

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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It is hard for Colonel Bryan to decide whether he abhors most-republicans or reorganizers.

Connecticut is the latest state to endorse President Roosevelt, and the endorsement is a hummer.

It's a safe bet that many of the loudest talkers about the price of anthracite coal have never used anything but soft coal.

With three bank presidents on the Mercer primary tickets, our Dave would be safe if the dollars voted instead of the men.

Governor Savage may bring on his militia in support of Mercer, but he can't make the workmen of Omaha support Mercer.

Porto Rico has been accorded self-government only a couple of years, but has already developed opposing political parties just as if it came by them naturally.

The organization of a gigantic combination of the iron and steel industries in England hardly consists with the theory that free trade is the remedy for trusts.

A man cannot serve two masters. Mercer's first allegiance is to the corporations, and as between the corporations and the common people, he will always be for the corporations.

The test oath bluff has also been called. Regularly registered republicans will vote as usual at the coming republican primaries without an inquisition into the secrecy of the ballot.

The market house ordinance has been again passed by the council for the twentieth time. That is no assurance, however, that it will not be passed up and passed down a few more times.

A committee of the city council will take charge of the city hall reviewing stand when President Roosevelt reviews the Ak-Sar-Ben parade. Now will the members of the school board be good.

Nothing like an inevitable overlap in the police fund can be expected to deter the Broatch-Mercer police board from using the police force to meet the political emergency presented by our Dave's desperate case.

If the railroad managers and bankers could cast all the votes at the republican primaries next Friday, Mercer would win out hands down. But the wage workers ought to have something to say and will have something to say.

Secretary Wilson's bulletin predicting that the price of beef will soon begin to fall as the result of abundant grass and corn crops will be gratefully accepted, provided it is followed by fulfillment. It is safe to assume that the meat packers' trust will not co-operate very strenuously.

Speaker David B. Henderson was unanimously renominated by acclamation, but he refused to be a candidate when even a small portion of his republican constituents differs with him, as he conceives, on a matter of principle. Dave Mercer—But it would be an insult to the speaker to make any comparison with Dave Mercer.

General Pierson's prediction that by 1910 the South African mines will turn out an annual product of 1,000 tons of gold, or four times as much as the world's present output, is a wild overestimate. But it is well known that now that the Boer war is over gold production in South Africa is increasing at a rapid rate. It is noteworthy that large importations of gold to this country are now being made.

SPEAKER HENDERSON'S WITHDRAWAL.

If the withdrawal of David B. Henderson from the race for congress in his district means his retirement from public life it can be regarded in no other light than a national calamity. As speaker of the house Colonel Henderson has become a national figure, the speakership in importance and influence ranking second only to the presidency itself. It will be conceded by friend and foe that in that trying position Speaker Henderson has acquitted himself in the most efficient and creditable manner.

No other man in congress could have succeeded to the place vacated by Speaker Reed and accomplished the same results with as general satisfaction and as little friction as has Colonel Henderson. It is no disparagement of Colonel Henderson to say that following in the footsteps of that giant of statesmanship his notable achievement has been to hold the speaker's power built up by Speaker Reed and to guide the course of legislation in smooth channels without encountering the personal opposition which Mr. Reed met from members of the house of both political parties. Speaker Henderson's hand upon the legislative throttle has been the all-powerful factor for safe and conservative law-making in the national halls of legislation since the retirement of Speaker Reed.

In view of these conditions, viewed from the national standpoint, it is certainly to be hoped that Colonel Henderson's determination to decline his nomination is not irrevocable and that he will be prevailed upon to reconsider his announcement and to continue in the position of party leadership he now occupies.

The reasons given by Colonel Henderson for his refusal to make the race for congress will, as a matter of fact, strike broad-minded republicans as of minor and inconsequential importance. The difference between his views and the declaration of the Iowa republicans on tariff revision, emphasized in his statement, is rather more apparent than real. Colonel Henderson declares that he does not believe tariff reduction is the cure-all for trust evils and in this only narrow-minded bigots will disagree with him. The most that ardent advocates of tariff revision could look for would be simply a partial relief from exactions by the few trusts that have been sheltered by tariff advantages.

