

POLITICS OF THE DAY

GAGE'S BRAZEN PLAN.

If we consider Secretary Gage's scheme as simply intended for the further enrichment of the banks, and especially the big banks, it is undoubtedly a good one. But how it is to furnish us with a better monetary system or a better grade of money than we have now is beyond our ken. The first act is to increase the gold reserve \$25,000,000. Then the interest-bearing debt is to be increased some \$200,000,000 on a gold basis, and made permanent, while \$200,000,000 in national currency is withdrawn from circulation and replaced with bank notes. Finally, the Government is to stand behind the banks and redeem the notes whenever the banks themselves fail to do so. We are not informed as to what kind of a redemption fund of 5 per cent. the banks are to provide or how they are to provide it. But supposing it to be in gold, we are at a loss to see upon what principle of "sound finance" he considers a 5 per cent. redemption fund sufficient for the banks, while deeming a \$100,000,000 gold reserve inadequate for the United States treasury. It has been steadily assumed and claimed that even the slightest delay on the part of the Government in redeeming with gold any form of its paper money would at once cause the latter to depreciate and involve us in untold calamities. But how the banks are to stand ready at any moment to re-

been defeated. Accidental conditions greatly favored the Republican party. Still, it lost heavily all along the line.

McKinley Paying Off Mortgages.

We should be glad to entertain a doubt about the stories coming from Washington that the President is taking up political mortgages with which he became incumbered during the campaign, but the neglect on the part of the President's friends to contradict them, and the persistence of the President in acting as if some of these reports are true, make it difficult to believe that he has not surrendered some part of his prerogative. At all events, many Republicans are complaining in the national capital that patronage formerly dispensed by the President is now being given or withheld at the dictation of holders of political mortgages superior to claims of the other people upon their chief magistrate.

Speaker Reed's Opportunity.

Let the speaker organize effective opposition to Hannaism, to the whole trust fostering and public plundering schemes of the McKinley syndicate. Let him fight the evasion of the revenue question in the interest of the tariff barons. Let him fight the shameful patronage deals and plunder bargains of Hanna. If Speaker Reed organizes a fight on this line of campaign he will rally to his banner a great throng of Republicans who have been sickened

HOW LONG CAN HE STAND IT?



—St. Paul Globe.

deem their paper in gold is a point upon which Mr. Gage throws no light whatever. We do not believe that he expects the banks to do much in the way of redemption. He is not formulating any plans to increase the burdens of the banks. That is not what he is in his present position for. If he had not been assured that the plan would be satisfactory to the banks, it can be safely affirmed that it would never have been submitted to the Cabinet. It will be observed that he does not recommend the immediate retirement of all our national currency, but only \$400,000,000 of it. This leaves 700 millions of dollars in different forms of United States currency with which to "drag" the treasury for gold. For internal use, very little gold will be required. In the main it will only be needed for export. Is it reasonable to suppose that the banks would permit their own reserves of gold to be exhausted when they can get it at the treasury of the United States in exchange for greenbacks, Sherman notes, silver certificates or silver dollars? It is absolutely certain that in case of a heavy foreign demand for gold the United States treasury would have to furnish it just as it now does, until the last piece of national paper money and every silver dollar were withdrawn from circulation.

Recent Republican Reverses.

The Republicans, of course, ascribe their reverses to the fact that this is an "off year." That is the usual excuse, but it is far from being a satisfactory one. There is no general rule that a party shall lose in the elections immediately following its advent to power, and even if there were the rule should not apply in this case. The Republicans have made their campaigns upon the claim that they have, during their few months of power, lifted the country out of the "Slough of Despond," in which it had been struggling, and placed it upon the broad highway of a magnificent prosperity. If this claim is true, their majorities should have been increased—not diminished. If the people are rolling in prosperity they must certainly know it. The result proves that they do not hold the Republican party responsible for the famine in India, the drought in Argentina and the short crops of Europe which have conspired to raise the prices of American breadstuffs. Probably the rise of wheat and other cereals did mislead some voters, for all men are not discriminating as to causes. If wheat had been 30 cents a bushel lower Mr. Hanna would have lost every close district in Ohio and

by the disgraceful course of the Hanna syndicate and who see nothing but ruin for the party in the defiant trampling upon popular rights and interests that has marked Hanna's bossism. He will serve his country and gain its respect and confidence.—Ex.

