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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to efore me this 28th day of February, A. D., 92. M. B. HUNGATE, (Seal.) Notary Public. If we are to have fusion this year the acrobats will perform in a two-ringed circus.

GEO. B. TZSCHUCK.

Instead of enjoying smooth legislative waters, the ship subsidy bill is encountering a heavy sea.

And the World-Herald is still as silent as the grave on the pardon of Bartley and the acquittal of Meserve.

With the order of precedence in the royal procession finally arbitrated, the other preparations for King Edward's coronation may go on in safety.

The outlook for Omaha in the building trades has seldom been better in advance of the actual opening of the building season. There should be no idle artisans in Omaha this year.

Long distance observers think see an early adjournment of congress in sight. No one on the outside will enter any very strenuous objections if they make good with this forecast.

The members of the Taxpayers' league of South Omaha who were the active creasing aggressiveness of the disaffecagents in procuring the indictment of tion. The decision of King Edward not the school board boodlers now have a to visit Ireland, as he had contemplated chance to show whether they mean bus- doing, has probably had no important iness or not.

It is a pretty safe prediction that anxious to break out of prison by the half their sentences.

It is to be noticed that the populist about the wonderful record made by ex-Treasurer Meserve when he was placed in charge of Nebraska's strong box as the embediment of reform morality.

One of the civil service commissioners has resigned to get back into the active vortex of politics. One would imagine the civil service commission was constantly rubbing up against politics sufficiently to suit the most fastidious.

The pertinent notation made by President Roosevelt on an application for pardon, saying that he regrets it is not in his power to increase the sentence of the culprit, leaves no room for doubt what the answer would have been to the petition for the pardon of ex-Treasurer Bartley had Roosevelt been governor of Nebraska.

to overlook the county assessors when they start out to make up the assessment lists for county and state taxation. The county assessment has for years been more unequal if anything than the city assessment, with consequent greater inequalities in the burdens,

The populists in congress are encountering no difficulty in organizing their congressional campaign committee There are so few of them who have not gone bag and baggage into the democratic camp that their trouble is to place the offices without doubling up rather than in deciding between ambitious aspirants for chairmanships and secretaryships.

Chairman Jones of the democratic national committee is having hard sledding in his quest for a re-election to represent the state of Arkansas in the United States senate. As Senator Jones in two successive presidential campaigns de- the middle of that year. The Irish quesvoted his best, though misguided, efforts tion has long troubled England, but to the election of Colonel Bryan to the rarely if ever has it been more perplexpresidency, turn about for fair play ing to British statesmen than it is at would require Mr. Bryan to throw himself into the breach for his old friend Jones even if he has to take the stump to save him. Jones is in distress, but Bryan as yet nowhere near him.

IRRIGATION IN THE HOUSE. did the senate, though there seems to be good reason to believe that it will pass. whose interest the scheme was pro-Eastern opposition to the measure is voiced in the report submitted by Representative Ray of New York, which condemns the bill as enconstitutional. In regard to applying the proceeds from the sales of public lands to irrigation, the report characterizes the plan as unfair, because it would result in taking the proceeds of public land sales in one state and using them for irrigation in Crawford county system than under the another state. It is further urged that delegate plan. there is no power in the United States to condemn lands or water rights in one state for the use and improvement for sale of lands situated in another state, even when the lands in that other state

belong to the general government. This provision of the bill is held to be the reason that congress has no power to provide for the irrigation improvement of its public lands situated within a state. Supreme court cases are cited in support of this contention. The measure is also attacked as conferring dangerous power on the secretary of the interior, who it is declared could, if he chose to do so, divert the headwaters of the Missouri river into Utah or Idaho. Another allegation of the opponents of present shape would lead to endless litigation

How strong the opposition is has not opponents will be unable to defeat it. a compromise measure agreed upon after thorough discussion by the representatives of the states directly concerned in irrigation. The power vested by the bill in the secretary of the interior is not likely to be arbitrarily ex. have the desired result. When Secrerights or its just proportion of the imtrary the secretary of the interior may location of reservoirs and establish- the treasury has paid out over \$75,000,view of making the most of the resources at his disposal.

As originally drawn the bill limited dropped so as to give equal opportunilic land sales regardless of location.