The most careful reading of the Iowa platform announcement does not, in our judgment, admit fairly of the interpretation Colonel Henderson has put upon it, but on the contrary it strongly reaffirms the historic protection policy of the party. Much more ado has been made of it by the Iowa democratic press than it really justifies. Even if Colonel Henderson were at variance with a portion of the republicans of his district on this one question, as he seems to think, he is still in full accord with them on all the most vital issues of the day, and they could well afford to overlook one point to retain the services of a man of such transcendent ability as the speaker.

Colonel Henderson looms up so far above all the other western members of the house that should he retire the speakership would certainly be lost to the west. The west particularly would rejoice if, after all, it should be found that no considerable element of the party in his district takes uncompromising issue with his position and he should yet allow them to re-elect him in November.

THE OYSTER BAY CONFERENCE.

Very little is positively known in regard to what transpired at the conference at Oyster Bay between the president and leading republican senators, but there appears to be no doubt that one of the things decided was that there will be no revision of the tariff at the next session of congress. It is stated that two of the senators, Mr. Allison and Mr. Spooner, favored revision, on the ground that it is imperatively demanded by the west, but it is doubtless safe to assume that the statement is erroneous. Those senators know that a general revision of the tariff, if done with proper care, would be well-nigh impossible at the short session of congress and it is hardly conceivable that they would recommend undertaking so large and important a task at that session. The Fifty-fifth congress spent over four months on the Dingley tariff, for the enactment of which it was called in special session. To properly revise that act in a session of less than three months, with all the other business requiring the attention of congress, is obviously out of the question.

It is stated that the president is to maintain his position as to the trusts and also to insist on his demand for Cuban reciprocity. The president's attitude in regard to the great industrial combinations is so generally approved by intelligent and conservative public opinion that there is the most conclusive reason why he should maintain it. It is a sound and defensible position, which has in view the correction of evils and abuses without injuring those who are innocent or jeopardizing the security of our entire industrial system. The president's plan is remedial, as opposed to the revolutionary policy of the democratic party. The latter proposes, as forcibly expressed by Speaker Henderson, "to kill the child in order to cure it." President Roosevelt and the republican party would preserve the industries of the country while remedying those evils that are incident to great combinations.

It is not to be doubted that the president will insist upon reciprocity with Cuba. He has clearly indicated his purpose to do so in some of his recent public speeches. Mr. Roosevelt most earnestly believes that it is the duty of the United States to make some tariff concession to Cuba, in order to promote the material welfare of that country, and he also believes that it would be of benefit to this country to help Cuba.

He will therefore continue to urge Cuban reciprocity and it is understood will have a treaty ready for submission to congress when it assembles. There are predictions that such a treaty will be ratified, but as to this no one can now speak with certainty. Notwithstanding the fact that most of the state republican conventions have declared in favor of Cuban reciprocity, there is still a strong republican opposition to it and it is at least doubtful if a treaty could be ratified.

The conference at Oyster Bay is to be regarded as assurance of the president's earnest desire to maintain harmonious relations between the administration and congress.

THE UNION PACIFIC LOCKOUT.

SOUTH OMAHA, Neb., Sept. 16, 1902.—To the Editor of The Bee: I read your "Time for Plain Talk" editorial and was surprised as well as gratified at its general tenor and tendency. The business community and good citizens usually overlook one-sided and prejudiced reports and write-ups, but when we find a great paper's editor publishing such glaring and unjustified ideas as contained in your article the better element in the country may well begin to prepare and fear for the worst.

To tell how the Union Pacific railroad or any other employer of labor should run their business affairs is entirely out of place for you or me, as persons not interested financially in the management of their plant. If those employees, who were well treated and better paid, did not like the change to piecework it was their right and privilege to quit and do better if they could, but they have no right or authority under the law to arm themselves with bludgeons, brass knuckles and other deadly weapons and assault, beat and murder those poor laborers who are willing to work for a strong disposition on the part of public officers who are elected to administer impartially justice and protection to every citizen and also on the part of newspaper men to represent everything favorably toward these thugs and law breakers and reflect as unfavorable as they can on the business men's corporations and business world in general. The office hunters and politicians are also eternally clamoring for the union vote.

