Poss Not Take His Opinions from Alleged Labor Leaders.

STUDIES LIFE'S PROBLEMS FOR HIMSELF

One of Them Points Out Where the Labor Vote Went in the Late Campaign and the Reasons Which Actuated Him.

OMAHA, Dec. 5 .- To the Editor of The Bee: In the face of the overwhelming vote given for McKinley in every organized labor center in the United States, the contentionstill urged by certain discredited self-appointed mouthpieces of labor-that "organized labor stood for Bryan" gives even he who runs and reads that languid weariness she don't believe in the "labor parer" that that brings back the boyhood days when devotes itself to calling her husband a "wage on a visit to my uncle's farm my early morning slumber was disturbed by the vocal efforts of a most ambitious ass. While it is true the campaign of 1896 is ended, and the grain has been pretty thoroughly threshed from the straw, there are some lessons to be learned by a retrospective glance at the results, and there is no fact that is more in cydence than the location of the "labor notoriously meager circulation of the pollevidence than the location of the "labor notoriously meager circulation of the polidence ignorance of some politicians as to the real workingman. That Mark Hanna understood him is shown by the intelligent effort he made to reach him. Glittering generalities about the "dignity and rights of noble labor" have long since become stale, and when he hears the orator start in on that string your workingman begins to look for a "nigger in the woodpile." The literature issued by the republican national vote." I was repeatedly astonished at the dence ignorance of some politicians as to

knights of Labor, but which is now a sacre-ton, all the bones of which are decayed and crumbling. This man, who has not done a day's work in years, to be set up as a mouthpiece of labor! The mischief of ing men and women who constitute the real tollers, and who would no more be influenced by Sovereign than by any other crank. Nor would they permit him to speak for them on any question, however trivial.

Other men there were who essayed to speak for labor, and who threw their "influence" and voice for Bryan. The best known of these is Eugene V. Debs, and the result of his labors, and the amount of his "influ-ence" is shown in the vote in Chicago. During the great railway strike of '94, Mr. Debs cut quite a figure in Chicago, and after his failure to win the strike and quiet was restored, the real measure of the man could be taken. He has been posing as a martyr to the law since then. A plank in the Chi-cago platform was practically given him. It is not necessary for me to pass judgment on the gentleman, the workingmen of Chi-cago, who know him best, have done that, and I merely record the fact that Mr. Debs, and the theories he represented, were turned down by thousands of majority of the labor

No greater blunder was ever made by a political party than the Chicago convention committed by the insertion of that plank. It was intended to catch the workingmen, and it proves how little the platform makers knew about him. He read between the lines

do to find out that they knew nothing about it, and it is demanding too much of frail human nature, particularly that brand of human nature ordinarily represented by the editor of the average "labor paper," to ex-pect him to own the corn. I do not wish to belittle the usefulness of real, genuine labor papers, conducted on principles of comconfining themselves to their legitimate field and conducted by men understand the labor question, or rather

understand the labor question, or rather, more correctly speaking, labor's interests. How much influence the "labor presa," as at present constituted, has in politics, is shown by the vote for president. Nearly, if not quite, all the so-called labor papers which deal in politics supported Bryan. Nearly, if not quite all, the laborers voted for McKinley. These are the stubborn facts which no amount of "argeriment" can exwhich no amount of "argeyment" can ex-plain away Why, if it is true that these labor editors strive to reflect the opinions of workingmen were they so wholly at sea regarding the desires of this tremendous ma-

fority of the toilers? Causes there are in plenty, neither ob-scure nor remote. First of all the labor press opinion on economic questions is generally expressed by men who know as little of political economy as they do of earning a dollar by honest toil, and no one knows this better than the workingman himself. The readers of these papers and chief patrons are the small-bore politicians, who really believe the paper has influence among the "masses," among whom its circulation is extremely limited. The editor is gen-erally a man who has made a failure at his own trade or avocation, and blaming general conditions for his own incompetency essays to reform the world to a plane where his mediocrity will be taken for genius. He deceives no one but himself and like incom-

He aspires to become a "leader," always a position that requires superior ability, and nowhere more than smong wage-earners, who, having everything to lose in every move-ment in case of failure, act cautiously and always on their own judgment. Your work-ingman cannot be "led." He is susceptible ingman cannot be "led." He is susceptible and to ments as may be found necessary. The reasonable evidence, and once satisfied of the road in which his interests lie, will pursue it the contract of the city with the old company, on which the new company stands, although the end. He is a much closer pany, on which the new company stands, although the end. and is very much disposed to look after 'Mollie, I and the baby.' He is by no means the impulsive, shallow weathercock some people who pretend to speak for him would lead the world to believe. Hence he quate return for the benefits yielded to the