While the bill now before the house may still be defective in some particunational supervision experience will in prehensive irrigation system.

IRISH DISAFFECTION.

Next to the South African war the most serious matter confronting the British government is the growing disaffection in Ireland, or rather the meffect upon the situation. Irish members of Parliament are reported as expressing the opinion that it is for the President Roosevelt is not destined to best, as it saves the king the humiliabecome popular with convicted crooks tion and inconvenience of being paraded through a disaffected country under the pardon route before they have explated suspices of a government hated and despised by them. The prevalent spirit was strongly shown in the demonstration of the Irish party in the House papers are not prating so much of late of Commons over the news of Methuen's defeat. That was a manifestation of Irish feeling that has made a deep impression.

It is said that never before since the best days of Parnell has there been in Ireland any such solidarity of public sentiment; never before since the time of that ablest of Irish Parliamentary leaders has the home rule party been so well organized and directed as it-is today. The present agitation is characterized by a moderation and sanity which gives it a moral force that has too often been lacking in popular demonstrations for the rights of Ireland. One result of this greater restraint and prudence has been a remarkable absence of crime among the Irish peasantry, a fact which even the chief secretary for Ireland is said to have admitted at a recent meeting of the British cabinet. It is under-The Real Estate exchange must not stood that his report on this feature of be so absorbed in its mandamus case as the situation carried the day against Mr. Chamberlain's demand for an imme diate application of the most drastic

clauses of the crimes act. How the British ministry will deal with the situation remains to be seen, but it is hardly to be expected that it will show greater wisdom in the matter now than in the past. This is indicated in the threat to suppress the United Irish league-a possible task, perhaps, but one which would certainly intensify the bitterness of feeling. The league has never before been so powerful, having extended its control over districts where Parnell in the height of his influence received little recognition. It will therefore be no easy work to suppress this organization. Meanwhile Ireland continues to lose in population. Acording to statistics just presented to Parliament the number of emigrants who left Irish ports during 1901 was nearly 40,000, or nine per 1,000 of the estimated population of the country in

present. The experience of South Omaha democrats with the Crawford county sys-

tem of direct primary nominations is not

had complete mastery of the party orfrustrating the will of the majority, but when it depends on the continued sup-It has no more advantage under the other pleasure resorts.

ROND PURCHASES STOPPED. The decision of the secretary of the treasury to discontinue for the present the purchase of bonds, which has been going on for nearly a year, is said to be with a view to checking the retirement unconstitutional and it is further of bank circulation. The high price of claimed also to be unconstitutional for government bonds, measurably at least due to treasury buying, has been an inducement to banks to sell those on deposit with the government and reduce their circulation, an operation which it is manifestly not desirable to encourage. suggests the planting of trees this year A Washington dispatch states that Secretary Shaw makes no secret of his disapproval of the national bankers who are expressing their apprehensions of a Canton and Washington, there is no money stringency and yet contributing to the contraction of the volume of curthe bill is that it has conflicting provi- rency by retiring circulation. He living monument in the form of an imsions and if enacted into law in its thinks that the relation of the govern- posing and useful tree. ment to the banks is not, or ought not to be, a mere jug-handle arrangement, the banks always looking to the governyet been manifested, but the friends of ment to help them out of difficulty, but the measure express confidence that its | never going out of their way to help the government when their turn comes. It It should be borne in mind that the is announced that in making governirrigation bill as passed by the senate is ment deposits those banks which are most active in retiring their notes will be least considered.

The action of Secretary Shaw in this there is reason to expect that it will ercised to deprive any state of its water tary Gage begun purchasing bonds, some eleven months ago, there was neprovements contemplated. On the con- cessity for it. The accumulation of money in the treasury was creating a be expected to carry out the recom- stringency in the market for which remendations of expert engineers in the lief was urgently required. In that period ment of irrigation districts with the sole | 000, with good results to the money market and it is presumed without loss to the government, at least in the long ment's case for the dissolution of the Northrun. But while the treasury surplus is era Securities Company is characterized by each state to the amount realized from still large, it manifestly would be unthe sale of public lands within the wise to continue a policy which inboundaries, but this feature has been creases the cost of bonds to the government and at the same time offers an ties to all the states to secure their pro inducement to the banks to reduce their rata of the aggregate receipts from pub- circulation, thereby to an extent defeating one purpose of the purchase of bonds, which is to put more money in circulation. How long the stoppage of lars, it embodies substantially all that bond purchases by the treasury will be the people of the semi-arid region can maintained depends upon financial conhope to secure from congress at this ditions, but the action of the secretary time. With a start once made, under of the treasury ought to have a whole some effect upon the banks, which will time demonstrate what more is neces- at least learn from it that he expects sary to reap the full benefits of a com- from them fair consideration for what the government does to help them in munity. If the United States senate would pass the bill to cut off the war taxes the accumulation of a surplus in the treasury would soon cease and there would be no more necessity for bond purchases by the government, but there appears to be no disposition in the senate to give the question of tax reduction consideration.