You touch very critically the fact that a young man in the prime of life who was willing to work for a fair wage, was cruelly murdered by those ruffians who refused to work, preferring to loaf and guzzle bad whiskey. You call the perpetrator of this terrible crime "a fray or skirmish" and say it was by no means an exceptional incident. The world at large does not need such a statement, as everyone knows when these non-republican bodies go out on a strike they always mean to intimidate, harass, assault and kill, if you please, other poor laborers who are willing to work and fill their places.

What, I would ask, is this country fast approaching? I answer frankly, anarchy and revolution. But thank God there is and always has been good citizenship and true patriotism enough to put down and subdue all evildoers, agitators and malcontents. When the business interests of this country, the agricultural and manufacturing interests, are once fully aroused to the necessity of their own defense the horde of mischief's labor leaders, the union combinations and the politicians, will be quickly crushed to one side and our Declaration of Independence and glorious institutions will be strongly sustained, preserved and handed down to following generations unscathed and unshaken.

You say Mr. Burt knew the rules of the international union prohibited the piecework system. I think you mean that you believe their obligations to their union are paramount to the service and duties to their employers. What an anti-republican and preposterous proposition! Do you permit your employees to override and disregard your instructions concerning their duties toward you? If so, you have my unfeigned sympathy, for your workmen have you by the throat.

You intimate the strikers are struggling for life and subsistence when they quit their jobs voluntarily that were getting them \$2 to \$4 per day and the army of vagabonds who quit their work five months ago in Pennsylvania and have been engaged destroying their employers' property and intimidating and murdering their fellow men. I presume are also fighting a battle for life and subsistence while the army of vagabonds through idleness, in wages, and you and I help to foot the great loss because the owners and employers of the coal region will not permit the workmen to run their business. And what free-born American citizen, I ask, will submit to such an unreasonable and unbusinesslike condition?

I think you and I and every true lover of his country should discountenance and frown upon everybody and every movement calculated to foment strife and disorder in the community and thus lower our good citizenship and true patriotism.

DAVID ANDERSON. It is the policy of The Bee to give a fair hearing to all sides in every controversy involving vital issues, reserving to itself the right to express its own views fearlessly from the standpoint it believes to be for the public welfare. Mr. Anderson's indictment of labor unions in general and the Union Pacific strikers in particular is as unreasonable as it is unjust. We are living in the twentieth century and cannot meet modern industrial conditions with eighteenth century methods.

Every civilized country has recognized the right of workmen to organize for mutual benefit and protection. Within the past fifty years colossal combinations of capital have monopolized every avenue to employment. They control vast armies of wage workers, who would be absolutely at their mercy were it not for the trades unions and other associations of wage workers. Organized labor alone can cope with organized capital. Were it not for labor organizations the capitalists of industry would become harder taskmasters than were the pharaohs of Egypt or the feudal barons of the middle ages. The union labor trust is essential for the protection of the middle class, the farmers and merchants, against the aggression of the railroad trusts and the industrial trusts that have become a menace to American self-government. President Roosevelt has recognized that fact in his recent speeches. And all rational people who want to perpetuate free American institutions agree with him in the declaration that the power of the trusts must be curbed and labor must be protected in its right to resist the tyranny of corporate monopoly. Mr. Anderson's views of the obligations of the wage worker to his employer are based on ancient usage, when the man or woman who worked for wages was the chattel property of the man who hired him. In these days

the only obligation imposed upon wage workers is to do the work faithfully and diligently for which they are paid. No body contends that a mechanic belonging to a union has a right to slight his work or refuse to obey his superiors in the performance of the work allotted to him. But every member of the trades union is presumed to be a man of honor as much as the president of a railroad or a bank. When he enters a labor union he assumes obligations which he cannot repudiate with honor at any sacrifice. When members of a trades union are locked out by demands with which they cannot comply without breaking away from the union or violating their solemn pledges, a conflict is forced upon them for which they are not responsible. This is precisely the condition of the Union Pacific strikers who were discharged by Mr. Burt because the rules of their union prevented them from doing piecework. Mr. Burt undoubtedly had a right to issue this mandate, but in doing so he assumed responsibility for all its consequences.

