## SPIKING FREE TRADE

Britain's Ancient Hobby Forsaken by It Ardent Friends.

LEVYING A DUTY ON CERTAIN GOODS

Quaint Protectionist Arguments by Conspicuous Free Traders.

PERPLEXING PROBLEMS SEEKING SOLUTION

The Labor Question and Bimetallism Pressing to the Front.

NUMEROUS PITFALLS FOR THE MINISTRY

Troublous Times for the Present Government, with Dissolution Imminent-Option Gambling Vigorously Condemned -Industrial and Agricultural Ills.

LONDON, March 2 .- (Special Correspondence.)-These are indeed troublous times in England. Every day brings rumors of the dissolution of the present government. What with the unemployed, bimetallism, protection, and, still more recently, the question of excluding from British ports goods manufactured in the prisons and penitentiaries of other countries, the government's fight for existence is both incessant and severe. Some the national legislature of a country which declares these questions as settled for all time to come, and that to dispute England's attitude thereon is equivalent to a point can be scored against the free traders a point can be scored against the free traders. on silver and the tariff than the debates in showing that the multiplication table is in- of the old school. During the debate on agaccurate and the Ten Commandments a false basis of morality. I was in the Strangers' parts of the convention of the demand for home labor and the convention; of the convention of the convention, which was passed at a parts of the kingdom: "That the unfair comparts of the kingdom: "That the unfair comparts of the kingdom: "That the unfair comparts of the kingdom: "That the unfair compatition of prison made goods. In the course of the exceedingly interesting debate which followed Mr. Vincent produce and manufactures, which are subject to heavy internal taxation, is an anomaly and an injustice, and by causing the diminution of the demand for home labor and the chairman of the united delegations made a brief speech, in which he said that the delegation was under positive instructions to cast its twenty-two votes for U. S. Grant; that he and his associates would support any nominee of the convention, but they must obey orders from home.

This caused a sensation, and growls of disapproval arose from all parts of the convention; for it was evident that this unfortunate compatition; of the community adversely affects every complication might prevent a unanimous vote ples of prison made brushes, which, without intending a pun, fairly bristled with arguments against admitting this class of goods free of duty. The debate on this resolution surprised me more than anything I have heard in Eengland during this visit. Men whom I supposed were as orthodox free traders as Mr. Leonard Courtney-who said in my hearing the other night that if free trade meant the ruin of England he would rather see her rulned than return to protection-coolly arose and declared that the prohibition of prison made goods did not involve in the slightest degree the question of free trade. John Morley took this ground, and so did Mr. Chamberlain.

A FREE TRADE PROTECTIONIST. Read Rt. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain's speech and it will be found to contain precisely the same arguments that our protectionists use in the United States. What wi Mr. McKinley, for example, think of this? "English prison work, as we know, is con-fined to two or three trades, but the Germans have actually sent over to this country for models of English manufactures, and they are making them in their prisons. At the present time they are making about twenty different articles in various branches of industry, so that, after they have contrived to ruin the brush trade they will go into many

If it is not, Mr. Morley, then you give away your entire argument. From prison labor it is only one step to the labor that is partially paid at a low rate and partially helped along by the poor rate, whether by old age pensions or direct relief—I mean pauper labor. From pauper labor it is only another step to the labor that is paid at a rate which keeps body and soul together. Here you have the American principle of a protective tariff.

Morley, however, went still further: 'In my own constituency I have often been challenged on this question, and I have never said that upon economic grounds, and with the strictest regard to economic principles, I would allow prison made goods to come into competition with the products of free labor. I will go a step further. If I would not allow the products of prison industry in our own country to come into competition with free labor, still less should I be able to sacrifice that sensible maxim in deference to the convenience of any other country.

Some few of the old school members would not depart from the theory that the cheaper goods were the better it was for the country. They argued that, in a sense, all German abor is at this moment subsidized, for every German workman is guaranteed by the state pension for his old age and is thus able to work for less wages today. Are we to prohibit all German goods? they said. Far more important than any state subsidy, it was claimed, is the subsidy which nature gives to her favored lands. Why should England boggle at prison made goods that Germany sends us when she throws her ports wide open to shiploads of wheat ripened by richer sunshine than England can hope for? The fact is that the free trade doctrine must stand or fall as a whole. At least this would seem to be the logical outcome. There is, lation, which is as likely to drift into protection doctrines or bimetallism as socialism so long as the masses of the people demand with sufficient determination and vigor.