wholly overlooked by everybody, and that is "Mollie." The family relations, in the very nature of things, is among no class of American people so equal a partnership as between the wage earner and his wife. She is gentices those little economics that go to make taking he contemplates that she is not taken into consultation, and he has more confidence in her judgment than in all the "labor leaders" on earth. She knows the value of a dollar very much better than he does, and he appreciates that fact in a practical manner. He is the bread winner, she keeps the loops to receive the same result. These figures are taken from reports on file in my office, and which are open to irspection. They certainly show that we have just and reasonable cause to demand substantial reductions from our present control of these cities might be still further extended with the same result. These figures are taken from reports on file in my office, and which are open to irspection. They certainly show that we have just and reasonable cause to demand substantial reductions from our present. her. He is the bread winner, she keeps the house together. His time is necessarily taken up with hie work, and use makes the family gested heretofore. purchases, driving much better bargains than he can. She is generally a firm trades he can. She is generally a firm traces unionist, because she approclates the value of organization to keep to its highest possible point the earnings of her husband, and she cheerfully acquiesces in the payment of the necessary dues to keep that union up. But slave," its columns tinctured alternately with

to look for a "nigger in the woodpile." The literature issued by the republican national committee shows that the men at the helm understood this, and made their appeal to the genuine article and not to the professional. It is amazing that newspapers give as much space to the mouthings of men like reading is not of the cheap, trasny, the reading is not of the cheap. generally as well informed as to their feet interests as his employer is to his. He is not a "slave" to anybody or anything, ex-cept it may be to the wife and little ones he loves, and he knows it. He is just as anxious to protect his cottage or his "flat" as a monthplece of labor.

It is that people hear his noise, and class him as a "workingman," and these good people in the hurry of life entirely overlook is his marsion, and in times of mob violence the great army of self-respecting, law-abid his strong arm and brave heart may be relied on to put down the enemies of society.

> You tell me this workingman is not much in evidence! He was very much in evi-dence on the 3d day of last November. He is not to be found much on the street cor-ners fraternizing with men settling national problems without being able to manage their own. He is not to be found in the groggerown. He is not to be found in the grogger-tes declaiming foudly "agin capital." but if you look in the right place you will find him, lots of him. He is in the workshop, lots of him. He will be found in the union meetings, lots of him. Wherever human beings meet for a wise and useful purpose, you will find this self-respecting husband and father, whose toil-hardened hands are badges of honor.

> His wife, too, was very much in evidence lest November. They had jointly read the literature of this campaign of education, and when he cast his vote he registered their joint judgment, and he did not vote to make the money he received for his toil buy one comfort less for the home. Depend upon it, organized labor voted pretty solidly for McKinley and sound money.

Who, then, are the labor leaders? His own judgment. The man is not born who can lead him else. He is swayed by that thing invitation to stwicesness and anarchy, and he believes in neither. It caught the toughs, the professional workingmen, who work at nothing but the development of their nerve, and who see in labor difficulties a chance to pull somebody's leg, or get a little notoriety, but it repelled every thought wage-earner, who read it. He showed his opinion of it at the polls, and there is no gainsaying that his vote was cast for low and anarchy, and lead him else. He is swayed by that thing is wise and which controls all men—his own interests. If you convince him a thing is wise and right, you need not fear the result. He is not a fool, not a machine, to be voted at will, but a thoughtful, sensitive man, capable of great sacrifices for those he loves, or for what he conceives to be right. He suffers more from the wild-eyed agitators who class themselves "friends of downtrodden labor" than any othey class, because it hought would take with the general content of the polls of the his opinion of it at the polls, and there is class themselves "friends of downtrodden no gainsaying that his vote was cast for labor" than any other class, because thought-It is amusing to note the explanations of causes that lead to Bryan's defeat by certain publications styling themselves the "labor press." Every cause is alleged but the right one, i. e., the labor vote was cast almost solidly against him and them. It is kind husband. humiliating to the gentlemen who have been talking for months about what labor would great leveler of all, has claimed him for his do to find out that they knew nothing about lown, might be written in letters of truth "This was an honest man!"

> If, in the foregoing, I have done something to put the real workingman in his true light, I am amply repaid. Myself a me-chanic, as was my father before me, and as was his father before him, I have been all my life associated with those who earned their bread in the sweat of their face, and am vain enough to believe I know the work ing people fairly well. Knowing them and loving and honoring them, as only he who knows them well can, my indignation bub-bles over at the frequent outrageous caricatures sent into the world and labeled "workingman." ERNEST MERSHON.

CONSIDER RIGHTS OF THE CITY

Omaha's Interest in the Water Plant Put in Jeopardy. OMAHA, Dec. 5 .- To the Editor of The The proposition to postpone until 1907 the city's right to purchase the water works plant is indeed one that should be nost carefully considered before final action s taken. By the proposed plan of settlement the water works company aims to secure a waiver of legal objections to its successorship to the franchise of the old corporation and to obtain a franchise practically guaranteed against disturbance for at least ter-years. To the new company the attainment of these objects is of the utmost of financial Without such concessions i ill be subject to a variety of very serious embarrassments in carrying out its scheme of organization and floating its bonds.