WRONG IN PRINCIPLE AND PRACTICE. One feature of the contest over the action of the city Board of Equalization relative to the assessment of the franchise corporations has caused just resentment among taxpayers. We refer to the appearance of the city attorney as an associate of the lawyers employed by the corporations, who are trying to frustrate the effort to compel the board to revise the assessment of these corporations so that they would bear an equitable proportion of the burdens of taxation.

As the law officer of the city the city attorney is presumed to represent the taxpayers of Omaha who are compelled to contribute toward the maintenance of the city government. In appearing on behalf of the corporations that are fighting a revision of the assessment the city attorney actually appears against the great body of taxpayers, who claim to be overtaxed by the undervaluation of the franchise corporations. It is a serious question whether under such conditions the attorney for the corporation known as the city of Omaha is doing justice to his employer in joining with the attorneys of the corporations that seek to shirk their part of the publie burdens at the expense of all of the

other taxpayers. Whether this action on the part of th city attorney is voluntary or not, he is placed in an unenviable light and subjects himself to serious criticism. In this, as in former instances, where officers of the municipal government are charged with a willful disregard of the law, the city attorney's appearance as defender of the defendants is wrong in principle and wrong in practice. As the attorney of the corporation of Omaha he should by rights appear on behalf of the taxpayers and for the enforcement of law rather than in the defense of the servants of the corporation who have overstepped the mark and by their action subjected themselves to prosecution in the courts-or forced taxpayers to seek redress in the courts for wrongs inflicted upon them.

The mere fact that Congressman Mercer has been designated as the mem ber for Nebraska on the republican congressional committee is heralded forth as a tremendous triumph of the habitual absentee and an augury of his sure re nomination and election. As a matter of fact, Mr. Mercer was placed on the republican congressional committee six years ago by reason of the fact that he was the senior republican member in the house from Nebraska and his reappointment every two years was but a Tillman

very encouraging to the idea that the natural sequence. His usefulness and The irrigation bill, it appears probable, men in control of the party machinery efficiency on the committee, so far as will not pass the house as easily as it can by that device manipulate things republican candidates for congress in just as they please. The candidate in Nebraska are concerned, has failed to materialize during the last three conjected has fallen by the wayside not gressional elections, excepting in his withstanding the fact that his friends own district and that of Mr. Burkett, year. who has the advantage of a very deganization. A political machine can cided republican majority. Two out of sometimes maintain itself in power by the other four districts might have been carried in 1900 if Mr. Mercer could have been persuaded to spend more time in port of a majority of the rank and file Nebraska than in Atlantic City and

The grand jury, which was called together to investigate well-defined ugly rumors, presented an indictment against Omaha school board for alleged crook- splendid administration. edness, and the South Omaha democrats forthwith placed him at the head of their ticket as a candidate for mayor. What the members of the South Omaha Taxpayers' league will have to say on this subject will be known the day after campaign should be short and effective. The

Gov. Savage's Arbor day proclamation to the memory of the late President Mc-Kinley. While the pretentious monuments to McKinley will be erected in good reason why every community, if

Blawsted Mean Trick. Washington Post. The conduct of the Boers is particularly reflect that General Kitchener had reported

the capture of their last cannon. Quaint Coincident. Baltimore American. It may be a mere coincidence, but just as the Congress of Mothers has finished attracting attention in one part of the matter is unquestionably judicious and world, General Ma appears prominently at the Antipodes.

> Demand for Pure Food. Chicago Inter-Ocean. The cry of the Great West is for pure food, not only because it is right that all food should be pure, but because the Great West raises the stuff out of which the best pure food is made.