THE FREE TRADE THEORY UPSET. The protectionists (the mover of the reso lution, Mr. Vincent, being one) had no show in the debate, for, as I have said, Mr. Morley and Mr. Chamberiain were not to be outdoor by any one on the question of prohibiting the entry of the prison made goods of forcountries into the United Kingdom, ever they might feel in relation to the goods made by pauper labor. Mr. Vincent was modesty itself, and he, in a way, made promi-nent his protection notions. He simply demanded the passage of the resolution on the ground that 100,000 foreign prisoners were nfairly competing with British industries and were preventing English workmen from earning a livelihood. He trusted that it would receive the support of both sides of the House, as it was not connected with any colitical party and it was framed with no

Mr. James Lowther, a straight up down protectionist, admitted that this was strong case, but assumed that his free trade friends would contend that the ation of prison made goods conferred an instimable advantage upon England by cheaponing the price of commodities. He wished to know where the line was to be drawn-whether the interests of the home producer re slways to be sacrificed to the interests the foreigner, whether the interests of honest inhabitants of this country wer always to be sacrificed to those of the alien Was such competition fair and rea sonable? He hoped this issue would be clearly recognized by the government. The acts were fully placed before the government by official reports, and the government would now be in a position to state whether it in-tended to stick to the principle of buying in the cheapest market under all conditions whether they thought that at last the line ould be somewhere drawn.

Parliament, when thus brought face face with the practical question, and the being unable to longer delay the matter by reference to committee or royal commission, decided to draw the line on goods made by prison labor, and the resolu-tion passed. Thus has the entering wedge of protection been driven in after a genera-

THE UNEMPLOYED. It might be said that bimetallism and the

time for one of them to be heard, and an in-quiry as to the present condition of the un-employed has begun in earnest and will be employed has begun in earnest and will be prosecuted vigorously. Ever since last autumn there has been a squabble about the number of the unemployed. The Board of Trade issues volumes upon volumes of figures to prove everything is all right and that wage earners are well fed, well paid, prosperous and happy. With these figures some statesmen seem to be content. Meantime we hear of misery, and even starvation, which, during these cold winter months, has simply been sickening. The streets are filled with been sickening. The streets are filled with beggars, and hundreds of thousands tramp around unable to find work. Keir Hardie, a labor member of Parliament, has made an estimate that over 1,000,000 people are at this time out of work in the United Kingdom. Add to this 1,300,000 paupers and it is a good deal like a dead hand resting on the popula-tion. The tabulated statements of the Board of Trade, however, show that wages are not decreasing. Hardie says this is not true. As a miner, twenty or more years ago, he was paid 8 shillings per day. Today the same labor is paid only 4 shillings 6 pence a triffe over half. The working population, he contended, were no better off in England now than then. Employment today was most precarious. A man over middle age found it almost impossible to find employment when from any cause he happened to be dismissed. The conditions under which industries were conducted compelled production to be carried on quickly and cheapty, which led to the displacement of men no longer in the flush of youth. The conflict for existence here is simply terrible. The facts thus far developed by committee show that in some London parishes paupers have been increasing at the rate of 50 per cent during the winter months. In spite of the harshness of poor relief, which precludes all but the hardened poor, the army of paupers is increasing surely and steadily as the wants of England are more and more supplied by foreign countries. One after another British industries succumb to the inevitable. While this is true, it is nevertheless a fact that if the wealth that was being

produced was distributed fairly, want of em-ployment would be impossible. The trouble existence is both incessant and severe. Some ployment would be impossible. The trouble of the debates with which the session in England seems to be, as with us, the unopened read more like our own discussions equal distribution of what is produced.

