of iron may be obtained for 25 cents and a pound of sulphuric acid for 15 cents.

MILLIONS OF LIES WANTED.

A formidable circular has just been issued "To the American Public" by a large number of firms dealing in railway supplies. "Business is good," it shouts. "Shall it continue?" The cloud on the supply men's horizon is the "investigation" of the railroads by the national government, and the introduction of about 400 bills in various state legislatures, "none of which is for the benefit of the railroads." The remedy is simple:

We believe that now is the time to act, before the damage is done, and that every man who reads this should act. If ten per cent of the men in the United States would write today to governors of the states in which they live, and to their representatives in the state legislatures, stating that this agitation was injuring their business and that it must be stopped, it would be stopped. Every one of these public servants would listen, because every writer is a voter.

"Business is good," and yet ten per cent of the men of the United States are asked to write to their governors and legislators a lie to the effect that "this agitation is injuring their business." In order that they may continue to sell steel frogs and car wheels and envelopes and toilet paper to the railroad companies, several hundred business firms scattered all over the country attach their names to the call for ten per cent of the men of the United States to perjure their immortal souls in letters to their governors and legislators!

Who are the people who address this remarkable request "To the American Public?" About five hundred firms, mostly in large cities, that sell their products largely to the railroads. Nebraska is represented by three Omaha printers, four Omaha dealers in hardware and railroad supplies, and by Kirkpatrick Bros. & Collins, the railroad contractors of Beatrice. Some twenty thousand letters from Nebraska citizens to Governor Sheldon are desired at once, each letter stating that the writer's "business is injured" by being obliged to pay two cents a mile instead of three for passenger fares, by suffering a reduction of fifteen per cent in freight rates, by the removal of discriminations, by the abolition of passes and by other things done by

THE QUALITY OF IT.



"Now, doesn't this photo do me justice?"
"Sure; justice tempered with mercy!"

the legislature or contemplated by the governor or the railroad commission.

If these letters are written promptly and the work of the legislature can be undone in some way, it may cost several millions of dollars to the people of the state every year, but the Omaha Printing company, Rees and Klopp & Bartlett can continue to print circulars for the railroads, the Omaha hardware men can sell some bolts and nuts and the Kilpatrick brothers can get a few more miles of grading to do before winter sets in. Instead of asking for a letter for only ten per cent of the voters, why not have everybody write in order to insure the blessings of prosperity for these seven firms?

THE DRUG TRADE.

One of the remarkable statements made by a representative of the drug trade before a legislative committee last winter was that 80 per cent of the prescription business of Nebraska druggists had been lost by them during the past few years. Physicians who formerly sent their patients to the drug store now carry their own stock of drugs and prepare their own prescriptions. The drug representative afterwards modified this statement by saying that it did not apply to the larger cities of the state where the physicians are too busy to act as pharmacists. But in all the smaller cities and villages he insisted that it was true and marked a great revolution in the relations of doctor and druggist and in the profits of the drug trade. I was asked what was the cause of this revolution and several reasons were suggested. One of them was from the physicians' side of the case—that with the advent of more scientific medical treatment, better trained practitioners, new and delicately made preparations and keener competition in medical practice there had arisen the necessity for greater purity and uniformity of material for prescription. In the average country drug store there was a disposition to shirk these requirements and that in order to secure exact results the country doctor had been forced to turn druggist. The drug store side of the case was presented by a man who remarked that growing friction had developed because a great many physicians came to think they owned the drug store where they sent their prescriptions to be filled—helping themselves to all sorts of goods for their own use, not excepting cigars and spiritus frumenti. Whatever the cause it was agreed that the doctor and druggist are at odds.

The representative of the drug trade went on to argue that the country druggist, having lost his prescription business, found his sole remaining staff to be the patent medicine trade, which made 60 per cent of his remaining business. From this data it was urged that pure food legislation which would destroy the patent medicine profits would leave the druggist without means of existence and close up a large per cent of the eleven hundred Nebraska drug stores.

BOthered BY BATS.

It is intensely irritating to the editor of the Omaha World-Herald that a Georgia democrat should persist in the suggestion of Theodore Roosevelt as the next democratic candidate for the presidency. With eyes full of salt water and smoke he strikes tearfully and madly at everything in reach. In his agitated opinion it would be "the surrender of self-government to imperialism, the death knell of organized opposition to national bank favoritism, the abject surrender of the champions of local self-government to those who, following the monarchical Alexander Hamilton, would rob the states of their reserved sovereignty and center all power and authority in the administration at Washington."

Ghosts of old windmills long since fought by the Democratic Don Quixote and crossbones of centralized authority. How long shall these still vex the troubled sleep of the Bourbon? Where is the spectre of "imperialism" since Bryan made his trip around the world? Where is the democratic opposition to national banks, which once echoed over the prairies of the west, since Daniel Manning and John G. Carlisle ruled the relations between the national banks and the federal treasury? Whence is this death's-head and crossbones of centralized authority at Washington since William J. Bryan advocated government of the railroads? And Alexander Hamilton, with Aaron Burr's bullet through his body, may he not rest after these hundred years?

The truth is the democratic party is without an issue. It has a candidate if it is true, a man whose qualities of citizenship people of all parties unite in praising. But it has no issue, nothing but the bats of the past which lit athwart its dreams in political twilight.

Perhaps it will not be necessary for the democratic party to nominate Theodore Roosevelt if he should again be a candidate for president. Perhaps all that will be needed will be for the

democrats who want to do something to simply vote for him as they have done for Cummins and LaFollette. The World-Herald's grief is superfluous.