To denounce the men discharged by Mr. Burt as a lot of tramps who prefer to loaf and guzzle bad whiskey to honest, well paid toil, is only heaping insult upon injury. The great majority of these men had been working day in and day out in the shops for many years. Many of them are home owners and taxpayers, whose sons and daughters, educated in our public schools, occupy positions of trust in various walks of life. The brutal assault that resulted in the death of the young man imported from Chicago by the Union Pacific cannot be charged up to the Union Pacific strikers, although it is an incident of the strike. The unfortunate man could have found employment in Chicago, but was lured on by the tempting offer of high wages held out to strike breakers by the Union Pacific recruiting officers. The corner's inquest has developed the fact that he came to his death not as a victim of a plot or of an assault by strikers, but in a fray with men employed inside of the Union Pacific shop grounds.

The comparison made between the Union Pacific strike and that of the anthracite coal miners only emphasizes the necessity of curbing the greed of organized monopoly. The cruelty, wickedness and defiance of public sentiment of the anthracite coal mine owners is without a parallel in industrial wars. These multi-millionaires who have amassed enormous wealth from the earnings of labor refuse to recognize the advance in the price of bread, meat and clothing. They not only refuse their imported laborers the pittance to which they are entitled, but have taken advantage of their enforced idleness to double the price of coal mined at the old wages before the strike began. While thousands of families are at the point of starvation, these soulless monopolists are levying tribute upon the whole country and filling their coffers. They refuse to listen to any proposal of arbitration, under the pretext that they will not permit their workmen to run their business. If the conservative business men of the country want to head off socialism and anarchy, they should protest vigorously against such outrages and endeavor to find a solution for the grave problems that confront us, rather than attempt to excuse and palliate the wrongs inflicted on the industrial toilers, who constitute the bone and sinew of the land.

WHY THE RAILROADS WANT MERCER. Why are the allied railroad corporations making such a desperate effort to force Mercer upon the people of this district for a sixth term? That question can be readily answered. Mercer has always been a ready and willing tool of the corporations and can be depended upon to do their bidding. As chairman of the committee on public buildings, he is in position to make trades interested and render them invaluable assistance. In this work Mercer is worth his weight in gold. One example will suffice:

When the Union Pacific railroad was chartered it was given a land grant subsidy of every other section of land with twenty miles of the main line and a bond subsidy ranging from \$16,000 to \$48,000 per mile. The Burlington and Missouri River road received only a land grant subsidy. When that road entered upon the selection of its land it found the Union Pacific road within its territory south of the Platte, so it crossed over into the North Platte country and selected a large part of its land grant in counties north of the Union Pacific. In making this selection it overreached its grant by about 200,000 acres. This land was disposed of to settlers, who received from the Burlington warranty deeds for the land they bought. The fraud was discovered by Land Commissioner Sparks, under the Cleveland administration, and, being an honest man, Sparks refused to issue the patents for the Burlington lands that were in excess of their legitimate land grant. Two years ago a bill was introduced in congress for the relief of the settlers on the lands fraudulently obtained by the Burlington. This relief bill was smuggled through congress by the help of Mercer, under the pretext that it was gotten up for the benefit of the farmers, when, as a matter of fact, it was for the benefit of the Burlington company, which was bound to make good its warranty deeds. At the very lowest estimate, these lands were worth \$10 an acre, and Mr. Mercer thus saved at least \$2,000,000 to the Burlington at one clip. But what benefit was this to the farmers of Nebraska? What benefit was it to his constituents in this district?