A THORN IN THE GOVERNMENT'S SIDE.

ricultural depression the first week of the

present session, Mr. Lowther, the protection ist leader, read the following reso

on all foreign imports that come into compe-tition with home industries duties based on the principle of a sliding scale, which would automatically cease to be levied on any commodity, including the necessaries of life, as soon as the market price exceeded the figure at which it could be produced at a profit in this country. As far as wheat was concerned, protection, if adopted, would have to be adopted all round. The price of bread now, with wheat at 20 shillings, was sub-stantially the same as it was when wheat stood at 40 shillings, and this proposal stood at 40 shillings, and this proposal would simply restore matters to what they were when wheat was 40 shillings. One of the strongest points made in this debate—an old one, to be sure, in the United States—was the fact that over the fact that the fact that over the fact that over the fact that the fact that over the fact that the fact that over the fact that over the fact that the fact that the fact that over the fact that the fact was the fact that even in England the home trade is ten or twelve times as much as the foreign trade. These facts seemed to strike some members with surprise. Never within the memory of this generation have doctrines directly or indirectly involving protective. principles been listened to in Parliament with such respectful attention.

sion now for nearly a quarter of a century, and the depreciation in value of industria profits, has alarmed all engaged in productive occupations. It may be true that the volum of trade has been maintained. The profits of trade has been maintained. The profits of trade, however, are gone, both for capitalist and wage earner. The manufacturing districts of England are living to a great extent out of capital and destroying the store which was to provide for future generations. In Lancashire scarcely a new manufactory of any account has been erected in the last any account has been erected in the two or three years; and, although the num-ber of spindles and looms might remain the same, it is well known that one-third are be-coming totally ineffective, and will shortly

be swept away. The investment of capital in England has fallen from \$1,035,000,000 in 1889 to \$245,000,000 in 1833, and nearly \$180,000,000 of that sum was invested not in productive enterprises, but in loans to foreign and colo-nial governments. Indeed, of the remaining about \$5,000,000 are invested in music halls and hotels. Thus no foundation is being laid for the future employment of the peopl and the result will be that the kingdom will be landed in some overwhelming catastrophe This, in brief, is the argument of the bimetallist, who is just now carrying on a pretty active campaign, with, possibly, rewhich will have important bearing the American currency problem. One of

most outspoken of the speakers was Mr. "Our gold standard is the real cause of the depression. We are cursed with a stand-ard that is steadily appreciating. This con-tinued growth of the standard of gold has not thused growth of the state of t gold standard were England and her colonies and Portugal, containing a population of about 47,000,000, today no less than 320,000,000 of people had come under the gold standard. During the last twenty years gold has had a sevenfold work to do. Such a state of things could have no effect but to produce an enor-mous fall in prices."

THE PLIMSOLL OF AGRICULTURE. Meantime Mr. Smith of Liverpool, who is called the Plimsoll of Agriculture, has come the front and secured considerable support for his anti-option legislation. This by is regarded as a sure cure for depression. On this subject Admirable Field said:

"Commercial gambling stood condemned by the common consent of all was had any knowledge of the subject. The Central Chamber of Agriculture and the National Agricultural union had passed restitutions condemnatory of the system. What was wanted was a bill of a single clause which would compel a seller to deliver what he sold. By the passing of such a bill the whole business of gambling would be stopped in forty-eight hours. Often nowadays thir was no intention on the part of the selle to deliver goods, and there was no intention Seventy-two million bushels of corn were sold in one day in New York. Such a stock of corn did not exist within 1,000 miles of New York. One of the evil consequences of this system of gambling was that the unfortunate farmers, when they went into the market with their produce, were as helpless as turtles which were turned over on their backs by seamen who ran along the beach and then carried them off at leisure to the ships. The prices for produce realized in the local markets were the prices that were de-

termined by the gambling transactions at Liverpool and London. This thing was of American growth. It was imported in 1883 from America, where all the bad things from, including the present bad Here we have in brief the several scheme

Here we have in brief the several schemes brought forward up to date for the cure of present industrial and agricultural ills in England. They take a wide range, and include the establishment of light railways, the abolition of commercial gambling, the monetization of silver and the re-enactment of a protective tariff. Surely these are interesting problems for the old country to grapple with. grapple with.