On the other hand our people are under no legal or moral obligation to grant these concessions. The question is of a purely business nature. If our people are to concede these great benefits to the water company, they have a right to demand great peoples for the master in return 15 for benefits for themselves in return. So far we are offered practically nothing. In pro-posing to build another main from Florence ready requires. The proposal to locate at a nominal rental, 150 new fire hydrants, of

comes first.

in washing. What is the use

long asit's risky or dangerous?

of making the work easy, as

What does it matter how little

a thing costs, or how many prizes you get with it, if it

rots and ruins the clothes? It can't be that you want to take any chances. Use Pearline.

Nothing that has ever been used

for washing or cleaning is more absolutely harmless than Pearline.

the most thoroughly economical work.

Safety

LABORER A THINKING MAN is not deceived by the glittering promises of water company, and which the city government should demand are: (1) A royally on the gross receipts of the company to be paid into the city treasury; and (2) a substantial reduction in the rates to private consumers. There is another element in his life almost The existing rates were fixed in 1880. They are for the present day excessively high. Following is a list of some seventy cities in

which the water works are lower than those of Omaha, with comparisons of rates per 1,000 gallons for less than 500 gallons per day, and for 500 to 1,000 gallons per day.

If space permitted the comparison of these

with much interest Following are the comparative figures here-

ı	tofore referred	tor			
ı		Per 1,000 g less than gal. per d	tales	Per 1,	100 gnl.,
ı	de la constantina della consta	less than	500 1	rom a	92 to 1.00
J	City. Omaha	gal. per d	ny.	Early D	\$.30
1	Denver		20		.18
1	*Minneapolis	********	08		.08
ł	Atlanta		.10		.10
1	*Louisville	**********	.15		.15
1	*Rochester	********	.14		-14
ı	*Pittaburg	*********	20		.20
ı	Indianapolis .		25		.15
J	*Milwaukee		90		.20
1	*Cincinnati		.08.00	1	.03.6
d	"St. Paul		.16		.10%
	*Syracuse	*********	.2025		.17%
ı	*Lowell	*********	.185a		.18-5
ı	"Nashvile	*********	17/3	190	.16
ı	Albany	******	08		.08
j	*Richmond		15		.1314
ł	Peorla		.20		.20
ı	*Salt Lake	********	.25		.25
l	"New York	*********	.1314		.131/4
1	*Chicago	*********	.10		.10
i	*Cleveland	********	0514		.06
ļ	*Buffalo	*********	04		.04
J	*Detroit		.0524		.02 2
1	Omaha Denver *Minneapolis Atlanta *Louisville *Rochester *Pittaburg Indianapolis Sloux City *Milwaukee *Cincinnati *St. Paul *Syracuse *Lowell *Nashvile Grand Rapids Albany *Richmond Peoria *Salt Lake *New York *Chicago *Buffalo *Buffalo *Detroit *Providence Columbus	*********	.20		.20
ļ	*Providence . Columbus *Toledo	*********	.20		
l	Toledo		10		.10
١	*Combridge	******	20	3 1	.20
i	Dayton		.08		.08
l	Reading	*********	.20		.20
	*Camden	*********	.18		.16
į	Lynn	*********	.20		,23
	*Hoston	******	20	P:	.25
	Evansville		10		.10
	*Portland, Or	e	.30	60	.25
	*Springfield, A	Mass	.30		.23
	Utica		.39	7	.25
	Louisville	*********	7595		06
	Kansas City	Kan	95		.20
	*Covington		.15		17.5
	*Tacoma	**********	25		-22
	*Holyoke	*********	.15		.20
	Binghampton		10		10
	*Voucestown	*********	20		.15
	*Lancaster P	n	.05		.05
	Topeka		.30		.30
	*Salem, Mass		.20		.901
	Terre Haute	********	,30		.20
	*Canton, O	F11	20		.20
	*Newport Ky		10		.10
	*Rockford	**********	1714	Mil	221734
	*Joliet	********	.10		.10
	*Meriden		.25		(120)
	Lexington, K	7-3	-20	**	6.000
	Zanceville	ind	.10		.1214
	Spokane		.20		.20
	Orange, N. J.		.25		955
	Waltham		.24		.22
	*Sandusky	**********	-15		.13
	East Chair	********	20		.20
۱	*Providence Columbus *Toledo New Haven *Cambridge *Dayton Reading *Camden Lynn *Boston *Hartford Evansville *Portiand Or *Springfield *Utica *Erie Louisville Kansas City *Covington *Tacoma *Holyoke *Binghampton *Augusta, Ga *Youngstown *Lancaster, P Topeka *Salem, Mass Terre Haute *Canton, O *Springfield *Newport, Ky *Rockford *Jollet *Meriden Lexington, K New Albany, Zanesville Spokane Orange, N J Waltham *Sandusky *Eigin Eau Claire Columbus, G	7	20		.20
	ALL SECTION AND ADDRESS AND AD		3.4677		4.60*3

Columbus, Ga..... In the foregoing list those cities having municipal ownership of the water works plants are marked with a star. It will be well for our citizens to note the low prices under municipal ownership and ask themselves whether they wish the right of our own eity to such ownership bartered away as is at present proposed. Yours truly, W. S. POPPLETON.

