CORRESPONDENCE. All communications relating to near and editorial matter should be addressed. To the Elitor DUSINGS LETTERS.

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N. F. FEIL, Notary Public.

It's a long time to wait for the Omaha postmastership, according to the democratic

supplant Hawaii as the center of attraction in American diplomacy.

It looks as if Samon were endeavoring to

The universal prayer: May the Pollard-Breckinridge breach of promise suit be brought to a speedy termination.

The free silverites think that they have now hit upon the silver coinage bill that will meet the president's approval. Why not ask the president to draw the bill himself?

An application to place a pie company in

the hands of a receiver is pending in Chicago. There will be no difficulty in finding patriots willing to sacrifice themselves as receivers of ple. The Omaha city council has reached San

Francisco, and yet no news of earthquake or volcanic eruption. That does not mean, however, that the city fathers are not enjoying the anticipated amount of excitement.

The question is, how far will the maximum freight rate case now pending in the federal court be permitted to figure in the coming state campaign? Its early adjudication is important to the interests of the republican party.

The railroad cuckoo organs of the state are lavish in praise of Governor Crounse, now that they consider him out of the race for governor. Commendation from such sources may be significant, but it cannot be

Granting a new trial solely in order to appease an outraged public opinion caps the climax in the record of the judge who prides himself in fearlessly doing his duty without regard to what the people may say or think about him:

A local correspondent appeals to retail dealers to patronize Nebraska factories. The force of his idea will be conceded by all who have any conception of the principle at the bottom of the home industry sentiment In this city and state.

What right has any judge to consume time and money belonging to the people in giving a defendant a second trial for no other reason than to counteract "a false impression" that may have gone abroad that the first trial was not a fair and impartial

Ex-Speaker Reed naturally objects to having his speeches dismembered and given to the public piecemeal for the purpose of reading into them a meaning just the opposite to what the context warrants. Garbling the speeches of public men is too old a trick to pass in this enlightened day.

Western railroads are again threatened with a long and exhaustive rate war. This war has been hovering over the railway world so long that anything to end the uncertainty would be welcomed as a relief. If the roads want war, let them fight it out. If not, let them stop talking and get together.

Lord Rosebery's new ministry at last reports was not progressing so smoothly along the road to popularity as the prospects indicated when he first assumed the premiership. Should the House of Commons agree to a resolution of lack of confidence, entailing dissolution and new elections, there will be a sudden revival of political activity in Great Britain. The events of the week will be awaited with much interest.

Senator Murphy of New York frankly expresses himself to the effect that he does not expect the tariff to come to a vote in the senate until next November. As Senator Murphy may have something to do with determining when debate shall cease his opinion may be accepted as indicating which way the land lays. It is already certain that the vote will not be had so early as the most eager advocates of the bill have ventured to

Section 15, page 464, compiled ordinances defines the principal streets of this city where wooden sidewalks are probitted Upon all such streets permanent sidewalks are required to be constructed according to specifications on file in the office of the Board of Public Works. The ordinance also authorizes the sidewalk inspector to enforce the provisions referred to. A casual survey of the district discloses a ripe field for usefulness to which the sidewalk inspector might give attention.

All those beautiful sermons preached in the daily press to hold up to the public view the ignoble character and base ingratitude of the paid professional spy may transpire to have been founded upon a false report that the Irish informer, Le Caron, had recently died. The lessons drawn from his career, however, are not dependent upon the fact whether he is alive or dead. The newspaper comment can be conveniently filed away and brought out again when an authentic death notice makes its appearance.