LANCASHIRE IN ARMS. With these questions in the front, Lanca-shire made the other day a flank movement

"knowing ones" predicted immediate disso-lution. The result was, though Lancashire tried to raise the cry of protection to the Indian cotton manufacturers against Manchester, she was obliged to go down, as they say in the prize ring, to avoid punishment. The vote, which sustained the government by a large majority, does not indicate such an antagonism to what the Manchester men call a protective duty, but which is in fact nothing but a 5 per cent revenue tariff. The fact is, aside from this particular matter, India is rubbing Lancashire severely in the manufacture of cotton yarns, and the next thing we shall hear is a howl from that free trade stronghold for a protective duty on Indian yarns. India has been progressing, and progressing with great power, and has arrived at a wonderful result. From the day when the first coton mills were erected in Bombay (in 1855) mills have continued to spring into existence, till now there are 141 cotton mills in India. In 1882 there were 1,555,000 spindles in India, and now there are 3,500,000 spindles. The result is that India is producing 170,000,000 pounds of yarn, against 40,000,000 pounds of British yarns which go into India. What with her cheap labor, paid in silver; her dextrous operatives, who are willing to work any number of hours; her nearness to the cotton fields, and the advantage of importation of British machinery free, there is no reason why India should not in time do at least the cotton apinning for the world. The worst of it all, from a Lancashire point of view, is the fact that with this duty India can purchase the finer grades of American cotton, in addition to working up her own cotton, and then under-sell Manchester in England or in the world's markets. If this be true to any great ex-tent, I fear there is nothing left for our Manchester friends to do but to follow the advice they were so fond of giving others in the good old days when free trade was the mighty "cure-all"—try something else.
ROBERT P. PORTER.

### LINCOLN'S RENOMINATION.

scenes at the Paltimore Convention on the

Final Roll Call. That was a business convention, and when the roll call began, Maine simply announced its sixteen votes for Abraham Lincoln, writes Noah Brooks in the Century. New Hampshire, coming next, attempted to ring in a little speech with its vote, but was summarily choked off with cries of "No speeches," and the call proceeded in an orderly manner, no delegation venturing to make any other an-nouncement than that of its vote. The con-vention struck a snag when Missouri was reached, and the chairman of the united delegations made a brief speech, in which he said that the delegation was under positive

All hard

and the contraction of the purchasing power of the community, adversely affects every trade in the country. And this conference is further of opointon that all competing imports should pay a duty not less han the rates and taxes levied on home production."

These are the opinions of a large body of Englishmen today. They urge the imposition parently among the possibilities that another than Lincoln might be the nominee of the parently among the possibilities that another than Lincoln might be the nominee of the national convention.

When the clerk of the convention an-nounced the result of the roll call it was delegation, immediately moved that the nom-ination be declared unanimous. This was done. Straightway the long pent-up en-thusiasm burst forth in a scene of the wildest confusion. Men hurrahed, embraced on another, threw up their hats, danced in aisles or on the platform, jumped on the benches, waved flags, yelled, and committed every possible extravagance to demonstrate the exuberance of their joy. One of the most comical sights which I beheld was that of Horace Maynard and Henry J. Raymond alternately hugging each other and shaking hands, apparently unable to utter a word so full of emotion were they. And when the

other trades."

Mr. Chamberlain favored the motion. So did Mr. Morley, who remarked: "I am not free trade, or in order to be a consistent free trade, to admit into the markets of this country convict made goods made in this country or convict goods made elsewhere. That is not free trade."

If it is not, Mr. Morley, then you give in the interest of the bimetallists, represented by Mr. Chapting Square and other business was about to be resumed, the band again struck up "Yankee Doodle" in its liveliest manner, and another torrent of enthusiasm broke forth; and it with such respectful attention.

BIMETALLISM GAINING GROUND.

The bimetallists, represented by Mr. Chapting of the theater were not lifted by the volume of sound. When quiet was restored and other business was about to be resumed, the band again struck up "Yankee Doodle" in its liveliest manner, and another torrent of enthusiasm broke forth; and it with such respectful attention.

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A DUET.

Yankee Blade

Baritone—Now we're engaged, if you have any brothers,
By that I mean the men whom you've refused.
They must be on a footing with the others;
I won't have any mild endearments used,
Now we're engaged.

you had any sister and knew it,
I mean a girl who said she'd be
your sister,
She should be taught how not to
The present measure is now on the hous
calendar and may possibly pull through.
The bill provides that associations "organ do it, And comprehend that you can quite resist her, Now we're engaged.