WHY RETIRE THE OLD HEROES

of The Bee: I want to express a few thoughts upon a subject that I have pondered to their standards in times of need.

The subject that I wish to advance is tha f the forcible retirement of army officer army upon the attainment of the age of 64 I have no relatives or friends or even many acquaintances in the army, so feel that

m writing as a wholly disinterested citizen

f this great republic.
I do not object to the retirement of men who have not served their country upon the field of battle very much, but the question placed in a position of obscurity for purely arbitrary reasons? If any men should be pnored with the highest honors within the defenders of the government in her days of distress and need. We should revere them as the people of old revered their valorous roots when coming home from fighting with loss from witain and from without, laden

with the trophies of hard-fought battles and The union veterans when they came to their homes in the year 1865 did not come burdened with spoils that they had forcibly aken from their brothers of the south, bu they came home with the consciousness that they had freed millions of human beings from the thralldom of slavery, having struck down their shackles and at the same time having preserved the greatest free nation from destruction that the sun of heaven has ever shown upon. Instead of bringing home the spoils of the battles and pillage they came with the broken shackles of slavery. followed by the blessings of a human rac

nade free by the force of arms.

If the policy of forcible retirement is fol lowed out it will not be many years until the last battle-scarred old hero will be in retirement and the people who have grown ip since the days of the war may not think or emember of what these men have done to eserve the national union.

In the recent political campaign the journey of the old crippled soldiers was one blaze of glory from start to finish. Man had forgotten that the old-time intrepl Many eaders still existed among men, and man; of the yourger generation, who know naught of war except by tradition and history, became thoroughly imbued with patriotic love of country and the old flag. The meetings held by the brave leader, General Sickies, by the one-armed patriot, General Howard, by the legless Tanner, by the knightly Alger, by the brilliant orator, Stewart, and the rest of the party of veterans, will be held as sacred history by the millions of people who saw and heard them. Their meetingo were not in the nature of political railies but rather of the gathering together of thos who love the country far above party, and the impress of these gatherings has taken deep root, that they will not lose their in-

fluence for many years to come.

Now generations have sprung up since the war, and as the people of old forgot their God, so many of the younger generation have not only forgotten, but they know naught of the deep angulah, of the days of sacrifice, of bloodshed, of anxious longing and waiting among those upon the fields of the south and in the homes of the north left far bekind. Many of them, not realizing what had been done by the old generals who made their recent tour of the country, spoke of them in terms of disparagement and obloquy. them in terms of disparagement and obloquy.

If the government should each year see fit to send these same old beroes out among the people to teach lessons of patriotism as learned by them in the baptisms of fire in the years when the great liberator, Lin-coln, presided over the destinies of our land, and so long as these old leaders of men are able to travel and so long as they are willing to make the eacrifice, it would be of lasting good to the nation, even though the veterandid not make many addresses; for their appearance among the people would recall the memories of the past to those of older years, while it would cause the younger generations to read the history of this nation of which the old soldiers are a part. Though the old generals who recently traveled through the country are but physical wrecks, yet what remains of them is wor-shipped by their former troops with the same fervor and idolatry that the Scotch wormhipped Sir William Wallace and Robert Bruce. Their old troops, even though their

for their old leaders today as fought the Scotch at the historic battle of Bannock-burn when the fate of Scottish liberty hung state of facts? in the balance, where the presence of the remains of the dead Wallace were sufficient to any company constructing the water inspiration to cause the sturdy Scotch to works, what purports to be an unlimited,

It is opinion, after personal contact with me of the far south, that if the law should be so changed that the men who are still in the ranks of the standing army who former years bathled for the preservation national life in battle array should be regested heretofore.

It is in the power of our mayor and council to bring about the desired result, and their action in the matter will be awaited with much become the more strongly in favor of each a change of the law than the brave troops of the confederate legions e. They were most of them oue foes and always gladly are paid to their enthat the reaches of the days of the war are over, when tens of thousands of them gave their loyal and hearty support to their old-time foe whose bravery was tested in the fire of battle on many a gory field, Major William McKinley. William McKinley.