The Right Spirit. New York World. It is simple justice to the Attorney General to say that his opening of the govern-

remarkable originality, aggressiveness and

Great Ally in a Pinch. Springfield Republican. American mules have again proved of stress. It is a question whether their

Boer onslaught in putting General Methuen's men under. We should doubtless be proud of them. "How Long, Oh Lord, How Long!" Chicago Chronicle (dem.).

How much longer is the fantastic Barn aby Rudge of Lincoln, Neb., to remain even portunity, rejoicing that they are at home paralysis and incapacity? Is there no democrat anywhere who is man enough to indemocratic and not populistic?

The Navy's Barred Door.

Philadelphia Record. The fate of Gunner Joseph Hill, following that of Gunner Morgan, shows that it is was given, is a dangerous thing in the impossible for an American seaman to break through the barriers of the navy and of the politics of the state is sought by obtain a commission. While many a private soldier rises to high rank, there is no prospect for a seaman to rise in the exclusive and autocratic naval establishment. This explains why ambitions and publicspirited American youths so greatly prefer the mercantile service to the navy.

"What's the Matter with Nebraska!"

Nebraska City Tribune. Why does Kansas invariably lead us developing new lines of industry? Why is it that Nebracka can't produce even first class liar? We don't want to hert the feelings of any of our Omaha friends, but really we can't call to mind at this moment a single liar whom we could consider of the first magnitude. There may be plenty of men who consider themselves such, or who would be if they could, but they lack the divine fire. A Nebraskan even a liar of some talent, can strain his imagination to the danger point, and the best he can bring forth is a ten-foot vein of coal or a 200-pound catfish; and here comes a Kansas man who, without turning a hair or getting red in the face, produce a five-weeks' baby who lies in the cradle at Harper, repeating "Six years of famine in Gentlemen come every day to hear what this odd babe doth say. They come skeptical and they go away awestruck and terrified. So are we. We had hoped Kansas was through bleeding.

PERSONAL NOTES.

General Charles G. Loring, one of the original directors of the Art Museum, Boston, has resigned on account of ill health having served since the museum's organi nation in 1870.

Archer M. Huntington, of New York, has recently returned from Europe with 21,000 volumes and manuscripts for his private collection of Spanish literature, which is said to be unrivaled in the world. Ex-Senator Reagan of Texas has recov-

ered from what was supposed to be his final illness. He is the sole survivor of the Jeff Davis cabinet, and is certainly Texas tough old man if not her grand one. Alleyne Ireland has been chosen by th University of Chicago to go to the Orient as special commissioner to study general

conditions, which will enable the university to shape certain classes of work for men who will go to the Orient to live. Dr. Lyman Abbot was the chief figure a a dinner given in his honor the other night by the publishers of the Outlook, which he edits. There were present Dr. Edward Everett Hale (Unitarian), Bishop Potter

and Dr. Lorimer (Baptist). Miss Maude Adams gets \$2,000 by which has just passed congress and gone to the court of claims. During the civil war Miss Adams' grandfather, who lived in Timn, O., shipped horses and mules to the northern army. These fell into the hands

(Episcopalian), Father Doyle (Catholic)

of the confederates. The heirs put in a claim to recover the loss. As Senator McLaurin was stepping off a who but recently had punched his face in to board the car. Other passengers breathDISCUSSION IN REPUBLICAN CAMP.

Kimball Observer: The republican state central committee has been called to meet at Lincoln next Thursday to fix the date for the state convention. The sentiment seems to be in favor of an early convention this

Columbus Journal: W. M. Robertson of Norfolk is being mentioned by republicans for nomination as a party candidate for governor. Mr. Robertson is certainly an able man, a strong republican and has a host of political friends in Nebraska.

Pender Republic: The Republic believes that Hon, W. G. Sears of Tekamah would make the strongest candidate that the republicans could possibly nominate for governor. He is clean, capable and fearless and would engender no factional or sectional jealousies. He is a farsighted man a democratic member of the South and a good lawyer and would give us a Hastings Tribune: When the republican

state central committee meets at Lincoln next Thursday the time will be fixed for holding the state convention. The Tribune is of the opinion that the later the convention is held the better it will be, as the middle of July will be early enough for the republican state convention and we hope it will not be held before that time.