RAILRO I DS PLOTTING IN IOWA. Ever since Iowa's first railway legislation

went into effect the railroads subject to its regulations have exhausted all resources at their command to exide every provision that has in any way been distasteful to them. They fought the successive railroad laws tooth and nail when they were introduced into the legislature, they obstructed them on their passage through the two houses, they resisted their enforcement in the courts, they sullenly obeyed them so far as they were forced to do so, but in a manner calculated to make the laws themselves odious to the very persons who had called for their enactment. The railroads have never for a moment fully accepted the situation and resolved to make the best of it, but on the contrary they have been constantly plotting to evade their duties to the state and to the public, to control the officers who might be chosen to administer the laws, and finally to have the laws themselves modified, amended

or repealed. Had the railroad members of any of the recent lows legislatures been in the majority they would not have hesitated for a moment to remove from the statute book all semblance of restrictive railway legislation. Happily such has not been the case, but this has not prevented them from pursuing their underhanded plotting. Their scheming has now riponed into an audacious effort to make use of the new code commission to force the practical abolition of all railroad regulation. According to the law enacted by the legislature just adjourned, a commission of five members is to undertake the codification of all the general statutes of the state. Of the five, one was to be selected by the senate, two by the house, and two by the judges of the supreme court. The commission is to commence its work not later than September of this year, and is empowered not only to rearrange all exitsing laws, but also "to transpose words and sentences, arrange the same in sections and paragraphs and number them, change the phraseology and make any and all alterations necessary to improve, systematize, harmonize and make the laws clear and intelligible." In framing the new code it would be easy to omit altogether such laws as may be burdensome to the railroads, or to so change the phraseology as to render them entirely nugatory. The opportunity, whether designed for this purpose or not, it too tempting to be passed, and it will not be the fault of the railroads if they do not succeed in obtaining a code to suit them-Everything now depends upon the per-

sonnel of the code commission. The choice of the state senate fell upon the author of the compilation of statutes in general use throughout the state, Prof. McLain of the law department of the University of Iowa. In the house the struggle over the selection of commissioners was avowedly upon railroad issues, and while Attorney General John Y. Stone secured one of the places in spite of the railroad contingent, the other fell to an attorney who is expected to act in conformity with the wishes of the railroads. Great pressure is being brought to bear to have the supreme court complete the commission with two pliant corporation lawyers, so that the railroads may control a free majority of the members. The people of Iowa must awaken to the danger that is confronting them. Should the railroad representatives dominate the code commission the railroads will have the people of Iowa at their mercy. They will force the next legislature, which is to chact the new code when reported to it, either to abandon codification after the great expense to which the people will have been put, or to yield everything that has been gained in the long struggle against railroad tyranny. The supreme court must not allow itself to play into the hands of the railroad plotters. The new code must be kept free from manipulation in behalf of the corporations, and this can be assured only by giving the two places on the commission still to be filled to men proved in their honesty and loyalty to the people.

A TROUBLESOME OFFICE. President Cleveland is again having trouble with the office of recorder of deeds for the District of Columbia. It will be remembered that in his first administration the filling of this office was a source of considerable vexation to him and caused him to be sharply criticised by democrats of the District. Then, as now, Mr. Cleveland disregarded the "home rule" principle and appointed to the office a man who was not a resident of the District of Columbia. For a number of years the position has been held by colored men, the present occupant being ex-United States Senator Bruce, and it seems to be understood that only colored men need apply for the office. It is urged that the president would have no difficulty in finding a capable man of that race and of democratic politics in the District, but he appears to have no disposition to look for one.

A few days ago the president appointed to the office H. J. Taylor, a colored democrat from Kansas City, and now the democrata of the District are up in arms and declare they will use every effort to defeat Taylor's confirmation. They base their opposition chiefly on the plank in the democratic platform which declares that officials appointed to administer the government of any territory, together with the District of Columbia and Alaska, should be bona fide residents of the tecritory or district in which their duties are to be performed. Mr. Cleveland has never shown any regard for this declaration of his party. Probably most of his territorial appointments, certainly the more important of them, have been of men who were not residents of the territories in which they were given. While republican presidents pretty generally have observed the principle laid down in the democratic platform, thereby establishing it as a republican principle. Mr. Cleveland has ignored it. The democrats of the District of Columbia now propose to ask the democratic senate, when it comes to consider the appointment of Taylor, to vindicate the home rule principle by rejecting him. The indications are that their efforts will not be unavailing and that the president will have a repetition of the experience in his first administration in connection with this office. As to the merit of the principle involved, it is sufficient to know that men of both parties agree that it is good policy and in harmony with our polit ical system to appoint residents of the territories to territorial offices, when fit and capable men are to be found. Mr. Cleveland, however, evidently thinks that in the exercise of his authority in this particular he should not be subjected to any restriction,