Nothing would tend more to teach love of country and love of the stars and stripes than to retain on the roll of honor, to long as he may live, the great fighter, General titles

Miles, who won fame and glory not only in battling with the civilized hosts of the south but with the wild and untutored gavages of the western mountains and wide-spreading plains; or of General Coppinger, the son-in-law of the illustrious James G. Blaine, or the others of lesser rank who are will with the army, who in their younger years fought for the nation when storms of bullets were rained upon them and amid the rattle of muskerry and the cannon's roar. musketry and the cannon's roar Even should these old leaders grow old is the service, even should another war come upon us waren they are old and unable to longer stand the fatigues of war on tented folds or on the surging waters of lake or occan, other Grants, Sheridans, Shermans, Porters, Farraguts, Logans would spring to the breach, who would fight just as bravely as any of the herces of the past. Let General Miles and the rest of the wartime veterans who yet remain with the army, stay where they are like as they are the are they are the are the are they are the are they are they are the are the are they are they a where they are, so long as they may live, so that each succeeding generation may be told and retold of their luminous past and of the events that brought them to the distinguisher recognition given them in their retention with the troops of younger years. Let them stay with the troops of this age, so that they may inculcate in them a stronger love of the flag for which so many of the bes young men of our country fought and died Keep the old army officers in the ranks, where they will be conspicuous to the whole world so long as they may live, Old General Winfield Scott remained with

the United States army until after he had passed the 75th milestone of his life, after having been with the army more than fift; three years. Had an attempt to forcibly re move bim from the ranks of the army bee made when he had attained the age of 61 there would have been a great hue and cry of opposition, for he had at that age just completed his part of the work of conquering the Mexicans and in adding vast domain to Younger men in the army can afford t

wait a few years longer, for the herces who fought and shed their blood on fields of henor will soon all be gone, as they are passing away at an increasing rate as the years roll along. The hardships of the field and camp in the years gone by told heavily on them and their average age does not equal that of those who remained behind in the eaceful walks of life.

These thoughts are advanced from purely patriotic motives and it is my opinion that should the ideas advanced be carried ou that the nation will be made the stronger by such action and the country will not again be endangered by disloyal teachings of disloyal men. We are a reunited nation, with one flag and one destiny and every movement should be encouraged that will tend to strengthen our free institutions, so that this nation- may stand for untold generations to come. By such action we would prove more strongly than ever that republics are no F. A. AGNEW.

ann.

NALYZES WATER WORKS DEAL

New Franchise and the Motives that Prompted Its Granting. OMAHA, Dec. 4 .- To the Editor of The Bee: The city has been paralyzed by learning that the mayor and council have concluded a new contract for electric lighte without giving any publicity to the matter. or chance for discussion. A matter of still that comes up is. Why should men who bave stood upon the field of battle and lates to a new water works contract. Alfaced storms of shot and shell be retired and though the original contract was made though the original contract was made wenty years ago, when Omaha was small. fixing high prices for water rates and exrovernment and under its control it should cessive rentals for hydrants; although the ce the heroes who won fame and renown as fire protection they contracted to give has cessive rentals for hydrants; although the failed us; although 1,400 hydrants at an annual rental of \$89,000 have been put in; the new proposal does not contain the least suggestion of relief against the extortion; it proposes to extend it. Here is this new company that bought this

plant for \$4,000,000 in bonds that contained a larger per cent of water than any beet ever grown does of sugar, and which the city attorney informs us is without any right whatever in our streets, knocking at the door of the city and asking an enormous grant, and our agents are not insisting upo a single corcession in favor of the public They are not asking any reduction in the number of hydrants, or the rental thereof, or in the water rates, or other absolutely

necessary limitations.

It has been publicly reported by Mr. Venner that this new company proposes to issue upon this plant \$7,000,000 of bonds and \$3,500,000 of stock. At present the con-cern is at the mercy of the city. Its pred-ecessor in the past has driven a hard bar-gain with us and oppressed us under the outstanding franchise, and now the new company, with these millions at stake, is asking our public servants to put them in a position where they can float their money-

making scheme.

More amazing than all this—if that were possible—we find the following at the foot of their proposal, a copy of which is before me: it provides that the right of the city to purchase shall be postponed seven years, "to wit, from July 20, 1900, to July, 1907, so that the right of said city to mak such purchase shall be at any time after the expiration of twenty-seven years from th date of said contract with said Sidney E. Lock (i. e., July 20, 1880). But if the said city shall not elect to purchase said waterworks in the year commencing July 20, 1907 then it shall have the right to purchase any fifth year thereafter, but not during any intervening year."

purchase matures in 1900, and that the con tract was for twenty-five years from the com pletion of the work, said to be in 1883, hence expiring in 1908, I ask you to read over the last sentence quoted, three or four times. The ordinance the committee of the city ouncil recommends is an amendment of ection 14 of the original ordinance, which gives the right of purchase "at any time" after the direction of twenty years (from June 11, "at an appraised valuation;" the amendment now recommended changes the limit to twenty-seven years, and "And also at the expiration of stated s chive years 'hereafter" upon giv-

Keeping in mind that the city's right of

eriods of five years 'hereafter' upon giv-ng six months' notice. Read this language over again. Pin it Read this language over again. Pin it in your head.