Bad News for Dingleyites.

It falls with peculiar sadness upon the ears of Senator Aldrich of Rhode Island, who vouched for the peculiar excellence of the cotton schedule of the Dingley tariff law, that the wages of 28,000 operatives in Fall River will be reduced 10 per cent. The cause of the reduction is the depressed condition of the cotton market, which does not enable print cloth, it is asserted, to be manufactured for the price now prevailing, which is the lowest on record. And thus we see the failure of the most scientific tariff law ever framed to produce either revenue, protection or higher wages.

Fears the Power of Trusts.

Secretary Sherman talked so bravely a few weeks ago against the growing power and multiplying evils of trusts that the people were led to hope the subject would receive earnest attention from the nation's chief magistrate in his first exhaustive state paper. The President's failure, therefore, to take any notice of this vitally important matter can be accounted for only on the hypothesis that he did not choose to expose his party to the reproaches and enmity of the beneficiaries of the trusts.

Haymaking Time for Republicans.

There can be no hope of bringing the revenue and appropriations together by economy for two reasons. The appropriations for this fiscal year are already made and the estimates indicate a deficit approaching \$70,000,000. The appropriations for the next fiscal year are little likely to be lessened by a party which see on every hand evidences that its complete control over the government is shortly to be wrested from it. The Republicans can be expected to make hay for themselves while the sun shines.

The People's Turn Will Come.

For the present the trusts are in the saddle. But the people's turn will come. They know that a democratic form of government will be impossible when the industries by which they live are controlled by a few men, whose power gives them a dominant influence in politics. The reckoning is inevitable.—St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

DUTY OF THE DOCTOR

QUESTION AS TO WHAT HE OWES TO THE PUBLIC.

No Doubt that Physicians Are Greatly Imposed Upon by Unscrupulous People—Say from 25 to 60 Per Cent. of Their Work Is Donated.

Night Calls Often Neglected.
A question of considerable interest to the medical profession is coming up in the large cities as to the rules that should govern miscellaneous night calls. Some physicians, while not upholding a doctor in heartlessly weighing his fee in the balance with a human life, declare that doctors are imposed upon so often day and night by those able to pay for his services, but failing to do so, that he is justified in



HURRIES OUT IN THE STORM.

consulting his personal desires and comfort before answering a call. So much of a physician's work is practically charity, they say, that he is at liberty to use the same prudence about undertaking the work offered him by strangers that any other professional man is. Other physicians assert vehemently that every reputable doctor will answer any call, that it is part of his religion to be ever ready to succor the afflicted owing to the peculiar nature of his profession, and that it is not comparable to the stand that might be taken for a fee by an attorney or a man in any other business whose services might be sought by a stranger. They say that the emergency which usually exists when a doctor is called

often originate at 2 o'clock in the morning. Very often when a doctor is thus called upon at night to render immediate aid with no fee in sight when he asks for the history of the case he learns the child has been ill for two or three days, but "it did not look serious and we didn't think we would need a doctor until to-night." Then at an early hour in the morning, after having had a few days in which to seek the free aid that is at their disposal, they call upon a professional man to leave his bed, with no prospect of remuneration, and attend the case of the child.

A favorite trick of panic-stricken families in an emergency, the doctors say, is to call up half a dozen doctors at once in order to be sure and have enough of them on hand. If a member of the family awakes the household with agonizing groans and a bad case of cholera morbus everyone decides he is going to die in half an hour, and someone rushes to the nearest telephone and calls up all the doctors in a radius of a mile. Neither knows the others have been called, but, anxious to save a life and with the appeal of the frenzied one still ringing in his ears, hastens to dress. Then he goes to a dark and cheerless barn and hitches a tired horse by the light of a lantern, and with the sleep still in his eyes is soon speeding toward the house. From other directions half a dozen other physicians are coming, but they are met at the door by a member of the household, who is "So sorry, but we couldn't wait, and Dr. Brown gave an injection of morphine and he's all right now."