Albian News: The rank and file of the republican party will this year insist on the nomination of a clean, competent ticket. It this is not done the party will meet disaster just as sure as election rolls around. The days of "yellow dog" partizanship in Nebraska are forever gone by. Independent votere are becoming more numerous every not every household, should not have a year, caused by the rottenness which has been uncovered in all parties in Nebraska. These independent voters have the balance of power in Nebraska today and it behoove the nominating conventions to scrutinize very closely the men brought forward for the several offices. Nebraska is naturally republican, and if no mistakes are made in exasperating and reprehensible when we the state convention the republican ticket will be elected by a good majority.

Alnsworth Star-Journal: Among tho mentioned for gubernatorial honors we hear the name of Judge Paul Jessen most favorably spoken of. The only dissent to his nomination seems to come from his district, in which he has made such an exceptionally able judge that they are loth to see him taken from the bench, even to fill the high office of chief executive of this great state. This is commendatory of Judge Jessen in the highest degree. As judge he has made an excellent record; as governor we believe he would add to that record and make a chief executive the people of the state would be proud of. He stands before the public without a smirch on his character, able, efficient, clean, courageous preeminently a man of and for the better ele ment in politics, business and right doing. Evidently Judge Jessen is the man of the hour and in direct antagonism to the dirty work of the Savage-Bartley gang that has so disgraced the fair name of Nebraska and the decent element of her people.

York Republican: It is said that the delegates to the republican state convention will have to obey orders or pay fare. If the republican county conventions do their duty, they will not allow a man to be elected an uncertain reliance for the British in time as delegate to the state, convention who does not pledge himself beforehand that stampede was not about as effective as the be will not ride there on the pass of any railroad doing business in Nebraska. Send that sort of man to the republican state convention, republicans of Nebraska, and you will all be proud of the ticket they place in nomination, and many hundreds of men who have been voting the populist ticket will vote for them, and be glad of the opnominally at the head of what was once a once more. Why should every officer in party of ideas and principles? How much the state of Nebraska, every man in any longer is his raven croak of "Never say way connected with the administration of on railroad passon? The railroads should not expect from these men anything but a right to demand of honorable men whether the pass were given or not. That pass which implies a political obligation, even though nothing may have been said or hinted about the obligation when the pass politics of the state, when the management men who are repugnant to the masses of the people of the state. The Republican knows of but one official connected with the state's affairs, populist or republican, who refused the pass, and he was under suspicion of taking a rebate. Give us decent politics, w'th out the employment of doubtful agencies and everybody will feel better, and it will be better for the state, because the better men feel the better they do.

JOHN P. ALTGELD.

Chicago Record-Herald: He was a man of genius. He possessed the intellectual qualities required in aggressive discussions of the highest political and social questions. He was an extremist in his liefs on social subjects of the day. It is not too much to say that he was a revolutionist in all his instincts and in the purposes which he followed. But he was a humane, not a destructive, revolutionist.

Chicago Inter-Ocean: Personally Gov ernor Altgeld was a courteous and scholarly gentleman. Although he was of German descent, he was in temperament more like a Frenchman. He owed his power over the discontented to that boldness and sturdiness that caused him often to sacrifice himself in the interest of a cause. This dominant trait in his character was illustrated in the last act of his life, and it will

be remembered to his credit. St. Louis Globe-Democrat: John P. Altgeld was the Danton of the democratic rising of 1896. William J. Bryan was its William J. Stone was its Robespierre. The brains of the free silver revolution was Altgeld. He organized it and gave it the courage and the plausibility which made it a grave menace to the nation's financial honor and stability. A man of great talent, of vast industry and of utter fearlessness, he was by far the most formidable of the fees which conservatism and stability had to encounter in the great cataclysm of half a dozen years ago.