What is the design? What is the hidden purpose? What is the effect? Under the pretey bestponing the city's right of purofase seven years, the main contract, that express not later than 1998, is to be indefinite continued for years with a right of purchase (so easily blocked and evaded) overy five years after 1997. Is the same every five years after 1907. Is the same monopoly to go on, with high water rates, high hydrant rentals, etc., overlastingly? If this is so, then the new water works company should bond and stock it, not for \$11.500,000, but for \$23.000,000! They're too modest. They are not up with the times!

An exemination of the original ordinance and contract, found in Connell's compiliation of 1890, at page 596 and following, discloses a most remarkable state of facts; too remarkable to be overlooked longer and too remarkable to go longer without remedy. Now is our time. Not some other time, but

Inspiration to cause the sturdy Scotch to fight with redoubled courage, resulting in one of the greatest victories known to history. The old veterans of the union army who fought at Shiboh, at Chickamauga, at Antietam and at Gettysburg were just as valorous on those historic fields as were the Scotch in the ages long past who fought for their liberales from mountain height and from the courage of the courage of placing mains, pipes and fitters, to supply both the city and citizens and inhabitants with water for "domestic, mechanical, public and fire purposes," that is, for all private, as well as public, uses. The twenty-five year contract provided for The twenty-five year contract provided for (being the only contract) is to furnish water for "fire protection and the public use."

Note the difference. This contract is for public supply only. There is no time limit (by gross oversight) to the right of the com-pany to use the streets to supply private consumers—an unlimited monopoly; the only limit in the twenty-five year contract for public water by which it can be ended beore 1968, is through our right to purchase

fore 1908, is through our right to purchase in 1900.

Now, then, by postponing the time to purchase till 1907 on six months' notice, and fixing it so that it will revive every five years thereafter on six months' notice, that is in 1912, 1917, 1923, 1929, 1924, etc., we have what appears to be an effort, in this clandestine manner, to prolong the contract for public water to go along with the memorial public water to go along with the monopoly to furnish water to private consumers for an indefinite time, unless cut off by pur-chase by the city. The city cannot pur-chase without the action of the mayor and chase without the action of the mayor and council in getting bonds voted in a large amount. How easy at each of these recurring periods for the monopoly to defeat the city's effort to purchase by defeating action by the mayor or council, or by defeating bonds at the polls, etc.

According to the city attorney's view this new company has no rights in our streets.

Why recognize it by eranting it most ex-

Why recognize it by granting it most extraordinary concessions, additional to what the old ordinance contemplates? Why give it a monopoly in Omaha of both private and public water supply, in this year of grace 1896, for an unlimited time? Why ignore all business prudence! Let us use our power wisely and fairly

Let us protect ourselves. Among other things, the company should be required to furnish water within reasonable limitations, furnish water within reasonable limitations, not just where they want to, but just where they ought to, as well. Many an unneeded hydrant has been located at the request of property owners who could not get water supply without it. I myself was put off by the company in such a case with the direction to go and get the council to locate a hydrant where none was needed. But I would not be a party to their scheme.

The right of the city to purchase the water works in 1900 should not be postponed at all—not even as long as it took to run that electric light contract through, to wit, sixteen minutes. If Omaha never

to wit, sixteen minutes. If Omaha never does another thing, it should own these works. It should lay the foundation for it at once. One-half the present receipts will pay interest on the needed bonds and provide a sinking fund to pay the purchase price in twenty years

price in twenty years.
We now pay animially \$89,000 for hydrant rentals, and get no adequate fire protection! This alone will pay interest on \$2,225,000 of 4 per cent twenty-year bonds; this is more than enough to pay for the plant. What private consumers pay over and above the expense account, would supply another large amount for a sinking fund to pay the

The bondholders' committee of the Omaha Water works, under date of June 9, 1896, report the following interesting facts: That report the following Interesting facts: That the receipts of the company from February 12, 1890, to May 1, 1896, amounted to \$1,540,-051.61. They also say that their engineer estimates that the net earnings, that is to say, not gross earnings, for the next five years would be as follows: For 1896, \$239,-000; for 1897, \$261,000; for 1898, \$265,000; for 1899, \$265,000; for 1900, \$273,000. You will observe that these are net earnings and not observe that these are net carnings and not gross earnings. The company estimated its earnings for 1895 at \$360,000.

What should the mayor and council now do? Do business on business principles. Investigate; find out what is fair and what protection should be insisted on. Seek information from all sources. Let the people answer and take hold; let us get together and meet our public servants. Let us have public meetings, if need be. JOHN D. HOWE.