A juncture where the physician feels decidedly chary of giving his services is in a case where a doctor has been in attendance on a patient for days and has prescribed a certain course of treatment by the family. But in the night the patient appears to become worse, his breathing becomes light or his pulse rapid and in alarm some member of the family rushes for the nearest doctor. He is told breathlessly at the door that a man is dying in the next block and unless he hurries a life will have slipped away. In nine cases out of ten the doctor will hastily dress, and without asking any more questions take his medicine case and start for the house. There he finds a table covered with bottles and pills and powders left by the other physician, and is told that they would have sent for the other doctor only he lives so far away. Of course that sort of

a humanitarian point of view more than a utilitarian, and openly say that the medical profession owes it to the public to be every ready to respond to a call.

That there is a great deal of injustice on the part of the public cannot be doubted, and it is also true that if the public would consider a physician not as a bounden servant, but as a professional man full of duties, and not infringe on his night leisure except in cases of real urgency, the man of medicine would always meet patients halfway. It is an error to suppose that a doctor is compelled to consider all calls. There is no law strictly covering the case, while many eminent physicians declare it to be a part of their religion to regard calls, whether they bring fees or not, as part of a bounden duty, they as well point to the fact that a failure to solve the problem of just when a physician should be required to give his time at unreasonable hours for nothing, has driven many persons out of the profession.

NEW BABY INCUBATOR.

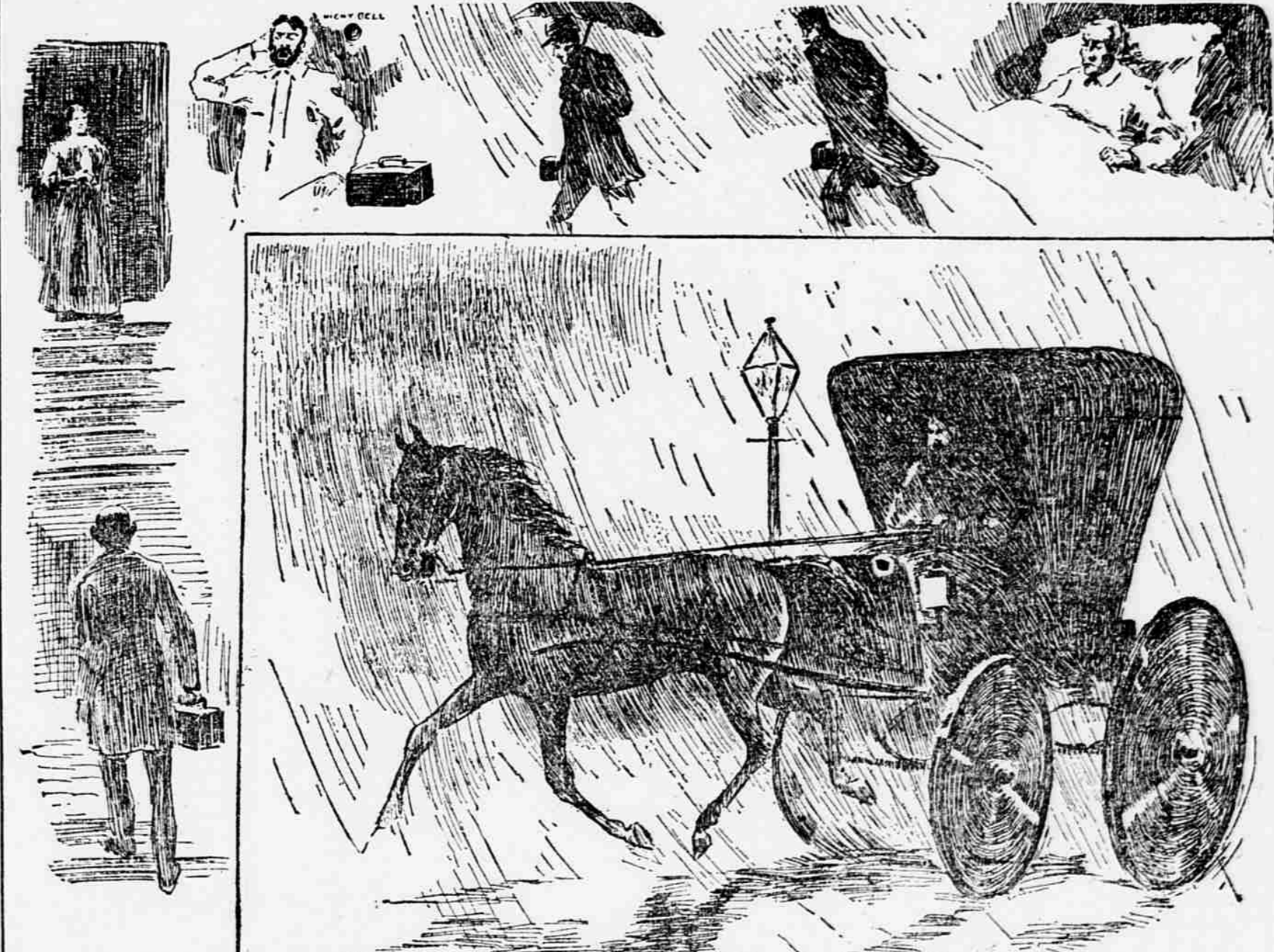
Very Efficient Contrivance to Fan the Feeble Sparks of Life.