may not take this view of it. As to Taylor, he has figured somewhat prominently as a leader of colored democrats and claims to have induced a great many to withdraw from the republican party and affiliate with the democracy, but the claim which it would seem had the greatest weight with the president was Taylor's early

and that at any rate he is not bound to con-

sider a mere platform demand. It is quite

possible, and even probable, that the senate

discovery and public announcement that Claveland is "a man of destiny." From all accounts this "claim" has led to very warm personal relations between Mr. Cleveland and Taylor. The office of recorder of deeds of the District of Columbia was formerly quite lucrative, paying in fees upwards of \$10,000 a year. It now carries a salary of \$5,000.

NUISANCE BUILDINGS.

The Board of Health now proposes to take its turn in declaring certain buildings to have become nuisances, dangerous to life and to the safety of the community and to order their summary abatement. There can be no question that a considerable number of ramshackle fire traps in this city come under the head of public nulsances and ought to be torn down and removed without delay, At the same time It behooves the Board of Health to po about this matter with some circumspection and to make certain before acting that it has fulfilled all of the conditions with which the exercise of its author-

ity has been hedged about. Omaha has too recently indulged in a costly experiment with the question of public nulsances to be anxious to stand the expense of other similar experiences. All a contractor had to do was to call the attention of one of the city councilmen to a high embankment or a lot below grade and to suggest that he would like the job of bringing it to grade, and an ordinance would be rushed through the council declaring the lot to be a public nuisance and ordering it to be abated either by the owner or by the city at his expense. Many of these lots are or were public nuisances, but it requires a more elaborate procedure to have them legally declared to be such. Payment of the assessments levied to pay for filling some of these nuisance lots was successfully resisted in the courts, although, of course, not until after the work had been done and the contractor paid out of the funds in the city treasury. With the assessments adjudged void, the burden of the expense has been shifted upon the taxpayers as a whole. In other words, the whole city has been compelled to pay for filling the lots of a few private individuals. Had a petition asking that the lots be declared nuisances been filed in the court in the first instance instead of taking the matter to court after the injury had been wrought, the city would have been

saved from this expense. Our experience with nulsance lots should at least be helpful to us in dealing with nuisance buildings. It is absolutely necessary that dangerous buildings should be removed, but they should be removed at the expense of the owners and not at that of the city. The city officials should be careful to act only after they are reasonably sure that the assessments to cover the cost of the work will reimburse the city treasury for the money which it may lay out.

THE STRIKE OF THE COKERS. The strike in the coke region of Pennsylvania has already had most deplorable results, and there seems reason to apprehend that worse may follow. The latest dispatches report the strikers to be still determined and preparing to renew hostilities, in which event undoubtedly more blood will be shed, for the authorities are ready to make formidable resistance to any attempt on the part of the strikers to interfere with the men who are at work or to injure property. The foreign element is largely in the majority among the coke workers, and it appears that this element, mostly Hungarians and Poles who do not speak English, pro poses to act independent of the English speaking strikers. These people, who are generally very ignorant and of passionate nature, are capable of doing desperate thing: when exasperated, as they now are, and assuming the reports to be correct, the coke region is likely to be the scene of more murderous work than has yet happened