Minneapolia Times: Governor Altgeld was a man of fine abilities and great energy, but a cynical and somewhat pessimistic turn of mind caused him to fall short of the beights he might have attained by the full use of the splendid talents with which he was endowed. He was both an obstructionist and a radical in political and social endeavor. His very earnestness defeated his purpose and his sympathies led him too often to the support of that most futile protest against existing order of things—the protest that adopts the torch and the bomb as arguments. His pardon of Fielden, Schwab and Neebe affords an illustration of this

trait Chicago News: It was Mr. Altgeld's los to confront many enemies in his life. He was not a man to listen to compromise or to affect friendship for those who were fighthis principles. His temperamental qualities were such that having once decided that a given policy was right he could not deviate from it nor listen to suggestions that it be altered or amended These characteristics, together with his street car in Washington the other day he extreme radicalism upon many questions came, face to face with Senator Tillman, of politics or economy, undoubtedly weak ened his hold on public confidence. They the senate chamber and who was just about also lessened his influence and his usefulness. He will be remembered, neverfessily expected trouble, but the two men theless, as a man of earnest convictions glared at each other with their three eyes and as an advocate of all policies which in and the car soon proceeded with the flery his belief tended toward a larger indi- as energetically resumed when the next vidual liberty for his fellow man.

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Seenes and Incidents Observed at the National Capital.

During the coming fiscal year there will

be places for about 10,000 persons in the government service. All these places are under the civil service law and the United States civil service commission is to hold examinations of aspirants in various cities of the country during the next two months. From the eligibles selected as a result of these examinations and those to be held in the fall, there will be more than 10,000 appointments made in the year beginning July 1. The records of the civil service commisson show that the yearly average of appointments to competitive positions is now around the 10,000 mark. For the year 1900 they were just short of that number, and last year they went beyond it. A great many vacancies exist at the present time and will be filled as soon as the commission can furnish an eligible list. It does not hap pen very often that Uncle Sam is forced to wait for people to step up and claim good positions, but it is a fact that work in some branches of the government is being deayed owing to the failure of the commission to find men competent to fill vacancies, These are mostly technical positions, requiring special qualifications, some of them be ing as follows: Assistant topographer and opographical draftsmen, inspectors and assistant inspectors of meat in the Bureau of Animal Industry of the Department of Agriulture, aid in the coast survey, watch off ers, deck officers and assistant engineers or the ships of the coast survey

Senator Dolliver came away from home his morning without any money in his ocket, relates a New York World letter. He hopped gayly on a street car and started or the capitol. The conductor came around. The senator searched his pockets, but he couldn't find a cent or a car ticket. There

wasn't a soul on the car he knew, Much chagrined, he hopped off the car gain and stood on the corner of Fourteenth and F streets, wondering where he could borrow a nickel. Through the window of the next car that came along he saw Representative Ketcham of New York. He got board and sat down next to Ketcham. When the conductor came around Senator Dolliver eaned over to Ketcham and said, confidently

"I wish you would pay my fare." Ketcham is deaf. "What's that?" he asked.

"I say, I wish you would pay my fare." "I can't hear a word," protested Ketcham;

peak louder." By this time everybody in the car was ooking at the senator. He blushed rosyred and shouted: "I wish you would pay my fare."

"Oh," replied Ketcham, "certainly. The house is always glad to come to the assistance of the senate."

Henry Wilson of Massachusetts, who was rice president during Grant's administration, died in the capitol in the room now occupied by Senator Frye. A large tablet is to be placed in the room bearing the following inscription: In this room

HENRY WILSON,

Vice President of the United States and s Senator for Eighteen Years, Died November 22, 1875, vember 22, 1875.

The son of a farm laborer, never at school more than twelve months, in youth a journeyman shoemaker, he raised himself to the high places of fame, honor, and power, and by unwearied study made himself an authority in the history of his country and of liberty, and an eloquent public speaker, to whom senate and people eagerly listened. He dealt with and controlled vast public expenditure during a great civil war, yet lived and died poor, and left to his grateful countrymen the memory of an honorable public service and a good name, far better than riches.