WOOD WORKING MACHINE TRUST. All the Leading Manufacturers of the

CINCINNATI, Dec. 6 .- At a secret meetng here last night all the wood working machine manufacturers of the United States vere consolidated, but no terms can be earned. About \$20,000,000 is involved. The ive gentlemen who conducted the negotiaions are Nelson J. Wattenbury and Henry Nelson of New York; Thomas P. Egan of the Fay & Egan company of this city, and Jeorge Pallenburg and Henry B. Morehead, copresenting a large number of other wood working machinery concerns in the country, t is understood that all of the leading manuscriptors. acturers in this line have already consented o go into the consolidation, and that the leal, while many details are yet to be ar ranged, is a go.

Kansas Grain Case Dismissed. TOPEKA, Kan., Dec. 6.-The Kansas State Board of Railway Commissioners has handed down a decision in the grain rate handed down a decision in the grain rate case filed by the Kansas City, Kan., Board of Trade and I. 175 citizens of Kansas against the railroads of Kansas, holding that it had no power to promulgate an enforcable order under the law under which the case would be brought and dismissed it. The case was filed in June for the purpose of compelling the railroads to reduce the freight rates on grain from points in Kansas to Kansas City. Petitions were secured in each county in the state asking the board to enforce the maximum rate order made by the populist board in 1894, which has never been enforced since its promulgation.

"Lucea"_"Lorea." These are the names of the sleeping cars now running between Omaha and Chicago on the Burlington's "Vestibuled Flyer." They are just out of the Pullman company's shops, where, during the last three months, they have undergone a thorough overhaul-They have been refurnished, ed. reupholstered, recarpeted. Their estibules have been widened. They have been improved in a dozen ways. Today they are as bright as new pins—as dainty as a lady's boudoir-as luxurious as any

They leave Omaha at 5 p. m. daily, Berths may be reserved and tickets secured at 1502 Farnam street. GO SOUTH

Via the Wabash Railroad. WINTER TOURIST tickets now on sale. HOMESEEKERS' TICKETS on sale Noember 17. December 1 and 15.
THE WABASH is the short line and quickest route to St. Louis and points south. For tickets or further information call at

Wabash office, 1415 Farnam street, (Paxton

Hotel block) or write, G. N. CLAYTON, Agent. A Perplexing Problem. Whether to take "Northwestern Line" No. 2 at 4:45 p. m. or No. 6 at 6:30 p. m., Chicagoward. "No. 2" arrives at Chicago 7:45 a. m. and "No. 6" at 9:30 a. m. Both trains are models of modern art, skill and

luxury. NO EXTRA CHARGE ON EITHER ONE. Call at the City Office, 1401 Farnam street, and talk it over. J. A. KUHN, General Agent, G. F. WEST, C. P. T. A. Personally Conducted Excursions

Leave Omaha every Friday via the Union acific. No change of cars to Ogden, San daily to San Francisco.

Special attention paid to ladies traveling alone.

A. C. DUNN Francisco or Los Angeles. Tourist sleepers A. C. DUNN, City Pass, and Tht. Agent,

1302 Farnam St. Six-Thirty P. M. Train. CHICAGO, MILWAUKEE & ST. PAUL RY.
Best service.
ELECTRIC LIGHTS. Dining ear. City office: 1504 Farnam.

\$52.10 to Phoenix, Ariz., and Return-December 10 to 13-via the Burlington Route. Stopovers allowed. Tickets at 1502

Caught Two Runaway Boys. Joe Skillen and his brother Robert, two boys who ran away from their home near Bruce. Their old troops, even though their Now is our time. Not some other time, but ranks have been sadly thinned by death, and now; now when we have the power in our this city in a spirit of adventure, were located and arrested by the police last night decrepit and grizzled with age, would fight tract instead of falling more hopelessly

INVOICE NO. 4— The original ordinance (No. 423) grants

Popularity wins. Truth wins. Reliability wins, Merit wins. About two months ago we introduced a new self-lined overcoat for men at \$9.50. It was a novelty. It was a handsome coat and it was a good coat. It was a self-lined Kersey coat with full satin lined back and we announced it as being equal to any coat offered in other stores for \$15,00. This was true. Its truth was attested by the fact that the first invoice of these superb coats lasted only four days and a second and third invoice disappeared like snow before a summer sun. This week we will have on sale the fourth and last invoice of these overcoats for this season and in quantities large enough to last all week. These coats are all wool Kersey, lined with sixteen inches of the same goods on each side and with full satin back. They are the best coats ever seen in Omiha for the price and will equal any of the current offerings at \$15.00 to \$18.00. See them. See them soon. See them before your size has been sold

Nebraska Clothing Co.

"FORBID A FOOL A THING AND THAT HE WILL DO." DON'T USE

SAPOLIO



SIDEBOARD FOLLY.

You remember the tempting notice which the dealer placed over his 37-cent shirts: "THEY WONT LAST LONG AT THIS PRICE."