In prosperous times about 17,000 cokers are employed in the Connellsville region, but recently less than half this number have been kept at work. Many of the great mills that use coke are closed and there has consequently been a large falling off in the Wages, never much above the demand. starvation point, have been falling because the price of coke has declined to an unprofitable point. The decision to still further reduce wages precipitated the strike. There is, of course, nothing to be said in defense of the violence and lawlessness that have characterized the course of the strikers. On the contrary, it must be unqualifiedly condemned. But that these people should resist the purpose to lower their already scant wages will not be regarded as unpardonable by any one informed as to the wretched return they get for their hard labor and the miserable existence they are compelled to lead in consequence. A Philadelphia paper describes them as for the most part little more than savages, saying that they live like brutes, hive in squalor and filth, and eat the kind of food that is usually given only to hogs. How can it be otherwise with the wages they receive? Under the most favorable conditions they are able to earn barely enough to subsist on and since wages have been reduced their situation has become well nigh intolerable. Hunger and privation will madden any class of people and these wretched cokers would be less than human if they did not make some effort to save themselves and their wives and children from starvation. Many of these people, undoubtedly, were induced to come to this country by promises which they have never realized, and their now miserable and hopeless condition gives them some claim to a

measure of commiseration at least. It was to be expected that the course of these foreign-born strikers would furnish a text for those who demand greater restrictions upon immigration, but it really furnishes no valid reason for additional legislation in this direction, unless it be for the better enforcement of the contract labor law, in violation of which a considerable proportion of this alien labor was imported into the country. The coke region has been flooded with this cheap labor and the men who are primarily responsible for the disorder that now prevails there are the operators who brought this labor from Europe.

The civil courts of this city and state have furnished a vast amount of interesting matter for the readers of The Bee the past few weeks. Now the ecclesiastical court of the Catholic church promises another genuine sensation in the trial of the celebrated Bonacum-Corbett case, arising in the Lincoln diocese. This case will have great significance, not only in Nebraska, but through out the United States, and the findings of the court will be received with not less interest at the Vatican than at Lincoln.

People who have occasion to traverse the business portion of the city have been wondering for some time whether the owners of the Farnam Street theater sight constitute a privileged class among our citizens. The unsightly condition of that corner has been tolerated in patience because it was

expected to be only a temporary eyesore, to give way at the enriest possible moment to a substantial and attractive structure. From all present appearances the prospects are that the nulsance will be maintained so long as the city officials raise no objection By what authority a wooden sidewalk has been laid in the middle of the permanent sidewalk district has not been made public. It is such apparent discrimination as this that destroys the uniformity and stability of our streets. The people are properly patient with inconveniences that lead up to handsome improvements, but they see no excuse for the continuance of partiality such as this. +-

The convict parole law passed by the last legislature seems to be working admirably. Eight convicts are leading industrious lives under the personal supervision of the warden. Their employers report that their conduct is in every way satisfactory. While it is true that men convicted of crime are sent to the penttentlary for punishment, yet at the same time every consideration of good government insists that the state shall not lose sight of the reformatory features of the institution. A convict should not only be punished, but he should be reformed, so that when he again takes his place in the world he will not drop back among his old associations, and thus fall again into the keeping of the state. Unless criminals can be reformed laws will lose half their significance. The parole system is undoubtedly a step in the right direction and will work admirably so long as it is operated by officials of good judgment.

Last spring the public mind was impatient and vexed at the delay in prosecuting public works. There were hundreds of idle men seeking work and a general demand was made that employment be given them. After considerable fustian the season's work was laid out and entered upon, much to the relief of unemployed labor and to the shop keepers of the city. The experience of last year seems to have made no impression upon the city authorities, whose apathy in respect to the sore need of prompt action is apparent to all. During the absence of the council of course little can be done, but upon the return of our municipal statesmen they should be urged to start the season's public work.

The undiminishing demand for farm lands is one of the favorable features of the year in Nebraska. It is a noticeable fact that the demand is for improved lands and that the purchasers are the better class of farmers who have made farming a success in older states. The greatest drawback to Nebraska's prosperity in the past has been the poor re sults obtained from the labors of men who have lacked the necessary experience in conducting farm work successfully. The time has gone by when crude methods of agriculture can be made profitable. Successful farming is as much of a business as successful banking.

The work of tree-planting in the public parks has been began under the direction of the park commission, and manifold good results may be expected from the policy. It is unfortunate that the park commission has not been given control of the treeplanting on ordinary thoroughfares. This, however, should not prevent property owners from adopting a regular plan of planting trees in front of their lots. Much can be done by voluntary action, and we hope to see trees planted this spring in all parts of the city despite the failure of the treeplanting ordinance.