The affinity of other railroads to Mercer can also readily be explained. Each of these corporations has used Mercer for some scheme that brought hundreds of thousands of dollars into its coffers, and there are, doubtless, other schemes on the stocks in which they want to use Mercer's influence for their

own aggrandizement. There is a well-defined rumor, for example, that one of these railroads contemplates an extension through the Yellowstone park, for which the government is to vote a free right of way. Mr. Mercer's assistance is very much needed, and Mr. Mercer is the man to whom they look to do it best.

To what extent the people of Omaha or the farmers of Douglas, Sarpy and Washington counties are to be benefited by national donations to the railroads that will be capitalized into millions of dollars of railroad stocks for private gain, has not yet been explained.

County Treasurer Elsas prints another monthly statement, showing that he is carrying in the near neighborhood of \$125,000 of county money on deposit in local banks. Although these same banks are paying interest on balances of city money, Mr. Elsas fails to show where a single cent of interest has been turned in to the credit of the county. No good and sufficient reason has yet been advanced why the taxpayers should not have the benefit of the interest earned on county deposits as well as on city deposits.

A Sweet Young Thing. Louisville Courier-Journal. The latest fad in trusts is a combination of manufacturers of candy with a capital of \$9,000,000. This is a case of lengthening the rope to draw out sure enough. But will it stick?

One Year of Roosevelt. Springfield (Mass.) Republican. Mr. Roosevelt has been president of the United States a full year. It has not been a year of uniform success, yet it has been by no means a failure. And the most notable fact to be recorded is that he is now settling into his own natural stride.

'Sh, Death! Chicago Chronicle. Senator Bailey has begun to breathe heavily through his nose and hitch up his trousers with ominous earnestness. Penfield, the solicitor of the State department, who called the senator an ass, is on his way from Europe. We shall have blood and wounds anon.

Favorite of the Navy. Philadelphia Press. A general cheer will go up at the announcement that the battleship Oregon is ready for duty again. The country has not felt quite safe from hostile invasion since those rocks in the Oriental seas tore nasty holes in the bottom of the ship that made the memorable voyage around Cape Horn.

Blue Bloods at Newport. Baltimore American. Grand Duke Boris, it is said, retired from a Newport dining hall in a huff because the soup was served to the hostess before he had had his drink. Five other guests got in the further hold in this thrilling rumor, left in his wake. Perish the thought! Only five? Only five persons in all America in whose veins courses blood of sufficient blueness to cause them to rise in wrath and offend dignity and walk with "me, too," air at the angry cost of an irate duke? Only five people who do not know that the soup should reach the duke or the duke should reach the soup? No, it must be a mistake. If the nobility of Newport knows how to entertain a monkey, it must possess sufficient brains to insist that it is to feed a duke according to Hoyle. Otherwise the Duke of Norfolk is submerged in the consommé.

Manner of Paying for Paying. American Asphalt Journal. Every American city does a deal of paying every year, and there is a great variety of arrangements for payment. In the District of Columbia the district pays half and the United States government half, and it is proposed to change the plan. Senator McMillan of the committee on the affairs of the District of Columbia, has been collecting information from leading cities on this point. The cities where the abutting property owners bear the whole expense of first paving are Baltimore, Boston, Buffalo, Chicago, Indianapolis, Minneapolis, Omaha, Omaha, Pittsburgh and St. Paul. In Baltimore, Cleveland, Minneapolis, New Orleans and Omaha the city pays all or the greater part of the cost of paving street intersections. In Cincinnati the city pays 2 per cent of the entire cost of paving. In addition to paying for the street intersections, the balance being assessed on abutting property. In Charleston the expenses of first paving are borne by the city. In St. Louis one-fourth of the cost is charged to the abutting property and three-fourths the remaining three-fourths against the property in the district defined by city ordinance in each particular case.

WATTERSON ON THE SMART SET.

Kentucky Editor Hands a Request to the Idle Rich. Louisville Courier-Journal. The term "smart set" was adopted by a bad society to save itself from a more odious description. The distinguished trait of the "smart set" is its moral abandonment. It makes a business of defying and oversteering conventional restraints upon its pleasures and amusements.