Barltone-As if I wished to look at other beauties,
Now you are mine.
As though I cared for men
Compared to you! I hope I know

my duties; Of course we used to flirt, but that was then; Now we're engaged.

Baritone—Who was the man with topcoat lined with sable?

Soprano— Who was the girl with bonnet trimmed with pink?

Baritone—I would inform you, but I am unable. Soprano— I'd tell his name, but really can't think.

Now we're engaged.

servatories,
Under dim colored lights and
tropic bowers,
Now no more reading sentimental

To girls and giving them bonbon d flowers; Now we're engaged. Barltone-I shall not tolerate the least flirta

tion.
I warn you fairly.
Please don't be enraged;
But might we sometimes take
brief vacation,
Now we're engaged? Ready for Emergencies.

San Francisco Post: "Say, what does that nean?" inquired a stranger of a Montgomery street clothing dealer, as the interrogator drew attention to the weather signals fluttering over the Mills building.
"What color are they? My eyes are bad."
"Well, there is a red flag, with a black square in the center, and—"
"That means a storm."

"That means a storm."

and underneath it is a white flag."

"That means fair weather."
"Well, what do both together mean?
fair weather storm?" 'No. sir! the man who handles them is a weather prophet, and is compelled to be careful in his predictions, so as to make no mistakes. Those signals mean 'either fair or foul weather.'" and the stranger bought an umbrella

The sailors on the Ammen ram are very wary about going into the manholes that lead to the water-tight compartments be-tween the outer and inner shells. The space between the two hulls is barely two feat high and the manholes admit only a small man. "But if a fellow gets away in there and be-comes scared," said a workman the other day, as he screwed on the manhole cover, "he will swell up and he can't crawl back through the hole to save his neck. I was in the third compartment the other day and when I thought how awful it would have the outer cover screwed on while I was there I got panicky and tried to crawl back. there I got panicky and tried to craw Back.

I couldn't get through anyway, although I had gone in easily enough. The harder I tried the bigger I swelled and the men finally had to pull me out. When they got me through the clothes were torn off my

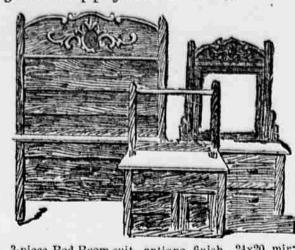
The shirt waist is once again to the fore, in anticipation of the warm season. The sleeves are larger than they were last year, unemployed are always at hand. In a sense shire made the other day a flank movement sleeves are larger than they were in this is so, but they knocked loud enough this on the government of such force that the

# Boston Store\_\_ Furniture Sale.

Our great March sale of Furniture and Carpets continues all this week. Furniture of all kinds is 25 per cent cheaper than last year, and carpets, 10 per cent cheapar. For months we have been preparing for this sale, beginning with the country's largest factories. Many of the goods offered in this sale are less than then can be produced. Our prices on everything, from the cheap, reliable to the finest goods made, will be a revelation. It is a great big unprecendented chance. Our floor is teeming with values. Space will allow us to show only a few. Note prices on Tribune picture frames, all complete, 25c. We have enough to supply all Omaha.









3-piece Bed Room suit, antique finish, 24x20 mir-ror; regular price \$24 Sale price,

812.00

Combination Book Case an Desk, regular \$24, French-plat mirror, reg price \$24, March sal \$11.90

All spring edge, Wilton rug, fringed, price, \$12. Same in Tapestry Cover, \$5.00. -accompany

trimmed. Price,

Enameled white Iron Bed-brass

Solid oak Sideboard, beveled mirror on top polish finish, worth \$25.00. Sale price

812.00

White and Cold Frames, with glass for Tribune Picture, 25c.

BOSTON STORE Furniture and Carpet Department. BOSTON STORE

# **COOPERATIVE HOME BUILDING**

,000 Parior Rockers—in dark manage-ished—worth \$5.00. March sale price, oak, embossed leather seat, finely fin-ished—worth \$5, March Sale price,

Additional Safeguards Proposed by Representative Rouse of Hall County.