Settling down to the idea that immediate annexation is not to be had and that the cople of Hawaii will have to continue to defray the expenses of their own governmental machinery, the Hawaiian government is eminently right in rearranging the schedule of salaries paid to its members. It must accommodate itself to the means at hand, and this must consist in retrenchment all around, at least so long as the revenues fall short of what had been expected. The Hawaiian government finds itself compelled to come down from its speculative sphere.

The Side Issue. Kansas City Journal. Prohibition is not a total failure in Kan-sas. We see from the Kansas papers that the saloons generally closed their doors on election day—their front doors.

Cause and Effect. Louisville Courier-Journal.

Some allowance ought to be made for the blatherskite governor of South Carolina. He doubtless swills the same Cincinnati stuff he tries to make the citizens of his state drink.

The Western Corner on Hams.

St. Louis Republic.

The pork packers have no reason to combinin of business depression. They are busier now than they have ever been before it this season of the year. About 590,090 nore logs were packed last month than a March of last year. This is an increase f 72 per cent. The largest gain was made y the Missouri river cities and the nallest by Cingraphic by the Missouri river cities and a smallest by Cincinnati and Indianapolis.

A Democratic Roast.

It is the unanimous opinion of the democratic press that Senator Voorhees is not a success as a tariff reformer. His apolicies for the finance committee's cowardly truckling to the trusts and the tariff barons grate harshly upon the ears of those who during the campaign listened to the pledges of tariff reform so freely made by democratic orators. Mr. Voorhees may apoligize for the finance committee's action; he cannot justify it.

Another Indian Failure.

The Dawes commission which has been trying to induce the civilized Indians to dissolve their tribal relations and consent to an allotment of their lands in severalty reports the failure of the undertaking, and recommends arbitrary legislation by congress to effect the desired object. It is likely that such action will be taken. The Indians have been offered just and fair terms, and in choosing to reject them they make themselves responsible for the consequences. rying to induce the civilized Indians to consequences.

THE MANISM.

Cleveland Phin Dealer.

"Beware! Heware!" the governor cried,
The people's in the saddle!
To vindicate Palmetto's pride,
Each man a ridh" straile;
Curst be the cowesin faise galoot
Who hasn't sand chough to shoot;
Let every patriot spur his boot—
The people's in the saddle.

Hall, mighty throat and flery brand, The people's in the saddle!

We'll fight for old, Faimetto land—
Our brains they cannot addle;
Uncork—er—weaporish! Let 'em (hic) feel
Er terrors of our (hic) private seal—
Ho! Up with every (hic) booted (hic) heel!
Shay! Who'sh in 'er (hic) shaddle? AS TO THE GOVERNORSHIP.

Kearney Hub: When Jack MacColl says the word it will be easy to name the next governor of Nebraska. Harrison Journal: The republicans of the

and see that the man who gets their support is sound on the subject of irrigation. Hastings Nebraskan: Governor Crounse would have been renominated and elected had he been willing to take the office for another term. The field is open now and

western part of the state should get together

Norfolk News: Lorenzo Crounse's administration of affairs has been a credit to the party and the state, and his decision to retire from political life will be a disappointment to his friends, who had hoped to see him serve a second term. York Times: Governor Crounse has pub-

Lieutenant Governor Hished a letter to positively declining to be a candidate for a second term. If there is a tied to it it is so skillfully concealed as to be invisible and is too fine to haul it back by Geneva Journal: The governor undoubt-dly wants and rather expects to be elected to the senate to succeed Manderson, and his experience of two years ago probably him to the belief that an election as gov-ernor would seriously hamper his campaign for the senatorship. This is undoubtedly for the senatorship. This is undoubthe correct view to take of the matter.