The women of the "smart set" no longer pretend to recognize virtue even as a feminine accomplishment. Innocence is a badge of delinquency, a sign of the crude and the defective which, if tolerated at all, must carry some promise of amendment; for among these titled cyprines the only thing useful is to know it all.

In London and in Paris—at Monte Carlo in winter, at the Riviera and Aix in the summer—they make life on unending debauch; their only literary provender, when they read at all, the records of d'Annunzio and Bourget; their medals, the rouble table and the race course; their heaven, the modern yacht with the luxury and isolation. The ocean tells no tales; and as the "smart set" knows no law, when in extremis it can go to sea.

The "Four Hundred" in America take their cue from the "smart set" in Europe. Besides them at the horse show in New York. Regard them at the swell resorts after the show. All their talk is about stocks and bonds, puts and calls, horses, scandals and dogs. They are the best society—good Lord! Truly, we have come to a beautiful pass in the history of the world. The young girls that make Sherry's and Delmonico's "bum" that irradiate the corridors of the Waldorf-Astoria with the exhalations of their unclean lips and thoughts, emulating the demimondaines of the third empire, are to be accepted even by inference as the "best society," while the good and virtuous of the land, even though quite unable to pay their way home and abroad, must be relegated to the "middle class" and dismissed as simply "bourgeoisie."

The "Four Hundred" are rotten through and through. They have not one redeeming feature. All their ends are achieved by money, and largely by the unholty use of money.

Must these unclean birds of guano and therefore of conspicuous plumage fly from gilded bough to bough, fouling the very air as they twitter their affectations of social supremacy, with no one to sly a brick or to cry, "Scat, you devil!"

ROUND ABOUT NEW YORK.

Hipples on the Current of Life in the Metropolis. The tunnel projected by the Pennsylvania railroad under the Hudson and East rivers and through Manhattan island is a gigantic undertaking, both in cost and from an engineering standpoint. H. G. Prout, editor of the Railroad Gazette, estimates the total cost at \$40,000,000, of which \$25,000,000 will be paid for labor.

The new line begins at Harrison, on the east side of the Passaic river, just across from Newark. It runs along the south side of the Pennsylvania main line for about 5,000 feet, at which point it has such an elevation that it can cross to the northward across the meadows to the west side of the ridge, east back to Hoboken. On the meadows the line crosses seven railroads, besides the main line of the Pennsylvania, and an important highway, on which is a double-track trolley road, and it also crosses the Hackensack river. All of the crossings are over grade. That section states continuous embankment, or viaduct, from Harrison to the tunnel portal at the west side of the ridge, about six miles.

At the Bergen ridge the line enters a rock tunnel and emerges in Long Island city. The total length of the tunnel will be a little less than six miles. The total improvement from Harrison to the junction with the Long Island railroad is twelve miles and one-eighth. It is costly work. Not a foot is on the natural surface; all is in tunnel or cutting or on embankment for viaduct.

Across the North river will be two tunnels and across the East river four, and the tunnels are to meet at a great central station to be established on Manhattan island, between Seventh and Ninth avenues and Thirty-first and Thirty-third streets.

On Manhattan island the rails will never be nearer the surface than forty feet, and everywhere they will be below mean tide level. In fact, at the highest point of the tunnel the rails will be about ten feet below mean low water. The cost of foundation platforms will also be below tide level. Under the Bergen ridge the grade of the tunnel will be 255 feet below the highest point of the hill. Under the North river crossing the rails will be five feet below the natural bottom of the river and eight feet below mean low water. Under the East river the depths are about the same.

The uptown movement extends rapidly. The department stores, the theaters, the hotels and the newspapers are being packed. An uptown site for a new postoffice will soon be selected. The appellate court already has a building uptown. Commissioner Partridge has applied to the Board of Estimate for an uptown site for new police headquarters. The site will be in the triangle at Broadway, Seventh avenue and Forty-seventh street, in what is known as Longacre Square. This is an admirable situation. There is no doubt that new headquarters are needed, and there could be no better site selected.