IMPORTANCE OF A RESERVE FUND

Pennsylvania Restricting Association Busi ness to the Counties Where Organized-

Late Developments in the Des Moines Tangle-Notes. The bill introduced by Representative

Rouse of Hall county and known as House Roll 511 proposes an important reform in the management of building and loan associations in Nebraska. A similar measure was introduced two years ago, but was stranded in the snarl at the close of the session

The bill provides that associations "organized on what is known as the terminating plan shall fix and determine periods for declaring dividends, which dividend periods shall not be longer than twelve months and at the end of each such period shall deduct from its gross profits all losses and expenses, and from the net profits, if any, remaining shall set apart and place to the credit of a reserve fund at least 5 per centum of such net profits before any dividend is made, until such time as such reserve fund shall be equal to at least 5 per centum of the total amount due its shareholders. Such reserve fund shall be maintained and used and transact, except within the county for the purpose of protecting the members of the association against unusual and extra-

ordinary losses. "Out of the profits remaining, if any, after deducting expenses and losses and the amount transferred to the reserve fund as herein which shall in all cases be made ratably on all shares in proportion to the book value of said shares at the beginning of the dividend period; provided, however, that as-sociations may declare such dividends on dues paid during the current dividend period as may be provided in their constitutions or by-laws; and, provided further, that nothing in this section shall be so construed as to require an association to pay such dividends in cash or to pay members withdrawing before maturity the full amount of the dividends declared before such withdrawal.

"No association incorporated for the purpose association incorporated for the purpose association incorporated for the purpose."

poses named in the first section shall collect from its members any special fund for the purpose of paying expenses, excepting that it may charge a membership fee of not to exceed one-half of 1 per cent of the par value of its shares; but all expenses shall be deducted from its profits as hereinabove pro-

The law of 1891 attempts to regulate the questions of forfeitures, cancellations and prepayment of loans, but is silent on the ques-tion of preferred stock and distribution of profits and assessment of expenses. These the measure seeks to remedy.

Where a building association is organized

for the benefit of the few who manipulate

as a whole, an attempt is generally made to

introduce into its constitution or provisions that will his the burden pense more heavily upon the class that is to be exploited, and divert the profits largely to the class that is manipulating the associa-tion. This is attempted in several ways: and providing that cestain shares shall be exempt from the duty of contributing to losses and expenses, and, second, by imposing excessive membership and cancellation fees, so that the withdrawing member is compelled to make a disproportionately large contribution to the association's expenses.

Besides providing for an equitable and proportionate distribution of profits, the bill requires the formation of a reserve fund. This fund is created by the setting aside of a small part of each year's profits before a dividend is made; this is a precautionary measure that experience has shown to be necessary, and that is voluntarily adopted by many of the most conservative building associations. It is intended to protect the persistent member against unexpected losses. While justice demands that profits in withdrawing in droves. these associations should be divided equita-bly and proportionately, it also demands that persistent members should in some way \$60,000 are on file. The managers are be protected against the possibility of bearing more than their share of losses on old withdrawals to one-half the monthly

ness, and the reserve fund is created celpts.

for the purpose of accomplishing this result. If institutions of the kind went before the public under any other guise than that of co-operation, it might, perhaps, be doubted whether legislation was needed to control them; but so long as associations are or-ganized and solicit business under the guise and in the name of co-operation, it behooves ciations are actually co-operative in their character and are organized on an equitable basis, to the end that the wage-earning in what purports to be co-operative societies but which, in fact, are really corporations

Water Colors, white and gold frame, size 16x22. Sale price,

\$1,50

organized for the benefit of a few stock holders at the expense of the many. Nearly all the older associations in the state have started reserve funds as a precaution against losses incurred in business, but it is desirable that the law fix the amount, Otherwise, the temptation to limit it to a meager sum will operate to destroy To make it a reserve fund in fact as well as in name, it should be increased in proportion to the increase in the associa tion's business. The necessity for such provision is felt by all association managers. The experience of all was voiced by President Meyer of the Mutual of Omaha, who in his annual address last week, expressed

regret that the association did not create a reserve fund sooner. CONFINED TO COUNTIES. A measure introduced in the Pennsylvania legislature proposes to apply the knife to the root of national associations in that state. It provides "that hereafter it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to solicit or receive subscriptions to the capital stock of any association or company authorized and empowered to do, perform and transact such business as building and loan associa-

where the principal office of such associa-tion or company shall be located as afore-"Any officer, shareholder, member or agen of any such association or company violating any of the provisions of this act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon con viction thereof shall be sentenced to pay fine not exceeding \$1,000, and to imprisonment not exceeding three years, "Any person hereafter violating any of the provisions of the act shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not exceeding \$500, and to undergo imprisonment not exceeding two years."