Lincoln News: Hon. Tom Majors appears have an idea that a state governmen without himself occupying one of the offices would not amount to much. Tom has loitered around the political refreshment stand the greater part of his life, but it is probable there will be some jostling done in the near future that will not be fully appreciated by

Wayne Herald: Governor Crounse has decided positively that he will not seek a re-nomination and has so stated in a letter to Lieutenant Governor Thomas J. Majors. The administration of Lorenzo Crounse has been a creditable one, and had he desired a secand term there would have been very little opposition. The field is open now, however, and there are many good men in the repub lican party who could ably fill the executive

Silver Creek Times: Governor Crouns having declined a renomination to which party usage would have entitled him, a free field is left to all comers. While there is no dearth of candidates, the Times desires to propose yet another, a man whom we b lieve would be more likely to be elected than any of them, one who is able, eloquent the peer of any man who could be pitted against him, and one whom we believe ve an enthusiastic support. His name is Henry D. Estabrook of Douglas county.

Kearney Journal: It is hard to yet pre dict who the republicans will nominate and elect as state officers next fall, but it is a very easy matter to name a good number of fellows who will not be. If they are wise they will keep out of the fight and be saved the chagrin of being sat on mighty hard. The republican party as a party into the purifying business itself, and when it does there will be a lot of barnacles and camp followers out of a job, to all of which the people will say "well done."

Grand Island Independent: The railroad papers are full of joy over Governor Crounse's declaration that he will not again be a candidate for the governorship. They cannot forgive him that he approved the maximum rate bill against the railroad companies. And now they say he has a senatorial bee in his bonnet, and express the hope that he will meet with no They work already for sending a railroad man to the United States senate and seating a railroad man in the gubernatorial chair.

APOLOGIZING FOR 'NINETY-TWO.

New York Advertiser (rep.): One year of Cleveland and democratic reform is all the country can stand, and it is all it can do to

Indianapolis News (mug.): Some Rhode Island democrats ought in all decency to arise and propose to make the election unanimous. Globe-Democrat (rep.): Rhode Island is a

small state, but a duplication of her repub lican majority of 6,000 will answer all practical purposes in a state as large as New

New York Tribune (rep.): The landslide continues. Astonishing as were the demo-cratic defeats in the state elections of last fall, they are thrown into the shade by the result of local elections this spring.

Chicago Record (ind.): The trend of lic sentiment in political matters, as show by Tuesday's elections, is far from favorable to the democratic party. In almost every field, from the Atlantic to the Mississippi river, the republicans have been successful Chicago Post (dem.): Sound the trumpet Beat the drum! Rhode Island has gone re-publican. Somebody by the name of Brown has been elected governor by the magnificent and soul-stirring plurality of 4,914. The gen eral assembly will have a republican majority.

Buffalo Express (rep.): If democratic senators believe that the republican victories throughout the country mean only that the people want the uncertainty in regard to the tariff ended, one would think that they would not have the heart to debate the pending measure for one single minute. Headlines in Cincinnati Enquirer (dem.)

Dod gast 'em! they trimmed us again they've trimmed us, Clarence, good and strong. They've lambasted us up the front, down the back, until there are only a few of us left. Columbus, Cleveland, Toledo and Springfield go crazy; but we still thrive in the gem city of the Miami. Ohio towns, wouldn't a' thunk it, turn loose, and the lemocracy gets a good lickin'.

Chicago Tribune (rep.): These municipal elections show that protection, which the democrats fancied was laid in its grave in 1892, is the liveliest kind of a corpse, and that it has gained strength and determination from its seeming defeat. The workingmen are more intelligent than they were in the fail of 1892. They have been attending the hard school of experience since then and have learned many useful lessons.

CHARGE OF THE LIGHT BRIGADE.

Philadelphia Record: "I've never had the courage to get married." "Haven't, eh? What's your business?" "Oh, I'm only a lion tamer."

Town Topics: Mrs. Coffee-Where did you learn that new picce? Daughter-It isn't a new picce. The piano has been tuned.

Philadelphia Record: "It isn't the trouble a man has in meeting his bills that gives him a careworn look," says a philosopher. "It's the trouble he has in dodging them."