"It is hardly necessary to say," comdie" to resound over the last ditch of party state executive and judicial affairs, ride ments the Washington Post, "that this admirable summary of Vice President Wilson's career, contained in less than 100 sist that the democratic party shall be the even handed justice they would have words, was written by Senator Hoar, than whom no senator is more felicitous in ex-

pression. Senator Depew of New York is one of the attractions of Washington. Since his marriage he has reached the attitude of a spectacle, in the estimation of tourists. Washington letter to the St. Louis Globe-Democrat says all kinds and conditions of people are curious to see him. They let no epportunity pass to observe his movements and comment upon them. Not only this, but they flock after him, as it were, to comment upon this or that. When the senator entered the senate for the first time after his return from abroad, where he was mar-

ried, his entrance upon the floor of the senate was followed by the immediate filling of the senate galleries. The capitol policeman who opened his carriage door at the entrance to the capitol, told the door man. The doorman told a passing senate tenographer. The stenographer carried he news to the office of the clerk of the senate. The clerk told a committee clerk, and so it traveled from room to room until the news crossed the capitol and invaded the committee room on the house side. First carge committee and senate and house employes and then members of the house themselves began to walk the marble block across the capitol to look down upon the sald top and bland and smiling front of the enator. The senator knew the filling galeries were for him. He couldn't help it. Only dull morning business was before the senate, and at that hour the gallery attendance is limited to two score. But the senator smiled up at the gallery, and the gallery leaned over and smiled back at the senator. Occasionally a colleague would note, his entrance and cross over to congratulate him. Having made an hour's all, Depew joined Mrs. Depew in the private gallery and the two left the capitol between lines of 200 curious Washington folk. A few nights ago he entered the new downtown hotel, just opened for the present session, with Mrs. Depew. They went to the palmroom for luncheon. The four other dining rooms were immediately depopulated when the waiters whispered the arrival of the senator and Mrs. Senator. The hotel management had to place thirtyfive extra tables in the palmroom, so that the curious might gaze at the senator and his bride, and at the same time pay the hotel for the privilege at rates which only the rich or improvident can afford. Through it all there was no sign from the senator or Mrs. Depew. They sat with apparent unconsciousness of the bustle if not actual confusion their arrival had occasioned. The senator's presence of mind is seldem disturbed. Only the other evening he attended a banquet where much freedom and license is taken by the newspaper men, who entertain the guests. The senator was asked to speak. He proceeded in his characteristic style, and was in the midst of one of his best stories when the toastmaster unceremoniously called for the previous question. Depew subsided, but not until he had declared with mournful and humorous face: 'There! I was about to tell

> "Locking the Stable Doors." Baltimore American.

the test and newest story I ever told."

The traditional zeal in carefully locking the stable door after the horse has been stolen, is now being displayed in the various disasters happening lately. After valsable lives have been lost in tunnel accidents and hotel fires, the work of showing how those lives could have been saved had a reasonable prudence been observed, in precautions, is going bravely on. It will stop when the seal wears itself out, to be "accident" happens along

WHY THE SENATE DELIBERATES. Senator Hoar's Opposition to Popular

Election of Senators.

Chlcago Tribune. Senator Hoar is much exercised over the suggestion that United States senators be elected by a direct vote of the people. He says that the senate and the supreme court are the two glories of the republic, and by a change in the method of election of senators one of these glories-perhaps the greater glory of the two in Senator Hoar's estimation-will be stricken down. In the opinion of the senator, the senate is now "the greatest deliberative assembly in the world," but will cease to be if its members shall be elected at first hand by the people instead of at second hand as now. this should be so Senator Hoar does not

explain. The distinction he claims for the senate it certainly enjoys, but credit for it is not to be assigned to the election of senators state legislatures. The credit is due to the fact that the senate has great legislative functions and also a comparatively small membership. The house of representatives is not inferior in power to the senate, but it has so large a membership that discussion and debate cannot be participated in by representatives so generally as by senators. When the house was smaller than it is now and the volume of business not so great the house, too, was a deliberative assembly. There have been times in the past when it was a greater deliberative assembly than the senate was.

If there were 300 senators instead of ninety the senate, in order to transact any business, would have to lessen the per capits flood of oratory. Senator Hoar said the other day: "We have measures enough if they were thoroughly debated and considered to take ten years." If there were 300 senators and they all wished to take a hand in debate it would take over thirty years to consider the measures Senator Hoar had in mind.

The preservation of the senate as "the greatest deliberative assembly in the world' does not depend on adherence to an oldfashioned mode of electing senators. It depends on keeping down the number of senators, so that it may be possible to carry on business and yet allow everyone to make as many speeches as he pleases.

FIRE INSURANCE EXTORTION.

Action of the Underwriters Provokes Vigorous Criticism. Philadelphia Times.