You think of this when you see some of the glued-up Sideboards marked with sensational figures in the store of the bargain dealer. One wonders whether they will reach their destination before they break apart at some point,

It is all the more pitiable that such Sideboards can be sold when one recalls the fact that reliable furni-aure is now so low in cost. Here, for example, is a Sideboard which will last for a quarter of a century, ministering in countless ways to daily convenience and adorning the house with its classic beauty; yet it costs only a few dollars more than the cheap patterns we have mentioned. Selected white oak, quartered and hand carved; ser-pentine front and sides; 36-inch plate mirror; three shevies above the board; immense plate closets; four

GHAS. SHIVERICK & CO.

Special Prices on All Holiday Furniture.

12th and Douglas,

Do not trifle with atop Pennyroyal Pilis
Pennyroyal Pilis
the day. Sold only by
HAHN'S PHARMACY.
Ish and Farnam Streets
Ish and Farnam Streets



CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY OF

mother of the boys has been notified and they will be kept at the station until word is received from her as to what shall be done with them.

DEPARTED FOR DOG PARADISE Old Ike Will Growl at No More Policemen.

"Old Ike"-nobody's dog-a tramp vag, but a kindly, noble soul withal-is dead. He died at the residence of Lucien Stephens on St. Mary's avenue Friday afternoon at 4 o'clock. Every man, woman and child in this city seemed to know and love this strange dog, and the news of his death will carry with it the same sadness that would accompany the tidings of the demise of a near relative or dear friend. "Old Ike" was a peculiar fellow, strong in his likes and dislikes, yet as full of noble qualities as could be found in any of his kind. In intel-ligence he was almost human, and while lobody's property, he was claimed and cared for by every one, and woe unto him who dared affront or offer injury to his canine

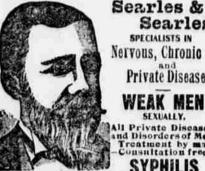
lighness. Ike was a character of the streets. He had a kindly glance of his brown eye and a wag of his bushy tail for every passerby, save a policeman. Ike hated the bobbies like the devil hates holy water, and he had a spiteful curl of the lip and an ominous display of wiry incisors every time one happened in his proximity. But this hatred was not reciprocated. There is not a man on the force, nor has there been for a decade past, but who would defend old like or lend him a belging hard when one was needed. Old a helping hand when one was needed. Old Ike was fond of crowds and was always to be found at the base ball games or other outdoor gatherings, around the theaters and not infrequently at church. Fires were his weakness. The clang of the alarm bell, the clatter of the horses on the cobble atones was the signal for Ike to be up and off, and with his well known bark ringing on the air he was generally among the first on the ground. He was a luxuriant and gastrome in habit, and daily took his lunched and his dinner either at the home of som of our best known families or at the first class restaurants.

The story of the waif's origin is somewhat

bacure. He first made his appearance here some ten or twelve years ago, and was sup posed to have become separated from his friends—a party of English tourists enroute for the mountainous west-at the Union depot in this city. He was a Scotch colliand a handsome dog, with an intellectual countenance, symmetrical curves and a vel-vet coat of long, rusty, red hair. In his last vet coat of long, rusty, red hair. In his last slekness he was treated by Dr. Young of the Nebraska Humane society, who did all that mortal man could do to save and prolong his life. But his efforts were futile and he has gone. Always a wanderer, may he not still be wandering somewhere in the everlasting canine Psyche hunt, and in the hurly-burly of life's winds and waters may we not if we listen, catch in some faint way the quayering reverberation of that cheery quavering reverberation of that cheery bark we all knew so well?

CASTORIA. Chat H. Fletchers CASTORIA. CASTORIA.

Searles & Searles.



Private Diseases. **WEAK MEN** All Private Diseases and Disorders of Men Treatment by mail Consultation free.

Cured for life and the poison thoroughly cleansed from the system, PILES, FISTULA and RECTAL ULCERS, HYDROCELES and VARICOCELE permanently and successfully cured. Method new and unfailing STRICTURE AND GLEET Cured at home By new method without pain or cutting. Call on or address with stamp. Dr. Searles & Searles, 119 S. 14th St.

One Thousand for One. (Trade Mark.)

ACCIDENT TICKETS.

Casualty Company of New York gives THREE MONTHS' insurance,

\$1,000 for \$1.00, to men or women,

netween IS and 60 years of age, against fata) Street Accidents a-foot, or on Bicycles, Horses, Wagons, Horse Cars, Railroad cars, Elevated, Bridge, Trolley and Cable cars, Steamships, Steamshoats and Steam Ferries, 110,000 deposited with the Insurance Department of the state of New York for the security of the insured.

For Sale by Chas. Kaufmann, 1202 Douglas Street.

Omaha. Neb

BAILEY Anybody Knows E That to enjoy a square meal one must have good L Set Teeth \$5.00 T 3d Floor Paxton Block 📓 Paxton Blk.

> WILCOX COMPOUND. ANSY@ PILLS