THE DES MOINES COLLAPSE. The affairs of the collapsed Des Moines associations, the Union and Iowa Deposit are not improving with the lapse of time If anything, they are drifting from bad to worse. Manager Richmond has been re leased by the courts and the orders to produce the missing books revoked. Without these books it will be impossible for the receivers to determine the extent of the losses or the manner in which the receipts were disposed of. The purpose of Richmond evidently is to harass the receivers, and by delay effect a settlement with the share-holders. The Des Moines Register, referring to the release of Richmond, says: tion of the court, and when the judge issue his famous 'scare' order, that Mr. Richmond must produce the books or go to jail, one of the judges, who was not on the bench at that time, was heard to say that if he was presiding he would make Richmond produce the books within three hours or send him to jail. We are not criticising the judge who rendered the decision last Saturday, releasing this man from all responsibility, are saying that there is something in the laws or the courts when such things as this are possible, when sharp managers can 'lose' or steal thousands of dollars which depositors have piaced with them, and the every evidence of such deposits can be 'lost' without anyone being held responsible! The treatment which the depositors of irregular banking concerns have been subjected to in this city during the last few weeks must convince them that for them there are neither laws nor courts."

Mesers, Beeson and McHugh, the new Messrs. Beeson and McHugh, the new managers of the Iowa Deposit, are con-fronted with a difficult task. Dr. Spinney left the concern a deficit of \$16,000, and when

to his support, and are showing their con-tempt for the manner of his taking off by

two months withdrawals to the extent of \$56,000 have been paid, and applications for

\$60,000 are on file. The managers are now enforcing the clause limiting payments on

During the past

Plans and Projects for Improved Educational

Facilities.

Vigorous Blasts Against the Spirit of Military Training-An Inquiry Into the Cost of School Books-Notes of

Reports received by the committee in charge of arrangements for the annual convention of the National Teachers' association, which meets in Denver next July, indicate an immense attendance. "All advices," says the Rocky Mountain News, "are to the effect that the teachers are coming by hundreds and by thousands from all the states of the union and that they will crowd the city to its ful capacity for successful entertainment.

"The sessions of the convention will consum week, and then the visitors will scatter over the state to the various mountain resorts, and have a full month in which to enjoy the air and scenery of Colorado before the limit on their railway tickets expires. This fact makes the event one of state importance, and will contribute materially to the bustle of the re sorts during the next month of August Preparations for the proper reception and entertainment of a crowd of visitors should therefore be made at all points which invite tourist travel."

MILITARY DRILL.

The school directors of Chester county, Pennsylvania, unanimously adopted a resolution expressing regret and apprehension "at the growth of the spirit of militarism in our midst, as seen in the recent attempts to introduce military training into our public school system, believing such training to be highly detrimental to the youth of our land as tending to encourage a love of war and bloodshed, rather than the preservation of peace, as well as to be undemocratic and unamerican in principle and dangerous to the stability of republican institutions."

Commenting on this declaration, the Springfield (Mass.) Republican says: "It is one thing to subject school boys to such and afford healthful and helpful exercise and another thing to bring army officers the schools and put the pupils into a regular course of military training. There exists enough of the spirit of war in the youth of the day without thus invoking special means for its cultivation and organization. This idea that preparation for war is the best means of averting war is utterly wrong and turned Europe into an army camp as costly and as much of a drain upon the strength and resources and prosperity of the people as the war would be against which the aration is made. We want none of it this part of the world." COST OF SCHOOL BOOKS.