This illustration shows one of the latest baby incubators, with nurse in attendance. These incubators are used as a means of saving the lives of prematurely born or very weakly infants. The incubator is composed of a metal frame mounted on a metal stand. The



BABY INCUBATOR AND NURSE.

child rests on a wire hammock suspended from the four corners, and in front are two swinging glass doors made to close tightly, while at one side is a glass window through which the child may be seen. This box is heated by air which is made moist and agreeable by being passed through a small



NIGHTLY SCENES IN A DOCTOR'S LIFE.

in the night should be sufficient incentive to him to respond to the call and take his chance of being paid later; that a case of life and death cannot wait until the morning, as a lawsuit or any other business might.

Physicians of years of experience in general practice in Chicago make the startling statement that from 25 to 60 per cent. of a doctor's work is donated. Some physicians say about one-third of their time and experience goes for nothing, others place it at a quarter, and two declare that fully 60 per cent. was never paid for. Some of this work, of course, they know will not be paid for, that done at hospitals and for people who frankly confess their inability to meet the bill. But it is the other part that rubs. It is the bills of people who can and will not pay that make doctors shy about going out on night calls and increasing the annual percentage of charity work. It is well known that doctors donate a far greater percentage of their work than other professional men do. The medical charities of a great city like Chicago, says the Chronicle, are enormous in the aggregate. The time that is donated by hundreds of doctors to hospitals and dispensaries is worth many thousands of dollars, and by many in the profession the claim is made that the doctors are far too liberal in this regard since the free dispensaries and hospitals are taken advantage of by people well able to pay for medical attendance, and thus the profession is cheated out of thousands of dollars every year.

In very many of the cases where doctors are called upon at night and urged to hasten to the bedside of a dying child such action would not be necessary had the parents of the child taken precaution to visit a dispensary the day before and secure what was necessary for the suffering little one. Complaints of a serious nature do not

thing does not tend to make a physician fall in love with night messages. He finds a case almost at his door which was passed over his head to a doctor in another part of town when the patient became ill, but when a crisis arises the family rushes to the nearest doctor, and in nine cases out of ten he is not paid for the call. After a few dozen of these experiences he is a little shy about chasing out into the night on a hurry call.

The majority of doctors, however, go on the principle that a physician's time is not his own, that he is enlisted in the cause of suffering humanity and should be ready at all times to render aid to the needy. These doctors for the most part are the younger generation who have not had so many hard

sheet of absorbent antiseptic wool suspended in medicated water.

Kien Long and His Physicians.

There used to be related a curious anecdote of old Kien Long, emperor of China. He was inquiring of Sir George Staunton the manner in which physicians were paid in England. When, after some difficulty, his majesty was made to comprehend the system, he exclaimed:

"Is any man well in England that can afford to be ill? Now I will inform you," said he, "how I manage my physicians. I have four, to whom the care of my health is committed. A certain weekly salary is allowed them, but the moment I am ill the salary stops till I am well again. I need not inform you that my illnesses are usually short."—Harper's Round Table.

Spitzbergen Hotel

The hotel recently erected in Spitzbergen is thus described: Built in Norwegian style, it has a large hall, and a quantity of smaller rooms, with thirty beds. It is also provided with a book for visitors' names, among which may now be seen those of Sverdrup, Fulda, Prince Hohenlohe-Schillingsfuerst, E. Vely, and others. The climate of Spitzbergen is said to have the most favorable influence on persons suffering from chest diseases.