OIL SPECULATION.

The appointment of a receiver for one of the boom oil companies at Topeka, Kas., brings to mind some circumstances connected with oil fields in Kansas not so generally known in Nebraska. When the great development in Kansas oil began about six years ago some profitable wells were sunk. But the greater profits were in selling oil stock, not in sinking wells. The Kansas boomers who had failed in the real estate inflation which preceded the panic of 1893 wakened up, got down their maps and proceeded to plat their defunct town sites into "oil pools." For every profitable well there were twenty corporations organized for the purpose of selling stock. The promoters went at the business systematically. The population of the state was classified, card catalogued, and piled with the most alluring prospectuses for investment in oil opportunities. School teachers and clerks were the particular victims. Hundreds of thousands of dollars of the hard earned savings of these classes were swallowed up in moot holes and promoters' expenses. Men and women were induced to leave good positions and salaries to take up the business of selling stock to their friends. The wider the acquaintance, the more valuable the service, to the promoters of the oil craze. One of these men, known to a circle of literary friends in Nebraska, was James P. Connelly, author of the "Overland Stage Route." For about three years the Kansas schoolmaams and clerks went on buying lithographed shares in oil companies. Then the truth began slowly to percolate to the surface. The profits from producing oil wells had been enormously exaggerated. The chances of striking a producing well were not in favor of the investor in oil stocks. Rude the lesson Kansas learned that fortunes in oil were only for the very limited few; for others there was nothing to be had but experience. As the Kansas investing public grew shy the more ambitious oil promoters began to extend their operations into outside territory, seeking fresh flocks of sheep fit for the shearing. Some of these in Nebraska will watch with personal interest present developments of the investigation now going on in the courts.

An unpleasant reminder of the Thaw trial has been manufactured by the moving picture people and will be shown in nearly every vaudeville and novelty theater in the country during the next six months. Actors bearing a slight resemblance to the principals have been put through some of the scenes of the tragedy, amid crudely painted scenes that are supposed to represent the Madison Square tower, the prison and the court room. Where the pictures are not offensively frank in their meaning they are false to the real history of the case, for they represent the jurymen as rendering a verdict of acquittal without leaving their seats and Thaw receiving the congratulations of the court and departing with the air of a hero. Without doubt a number of homicides will result in this country in the next year from the wide display of these pictures. They are many times more dangerous than the newspaper reports of the same affair, for the print has at least been truthful. It has told the crack-brained youths of the country that Thaw did not escape, that the jury stood seven to five against him, and that he must be tried again for his crime.

The cherries are dead. These sad tidings the people of Nebraska have been slow to accept, but the dourer who will take the pains to go carefully over the trees in Lincoln will find little prospect of a cherry crop. A very thorough examination of a garden cherry orchard upon high ground in southeast Lincoln disclosed dead pistils in nine-tenths of the cases. This examination covered six different varieties, both early and late. Most of the trees have not yet blossomed, the buds being half closed and in many cases tightly shut. But the blackened pistil and ovary in each bud tell the story. The buds will open and the trees put on their white garments in one or two sunny days but the whiteness of the cherry tree gown will be the whiteness of a Chinese funeral this spring, for the cherry child is slain in embryo.

NEW BONE IN BOY'S ARM

(From the New York Sun)
The surgeons of St. Gregory's hospital performed an operation yesterday on a six-year-old Italian boy, Peter Lepari, of 58 Van Brunt street, Brooklyn, by which they replaced a portion of a necrotic bone of the left forearm with a substance known as bone wax, which will in time, the sur-

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CONCLUSION.



"I hear that Bill's dying of water on the brain."
"Then he's turned Prohibitionist!"

geons say, turn into bone. The entire staff of the hospital was present.

The surgeons said that the operation was one of the first of its kind made in this country. Professor Joseph Forbes, of the Flower hospital, and Dr. C. H. Duncan, chief house surgeon of St. Gregory's hospital, who performed the operation, assisted by Drs. David and Payne, said that without a doubt it will be a success.

"When the boy was brought to the hospital," Dr. Duncan said, "it was found that he was suffering from a tubercular bone in the forearm. Decomposition had set in. To prevent the loss of the use of the arm and the complete removal of the bone, we decided to bring the 'bone wax' into use. An X-ray will be used daily to watch the progress of healing."

"Heretofore," continued Dr. Duncan, "in cases of this kind, where the bone is excised, the limb becomes useless. 'Bone wax' was discovered by a German scientist ten years ago, and has been used in Vienna. The 'bone wax' which was put into the boy's arm was molded in the shape of the cavity from which the necrotic bone has been removed. New vessels and bone tissues will soon form, and the chemical substance will gradually disappear, leaving the arm in its normal condition."

"An operation of this character," Dr. Duncan said, "is interesting, because of its innovation and utility. It has been demonstrated beyond doubt that healing can be brought about in places where tissues in mass have been destroyed and a cavity exists. Cavities have been filled with various substances, provided the wound is sterile, and new formation of tissue has been the result. New vessels will push their way into the materials; new connective tissue fibers will pierce it, till finally the foreign substance has been completely absorbed and the place it occupied is filled with animal tissue. Dr. Moorhof, of Vienna, who discovered the 'bone wax' found that where it was used in the case of complete loss of heel bone new heel bone was formed, which has been demonstrated positively by the X-ray."

"X-ray pictures of the bone in the boy's arm have been recorded, and when healing is over new photographs will be taken. We have every reason to believe that in this selected case our endeavors to form new bone will be successful."

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