Chlcago Tribune: "Waiter," said Uncle Allen Sparks blandly, "in the union of ham and eggs there should be some disparity in the matter of age. You may take this

Washington Star: "Ob cohse," said Uncle Eben, musingly, "ter git criong, or man has ter reach right ober an' he'p his se'f. But ef he grabs too big er han'ful he's mighty lible not ter git a rale grip on anythin' whutsoebber."

Chicago Record: Hodman-1 hear Edi-son's discovered a scheme for doing away with sleep.
Trowels—Hsh! For goodness' sake,
don't let the boss hear about it or he'll be
having us work twenty-four hours a day. COULDN'T TAKE THE JOKE.

Definit Free Press.

She was a very serious maid,
Of jokes she seemed to be afraid.
A funny man had courted her,
From which you might, perhaps, infer
That he had hopes of getting her,
But inferences are no good,
She fired him into solitude,
In deep despondent tones he spoke;
"She must have thought I was a joke," Detroit Free Press.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.- Latest U. S. Gov't Report.



PLAUDITS OF THE PRESS

Approval of Judge Caldwell's Decision Nearly Unanimous.

LIVELY DISCUSSION OF PRINCIPLES

Generally Regarded as a Triumph for Organized Labor-Contrasted with the Rulings of Judge Jenkins-Sound, Sensible and Timely.

The far-reaching importance of Judge Caldwell's decision in the Union Pacific wage case is shown by the extended comments thereon by the metropolitan press. The Hee presents some of these editorial expressions

CONFLICTING DECISIONS. St. Paul Pioneer Press: The decision of

Judge Caldwell in the case of the Union Pacific employes, and that of Judge Jenkins on a motion to modify the famous restrainployes of the Northern Pacific, may be se side by side and studied with great intereand profit. They represent what may be considered the extremes of judicial opinion. The judicial mind should be unbiased, and both these judges evidently endeavored to be fair; but one of them leans as far as justice will permit to the side of the employe the other toward that of the employe. as the present employer is, in each case the court, both roads being in the hands of receivers, the opposite opinions expressed are free from possible influence from the em-ployer's side. Thus, Judge Caldwell almost goes out of his way to refer to the watering of Union Pacific stock and the impropriety of considering the rights of such holders of such securities as against those of employes, while Judge Jenkins goes equally far ful strike is an unknown thing, and that one never occurred without force, intimida tion and violence. Here we find the opposite inclination sufficiently marked to chal enge comparison. Leaving this altogether to one side, it an

pears that, as far as the law is concerned, Judge Caldwell has the better of it. We may have what opinion we please of the ethics of Judge Jenkins' argument and state ment of the situation; we may believe tha it is most hurtful and wrong that a strike should ever occur among the employes of con-cerns that serve the public, since an inno cent public may thus be made to bear the brunt of a battle for which it is in no way responsible. We may think that this should be prevented by a form of contract that should require ample notice before a reduction of wages on one hand or an abandonment of service on the other. But when we have considered all the moral aspects of the question, the practical one remains: How are such rules to be enforced? Judge Caldwell reached the heart of the matter when he said that a court cannot enforce the performance of a contract to render personal service. Such service, enforced, is unwilling slavery. Therefore, the thing is beyond the reach of a court. Nor is it any more evident how Judge Jenkins can enforce his order prohibiting a strike. It may be true that the injury caused by a strike ought to be prevented instead of punished. The same is true of all sorts of offenses, but as we cannot always prevent, society has to be content to punish them. And it is plain enough that if the employes of a given company desire to quit its service they can do so; and whether their action can be called a strike or not, and whether it can be punished as a contempt of court, remains to termined. Judge Jenkins modifies his order as far as it prohibited the men from associating with each other and consulting as to their future action. While the effect of the portion of it that remains unchanged, if obeyed by the men, will undoubtedly be beneficial in tending to that examination and discussion of grievances which every-body recognizes to be the proper mode of settling differences, it is not apparent that the court could enforce it. Judge Caldwell sees the subject in a broader and clearer light.