Real Mean.

Miss Olds—Have you seen my new photographs? I have just had a dozen taken, and am very much pleased with them.
Miss Smartleigh—Ah, you wore a thick veil, I suppose.

What has become of the old-fashioned man who banked up his house every fall?

A sick man never gets sympathy as long as his appetite is good.



The Doctor and the School.

There is a demand for a professorship in sanitary science in our normal and medical institutions. The conditions which conduce to health in our school buildings should be included in the instruction given. The medical school and normal school should join hands in the new crusade for humanity's sake.

The duty of the public schools is to train boys and girls so they may become healthy, clear-headed, upright men and women, capable of producing and perpetuating a race of stalwart American citizens. To accomplish this the doctor must re-enforce the teacher; He should make himself acquainted with the conditions under which the children study, so that he may intelligently advise parents and school authorities. The word of the intelligent physician should be law, and under his direction the pupil should be allowed to attend a half day, to drop some studies, or even to study at home and recite at school. But the physician should not place the school at a disadvantage. Under such conditions he should place a right restraint upon evening parties, unwholesome diet and insufficient sleep. All that the schools ask of the physician is fair play.

I have discussed this question from the physical side, because I think it is of the most immediate importance. I am aware that there are other lines along which we ought to push investigations and discussions; but we must first establish more favorable conditions before we decide other matters which depend largely upon the sanitation of the school. Every school-room, whether public, private or parochial, ought to be carefully inspected and approved by competent authority before it can be used for school purposes. The State does not lose interest in the child because his parents elect to have him educated in some other than a State school.—Dietetic and Hygienic Gazette.

School Luncheons.

America likes to think herself very progressive, but constantly the old world is reminding us that it does new things better and quicker than we do, as well as the old ones, says the Brooklyn Times. While New York and other cities of the Union are agitating the question of noonday luncheons for the public school children, Paris has quietly been providing the same for years. Every public school has its canteen service, as it is called, for furnishing meals to children who cannot pay. The meals are set out in the play room and eaten under the supervision of a teacher. Often in addition to its napkin and wine the child will bring some fruit or a bit of cheese, which in that country, even among those who are not supposed to be epicures, is always an esteemed dessert.

Here in this big city of New York not only are there no good luncheons provided, but no effort is made to protect the ignorant little students from very bad ones. Bakeshops and candy stores abound in the neighborhood of every public school and thrive at the expense of the scholar's physical welfare. No movement on the part of scientists and educators is more important than that now started in many places to reform the children's school luncheons.

Too Many Rules.

The teacher who gives her pupils "simple rules" outside of the authorities for determining questions which confront them, and particularly grammatical questions, is apt to find that her rules disastrously fail to fit all cases.

One time the county superintendent of schools was questioning the pupils of a country school. He wrote on the blackboard the sentence, "The fly has wings," and asked a class what part of speech each word was. They parsed the "the" without serious trouble.

"Why part of speech is 'fly'?" asked the superintendent.

"Adverb!" shouted all the class in unison.

"What! 'Fly' an adverb?"

"Yessir!" shouted the children, with great positiveness.

"What makes you think it is an adverb?"

"Cause teacher told us that all words that end in 'ly' are adverbs!"—Youth's Companion.

Brooklyn's Largest School.

The largest public school in Brooklyn had last year 2,659 pupils enrolled, with a daily average attendance of 2,374. In 1896, the great number of children seeking admission made necessary the building of an additional house on the same grounds. This new building has twelve classrooms, making in all fifty-five classrooms belonging to this school. The staff consists of the principal, three heads of departments and fifty-five regular teachers.

May Paddle Pupils.

The prosecution and acquittal of a teacher for punishing a pupil in the Muncie, Ind., schools accidentally developed that there is an old statute, passed by the Legislature several decades ago, requiring that incorrigible pupils must be paddled or else expelled from school, the paddling to be by the consent of the guardian or parent and administered by the teacher. The school board has ordered observance of this statute in emergency cases.

May Have a Reason.

Do your pupils like school? If not, where lies the trouble? Inquire within. Possibly you may find the reason there. If so have the good judgment to correct the error at once.