The cost of school books is a matter which interests every family, and yet comparatively few realize the difference between cost of production and the retail price. claimed the profits of the retailer are very small, and therefore the bulk of the profits go to the trust which controls the publica-A change of text books proposed in that city to investigate the matter, and here Here is an "Independent Third Reader,

published by A. S. Barnes & Co., New York and elsewhere. There may be 240,000 ems in the composition of this book. The cuts are cheap stock and without merit, and under present conditions are not to be considered as items of the cost of production. The text matter has no merit of any extraordinary kind, and was possibly prepared by people working on monthly salary. The composition of this book at 25 cents per 1,000 ems would amount to say \$80, not more than \$100, including index, preface, cover, etc. On an edition of 10,000 volumes that would be 1 cent per book for composition. The paper in one book should be bought for 6 cents and 8 cents would be enough to pay for the binding, making the book cost not more than 15 cents. It is sold at about 45 cents, so that the people pay directly and indirectly 30 cents profit on a 15-cent article. Standard works, ing four times the amount of ma containfour times the amount of matter and 2,500,000 years from 1866!"

bound in cloth, are sold at retail for 18 cents. It will thus be seen how the book concernt are enabled by some means, partly through the national copyright laws, to rob the people, for robbery is the exact offense in this case. The above is only an example. In few instances are the profile less less than the result of the profile less less than the profile less tha stances are the profits less. In a great many they are greater.

Let the matter be considered with reference

THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF TEACHERS of the total. It is probably a very modes estimate to say that on the average each ont of the 4,000 school children in Cedar Rapidi requires \$2 worth of books per year, making a total expenditure of \$8,000. By the above calculation \$5,000 of this amount is an unjust charge. This district every second year must build a school house at a cost of about \$18,000, or an expenditure of \$9,000 per o that the book concerns actually secure through unnecessary profits from our people more than half enough to pay for erecting the school buildings and altogether enough to keep the school buildings in repair. Think of it and then wonder why the legislature of Iowa has not stopped the abuse. the legislature of

EDUCATIONAL NOTES. It is proposed to issue \$5,000,000 in bonds in New York City, the proceeds to be de-voted to the erection of school buildings.

The school savings fund system organized in a number of cities of Pennsylvania five years ago has been the means of much good, and its success is gratifying to the originat ors. An excellent example of the operation of this individual banking scheme is pro vided in Chester, where the boys and girls in the public schools have the sum of \$31,771 to their credit, and with the districts of South Chester, Upland, Eddystone and Marcus Hook included the aggregate is \$40,623. Six years ago the current yearly expenses of the Kansas university was \$75,000.

then the attendance has doubled, yet the annual expenses now do not exceed \$100,000. Beloit college is the latest institution for higher education to open its classes to

The capital of the school fund of the state of Minnesota amounts to \$10,712,219.60. The receipts from sales of land are invested in

the securities of the state of Minnesota. The most valuable collection of books devoted to transportation and kindred indus-tries in this country has been added to the library of the Leland Stanford university The collection will be known as the Hop-kins railway library, and contains 4,000 books and 5,000 pamphlets.

Cornell has a short course in agriculture tended by eighty farmers' boys who would otherwise never learn scientific methods, as they cannot afford to spend four years at the university. Most of the boys are, residents of New York state, but there are also representatives from Pennsylvania, Michigan, Indiana, etc., and even one Jap-

Ex-President Andrew D. White of Cornell university, who recently resigned the posi-tion of United States minister to Russia, is spending the winter in Italy and Bavaria. Among the gifts which he is constantly sending to Cornell is a series of handsome oil portraits of famous jurists for the law library. The latest portrait sent by Mr. White is a painting of Chancellor Kent, one of

America's greatest legal writers.

Very Absent-Minded. Probably one of the most humorous cases f absent-mindedness occurred in one of the office buildings, says the Cincinnati Tribune, For at least half an hour the elevator boy had noticed an old tenant of the building sitting upon the stairs outside his office. Thinking the man was sick the boy asked him why he was sitting there so long. "Just read that card I tacked upon the

The boy did so and read: "Will return at 3

Not understanding the boy said: "Have you lost your key?"
"No. you idiot?" roared the man. "Don't you know that it is only 2:30 and I have still another half hour to wait?"

A Rare Thing.

February, 1866, is referred to by astronomers as "the month without a full mooon." January and March of that year had each two full moons, while the intermediate month did not have one. Says a writer in an astronomical journal, referring to this fact: "Do you realize what a rare thing in nature it was? It has not happened before since the beginning of the Christian era, or probably since the creation of the world! It will not occur again, according to the computations of the astronomer royal of England, for-how long do you think? Not until after