A PIONEER DECISION. Chicago Herald: The decision of Judge Caldwell in the case of the Union Pacific railroad employes, in the United States court for the Eighth circuit, at Omaha, is of th very greatest importance as affecting the rights of labor unions, or of "organized labor," and the relations of employers and The enthusiastic labor advocates employes. have overrated somewhat the advantages which it confers upon their unions. It does not render the employer class powerless in disputes regarding wages and other terms of labor contracts. But it asserts the equality labor contracts. of employers and employes in making con-tracts and the duty of both under them.

This is one of the pioneer decisions affecting the labor question. Isolated cases have occurred in a small way, where the merits of a single strike or lockout have been ad-judicated by local courts. The recent labor cases in the United States courts have originated a series of decisions, on which the en-tire law of employment, wages and hours of labor, will finally rest. The Ann Arbor de cisions of Judges Taft and Ricks, the North-ern Pacific decision of Judge Jenkins and this decision of Judge Caldwell, as applied or modified for application to labor contests of all kinds, will establish the legal relation of employes and employers, whether corporate or private. They have blazed the way

along which the settled public highways at the law will be constructed, on which all must travel.

Where Judge Caldwell's decision differs from the interpretation which has been placed on those in the Ann Arier and Northern Pacific cases is as follows:

Specific performance of a contract to ren-der personal service cannot be enforced by injunction, by pains and penalties or by any other means. The period of comput-sory personal service, save as a punishment for crime, has passed in this country. Yet the difference between Judge Cald-rell's decision and the other cases does not

oppear to be so great if construed with this important paragraph:

When property is in the custody of receivers the law declares it to be a contempt of the court appointing them for any person to interfere with the property of with the men in their employ. No injunction order can make such unlawful interference any more of a contempt than the law makes it without such order. Such orders have an injurious tendency, because they tend to create the impression among men that it is not an offense to interfere with the men in their employ unlass they have been especially enjoined from as doing. This is a dangerous delusion. To the extent that a special injunction can go in this class of cases the law itself imposes an injunction. portant paragraph:

There is much also in the decision that is indefinite generalization. It says that meth ods of economy in managing the road so that upon it may get their dues must not be carried so far as to reduce the wages of employes below a reasonable and just compensation for their services.

This is so lacking in exactitude of purpose in its meaning as to be hardly a guide to thought. What are just and reasonable wages? How high must wages go when they cease to take precedence of the claims of men who hold the property or hold more gages on it? To what extravagance may the scale extend before the wage lien loses priority over the money lien? There must be a limit or else the pay roll may, by collusion and fraud, amount to confiscation of the

property.

Judge Caldwell places an entirely new test on the validity of the obligation which rail road management is under to pay dividents on stock and interest on bonds from the strong terms the doctrine is not without erious danger and is calculated to create a

panie among holders of railroad securities. SOME RADICAL VIEWS. Louis Globe-Democrat: The decision of Judge Caldwell in the Union Pacine wage schedule case is of more than ordinary importance as an adjudication of a serious matter by a tribunal of high authority. It sets forth certain legal principles and methods of adjustment in cases of controbetween employers and employes which are applicable in a general way and circumstances than these presented in this particular instance. of employes to "associate, consult and con-fer together with a view to maintain or increase their wages, by lawful and peaceful means," is distinctly recognized; and their right to strike for reasons satisfactory to hemselves is also fully admitted, so far as

the fact of quitting work is concerned. When men hired by a railroad corporation choose to sever their relations with such corporation there is no way, according to this decision, to compel them to remain, even to that effect. "Specific performance of a ontract to render personal service," says Judge Caldwell, "cannot be enforced by injunction, by pains and penalties, or by any other means; the period compulsory personal service, as a punishment for crime, has passed in this country." It is to be inferred, though the decision does not directly touch this point, that a corporation has an equal

yould hardly be just or logical to apply on rule to the employe and another to the em-In the case of a railroad that is in the hands of receivers the men engaged in its peration are employes of the court, Judge Caldwell contends, and while subject to its orders in all matters relating to the discharge of their duties, they are also entitled to its protection. It is to be presumed, he goes on to say, that a schedule of wages which has been in force for years

right to discharge men at its pleasure, as it

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