Only in one year, the exceptional year of 1899, did the local fire losses exceed the premium receipts. In the seven years since 1894 the premiums paid in Philadelphia were more than \$9,000,000 beyond the fire losses Last year the excess was \$2,200,000, the largest ever recorded. Yet it is now proposed to add one-fourth to the rates of insurance in Philadelphia to make up for losses sustained elsewhere,

Forty per cent upon the receipts is an exorbitant allowance for carrying on any business that exacts so little expenditure as that of the fire insurance companies. They pay their agents only 15 per cent. Taxes and other expenses may account for about one-half of the percentage given. The rest must be profit to somebody. It certainly should leave the companies margin enough to stand an occasional blow. If not, they had better leave the business to somebody who can conduct it with less waste.

Philadelphia is not one of the cities where the business has recently resulted in loss, and therefore it is not one of the cities where rates of insurance ought to be in discriminately raised. The companies are not compelled to insure anybody. Each policy is a distinct contract and any company is at liberty to refuse insurance on property that appears unsafe or to exact as the companies or their agents fall in intelligent discrimination and suffer loss in consequence, they have no right to make their substantial customers suffer for their fault They can make their rates on dangerous buildings prohibitory if they will. They would then not need to levy prohibitory rates on the property from which their secure income is derived. The rates are higher now than ever before and are a serious obstruction upon substantial business enterprise. They are at least as high as the acknowledged conditions of the business justify. A further general increase would be a flagrant extortion.

LINES TO A LAUGH.

Detroit Free Press: He (seeing her off)-You may meet someone else you will like She-Well, if I do I'll let you know.

Somerville Journal: Even when a woman loves her husband enough to black his shoes for him, it is very foolish of her to do it.

Atlanta Constitution: "Daddy's out there n the hall, an' he says 'the devil's to in the hall, an' he says the devil's to pay!"
"Tell him not to worry over it," replied the mother, "the devil won't be hard on his own." Judge: House Agent-Have you any

House Hunter-Yes; but they are very quiet and well behaved.

House Agent-Oh, but I mean have you any children living, ma'am? New York Sun: Madge-She's a great girl after the fellows, isn't she?
Marjorie—Why, that girl would have a
man at her feet even if she had to break
a shoestring to do it.

Philadelphia Press: "He's got a great cheme to exterminate mosquitoes." "What is it? That idea about petroleum?"
"Not at all. His scheme is to cross them with lightning bugs so you'll know when they're coming."

Washington Star: "Are you fond of grand opera" asked the young woman.
"Yes," answered Mr. Cumrox; "I'm very fond of it. When I go to the theater and hear all those people whooping and see them skipping about the stage it takes me back to the days when I was a boy at school. I have always held that we can derive pleasure from almost anything if we go about it the right way."

THE SHAMROCK. T. P. O'Conner The spreading rose is fair to view,
And rich the modest violet's hue,
Or queenly tulip filled with dew,
And sweet the lily's fragrance;
But there's a flower more dear to me,
That grows not on a branch or tree,
But in the grass plays merrily,
And of its leaves there are but three,
"Tis Ireland's native shamrock.

My country's flower, I love it well, For every leaf a tale can tell, And teach the minstrel's heart to swell In praise of Ireland's shamrock; The emblem of our faith divine, Which blessed St. Patrick made to shine To teach eternal truth sublime. To teach eternal truth sublime, And which shall last as long as time, And long as blooms the shamrock.

Oh, twine a wreath of shamrock leaves:
They decked the banners of our chiefs
And caimed the Irish exile's griefs.
Our country's cherished shamrock:
The muse inspired with words of praise
The poets of our early days.
To write in many a glowing phrase.
And sing in powerful, thrilling lays
The virtues of the shamrock.

He who has left his island home Beneath a foreign sky to roam, And in a foreign clime unknown, How dear he loves the shamrock. When on the feast of Patrick's day He kneels within the church to pray For holy Ireland far away, He feels again youth's gonial ray, While gazing on the shamrock.

The brightest gems of the rarest flower That ever bloomed in eastern bowers Possess for him not half the powers That dwell within the shamrock. Sweet memories, like refreshing dew. The past with all its charms renew. The church, the spot where wild flowers grew.

grew. faithful friends, the cherished few left to cull the sharurock. The