That J. P. Morgan believes in rewarding honesty in others was shown the other day when he gave a little newboy an extra half dollar for going several blocks to hand him a check from the purchase of a new paper. As the great financier was driving to his office a newboy recognized him. The boy ran alongside the carriage and shouted: "Hey, Mr. Morgan, here's a coal strike extra!" Something in the paper caught Mr. Morgan's eye, and reaching for it, he threw the lad a half dollar. The carriage never slackened its speed. The boy clambered on behind, and when it stopped in front of Mr. Morgan's office he handed out 40 cents change.

"Here's your change, sir," said the lad, as Mr. Morgan stepped out.

"What's that for?" asked Mr. Morgan gruffly.

"You bought a paper from me at Liberty street, and I couldn't give you your change," answered the boy.

"Never mind the change," said Mr. Morgan. Putting his hand in his pocket he took out another half dollar, which he gave the boy, telling him to buy himself some peaches from a cart standing near.

"I call myself an indexer and a scrapper," said the occupant of an office not far from Madison square, quoted by the Evening Post. "By scrapper I do not mean a pugilist, but a professional scrap book maker. In these two fields, or really one field, because no scrap book is of value until it has been indexed, I am an expert. That does not mean much, because there are only six or eight of us in New York. Our calling is the result of the clipping business, which there are now some thirty or forty in various parts of the country. You subscribe to a bureau and order clippings upon any particular subject or subjects. These are furnished to you by tens, hundreds or thousands, according to the subject given. Each clipping is mounted upon a slip, which gives the name, place and date of the paper from which it is taken. If you are wise you will now employ an indexer and scrapper to put these into permanent and valuable form. If you do not care to engage an expert for the entire job you will find it advisable to consult with one for information and advice.

"In the choice of scrap books beware of the gaudily bound affair with which the market is flooded. The books that are made and go to pieces before they are half filled with scraps. What is even worse, the pages are made of thick wood pulp paper, which dries, cracks and breaks ere a year has gone by. I have seen scores of these gaudy scrap books, which were masses of fragments by the time the last page was pasted with clippings. The only kinds of paper which should be used are either the best linen or else Manila hemp. Literary people may profit by the lesson that the scrap books which are made for the heaviest wear and tear have their pages of yellow or brown Manila hemp paper. This is particularly the case with all first-class invoice books, which will last till the day of doom. Most of the cheaply made invoice books are constructed that the heavy canvas bindings can be removed without trouble and handsome ones put on when so desired. What is more, they are very economical. A 250-page invoice book costs \$1.50, while a 100-page one of the pretty parlor table affair which contain but 100 pages and the poorest wood pulp paper."

Extent of Morgan's Power. Springfield (Mass.) Republican. The editor of "Moody's Manual of Corporation Securities" has been studying his latest bulky volume of facts for the purpose of tracing out the measures of J. P. Morgan's immediate active power in the financial world. He finds that Mr. Morgan's influence is paramount in 55,555 miles of railroad, or over one-fourth of the total mileage of the country; that this mileage is valued at \$5,284,471,717; that he dominates the United States steel corporation with a capitalization of \$1,389,359,554, and three minor trusts, and that he is now to control a steamship combination of a capital at the start of \$170,000,000. The total capitalized power of Morgan is represented by \$1,737,280,527—this aside from the influence which necessarily radiates out in all directions from so colossal a concentration of financial might. When Gladstone was informed that they had a man in America (William Vanderbilt), worth \$200,000,000 in negotiable securities, he declared that it was too great a power for one man to have, and that the government should look after him. Apparently the government will have to look after Morgan.

ABUNDANT YIELD.

Approximate Figures on the Season's Harvest. The national department of agriculture will not publish its final crop figures for several months to come, but the statistics now given out of acreage and condition of the principal crops, on September 1, make it possible to present approximate figures of the season's results, which are calculated in bushels by the statistician of the New York Produce exchange as to corn, wheat and oats, in comparison with official estimates of yields for a few years back:

Table showing approximate figures on the season's harvest for Corn, Wheat, and Oats, comparing 1902 with previous years (1901, 1900, 1899, 1898, 1897, 1896).

The corn crop is late, and in the more northern portions of the country is still exposed to danger of damage by frost, and there will be little near the end of the month, but will be every promise of a harvest in excess of any previously known. This is an extraordinary outcome for a season of exceptionally low temperatures and high moisture, and all the more fortunate in view of the very low production of last year and the consequent depletion of the country's granaries.

The wheat yield has been three times exceeded—in 1901, 1898 and 1891, but is well above the average, and will leave a large surplus for exportation beyond supplying the domestic demand. The oat crop is large, but of poor quality. The other cereal crops are as a rule above the average, and potatoes and apples will be abundant and cheap. The cost of food, aside from meat, will thus be lower for a year to come than it has been, and so it is that the wind in some measure is tempered to the lamb shorn by the coal and beef trusts.

The corn and wheat comparisons in the above table are probably more favorable for the present year than the facts warrant. The year's acreage is calculated by the agricultural department on the basis of last year's, and that was arbitrarily increased. The estimates conform more closely to the census revelations, showing that the department had been greatly underestimating the principal cereal crops. In other words, this year's and last year's harvests on a revised basis are being compared with previous estimates that are admittedly too low. But after making all reasonable allowances on this account, the fact would remain that the season's yields are a large average all around, and most assuring for the continued prosperity of the country.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Mascagni says he admires this country. It is unnecessary to say that he will make a tour here.

Mayor Tom Johnson has one comfort in his political tour. He's the "whole thing" at his circus.

A nephew of General Dewey, the Beer commander, arrived in Berlin recently to be treated by Prof. Bergmann for a sun-shot wound.

Lieutenant Frank L. Harris, the only American to have taken part in the Japanese expedition to the North Pole, is now in the American flag in the present city of San Francisco.

Senator Pettus of Alabama, who is 81 years old, has been enjoying his vacation in Mobile and has astonished every one by his sprightliness. He says he is good for another year of public service.

Alexander Scamwell Wadsworth, a midshipman of Chesapeake, is a great-grandson of General Pelig Wadsworth, and his great-grandfather, Alexander Scamwell Wadsworth, was born in the Longfellow house, in Portland, Me., in 1790.

Major Cornelius Gardiner, who has just arrived in San Francisco from Manila, has brought with him a native Filipino, Emilio Gana, who will complete his studies at the University of Michigan, having already obtained the degree of B. A. at the St. Thomas university of Manila.

When Admiral Rodgers was in Japanese waters lately he retained the Hira Sukkichi, a poor fisherman, who was of service to Commodore Perry on the latter's visit, which opened Japan to the world. Hira is now 90 years old and on his visit to Admiral Rodgers was accompanied by his son, a great-grandson and great-grandson of Commodore Perry.

The late Admiral Killick, who went down with the Haytian gunboat the other day, was not exactly a naval adventurer, for while his father was a Scotchman, his mother was a Haytian. Adventurers from Europe and the United States, however, have often figured as the commanders of South American armies and navies. The names of Cochrane and O'Higgins are conspicuous in Chilean military annals.

WHITTLED TO A POINT.

Somerville Journal: If you want to know where the ripest grapes are in your yard ask your neighbor's boy.

Washington Star: "Do you enjoy walking?" "Immensely."

"Good. Then I'll take you for a ride in the country in my automobile."

Philadelphia Press: Tess—She's perpetually late for the train. "Yes, she's got a new set of false teeth."

"Yes—Ah! I see; and she's determined to 'grin and bare it.'"

Baltimore American: Great Inventor—I have been experimenting with this new compound for a week and I cannot decide what it is.

Wise Friend—Say, old man, you've struck a great thing.

Chicago Post: "But are you sure," asked the man, "that you won't be troubled with stage fright?" "Huh! I've been through two church weddings and a divorce suit."