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E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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Now will you be good, Colombia? It appears that the revenue law is all right so long as it is let alone. Once a year the lawyers of Nebraska get together to turn state's evidence.

Mexico has an active volcano to atone for the absence of any Alabama senator. As president of the Union Pacific, Mr. Harriman will have the name as well as the game.

Mr. Penfold's long service on the Al-Bur-Ben board has given him an appetite for excitement. If the council has nothing against the newly appointed city electrician, why not confirm the appointment?

The Board of Education has been reorganized. We shall presently see whether it has been reformed. In the matter of provision for garbage disposal, it is a condition and not a theory that confronts the mayor and council.

Whenever a democratic member of congress finds himself shy of campaign material he feels at liberty to take a poke at Perry Heath. Leap year may reverse the rule in certain cases, but leap year politicians do not want to be asked any more than politicians of other years.

A man may have any kind of an opinion of the far eastern troubles and find something in the newspapers nowadays to substantiate what he says. The western farmer who has wheat and corn to sell will profit by a war between Russia and Japan, but he would rather forego the extra profit and see peace maintained.

E. H. Harriman is already so many different things that if some one should ask him tomorrow who is president of the Union Pacific railroad he would have to stop and think. Somehow a faint suspicion lurks that the stir in railway rates since the advent of the Chicago Great Western into Omaha has been partly a result of that intrusion of a new road into the old field.

The police board, with its accumulation of license petitions and protests worked off, is like a court with its docket cleared. The police commissioner judges will next proceed to take a vacation. Iowa is still without a legislature owing to the intervention of the fire in the state house, which left the legislators without a habitable home. Iowa is not suffering perceptibly, however, so far.

The coroner's jury has decided to blame the Lord for not fastening more securely those timbers that caused the Laurel Run disaster. To blame the men who loaded the car might cost some future business. Why this talk about abolishing the office of commissioner of railroads, occupied by the late General Longstreet and other illustrious generals of the south who fought to dismember the union? Has the supply of distinguished but needy ex-confederates run out?

For all the money that has been plucked in Douglas county roads and bridges, we ought to have the finest system of country highways to be found anywhere in this country. But we haven't. The only inference is that most of the money has been squandered or pocketed by political grafters.

THE CONDITIONS OF NEUTRALITY. It is said to be a question of foremost interest in naval circles at Washington what the attitude of this government should be, so far as its naval representation in eastern waters is concerned, in the event of a war between Russia and Japan. It is a quite important question and not to be answered without a very full consideration not only of what is due to the countries which are in dispute, but also to the principles of international law and the possibilities of the future.

According to a report from Washington the naval officers are somewhat embarrassed as to what should be done with the naval power of this country in the far east. There are certain conditions imposed by international law that must be observed and of course our government more perhaps than any other is anxious to have these conditions carefully and absolutely observed. The most vital of these, it is needless to say, is that of neutrality in the waters where hostilities occur. In regard to this there is some diversity of opinion as to what is required, but the consensus of expert judgment seems to be that no nation shall maintain a fleet in the immediate locality where hostile nations have their naval power concentrated and where a collision between such nations is likely to occur. This seems to be, abstractly at least, a good rule, and it is one which the United States is very likely to strictly observe.

But observance of this rule does not necessarily mean that a nation whose interests, treaty or otherwise, may be directly involved in a war, must wholly abandon vigilance and care of those interests in case of war. For example, the United States has certain well defined interests in China, as well as treaty rights, and if our government believed that these were imperiled or likely to be injured in a war between Russia and Japan, there can be no doubt in regard to its right to place its navy in a position in Asiatic waters to look out for the protection of American interests. This is a national prerogative which we take it is absolutely beyond question and the exercise of which no nation could reasonably find fault with. Neutrality by no means implies that the neutral power abandons or relinquishes any of its legitimate rights. It means simply that the neutral nation will deal impartially between the belligerents and nothing more. We are unable to see, therefore, why there should be any question at Washington as to what should be the disposition of American war ships on the Asiatic station. It seems to be perfectly plain that the United States should be represented on that station by a squadron sufficient to impress both Russia and Japan with the fact that our government is willing and able to look after American interests there.

WHO ARE ALIENS? A very great question is raised by the decision of the supreme court of the United States as to who are aliens of the United States and are entitled to enter this country without obstruction. In a case brought before the supreme court of the United States in which a woman brought from Porto Rico was stopped by the immigration authorities on the ground that she might become a government charge, the court held that the proposition was not sufficient and that the party was entitled to come into the United States on the general principle that she was a citizen of this country. The decision of the court clearly established the principle that wherever American sovereignty goes all the people subject to such sovereignty are American citizens. There seems to be no other reasonable interpretation of such a position of the court and we take it for granted that there will be no other interpretation. The importance of this decision should not be misunderstood. It does not mean that all the people of our insular possessions are necessarily citizens of the United States or must be regarded as such, but only those who have by virtue of congressional legislation been made a part of this country. There is no question that this applies to the people of Porto Rico, who are today under a form of government absolutely in accord with our own, and to a certain extent to the Philippines, where American government is practically what it is in our own territories.

The simple fact is, that under the decision of the supreme court of the United States we have no aliens of this country, that whatever people live under the authority of the United States are citizens entitled to all the rights and privileges of our constitution and laws, regardless of how they became a part of the great national commonwealth. This seems to be the only principle upon which our government can proceed with fairness and justice. The Board of County Commissioners has certified to the high character and exalted integrity of retiring Commissioner Harte, and the employees of the county have given tangible expression of their high appreciation of his precious services by the presentation of a gold watch with diamond setting. It will now be in order for the bridge company and the other pet contractors to duplicate that certificate of character and the diamond-studded timekeeper with a souvenir that can be transmitted to future generations.

About 150 liquor dealers have allowed themselves to be held up by newspaper blackmailers, who protested their applications for licenses on the pretense that they had the largest circulation in Douglas county, when their publishers had ample knowledge that their claim was spurious and trumped up to extort involuntary contributions from parties who did not want to incur their enmity or ill will. This systematic levy of blackmail is a disgrace to Omaha

Journalism. These periodic raids could readily be stopped if the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners would compel the liquor claimants to show their hand with the first protest filed instead of allowing them to hold the protests back for weeks, thus giving the professional blackmailers a chance to extort tribute from liquor dealers by protests and threats.

NOT SUFFICIENTLY ATTRACTIVE. The proposition of the Omaha Electric Light company to illuminate the district now dependent upon gasoline lamps with thirty-two-candle power incandescent electric lamps is not sufficiently attractive to justify the proposed change. The proposal of the gasoline light company now pending in the council contemplates the use of Welsbach lamps at \$30 per annum for each lamp, the price now paid for Welsbach gas lamps. The proposal of the electric light company contemplates incandescent lamps at \$25 per annum. The gasoline Welsbach lamps represent a minimum of eighty-candle power, or more than two and one-half times as much illuminant as the incandescent lamps, with only 16 2/3 per cent reduction in price.

As a matter of fact, the thirty-two-candle incandescent lamps do not exceed twenty-candle power after they have been in use two weeks. The incandescent lamp has, moreover, been generally discarded as insufficient wherever it has been tried. This will probably be conceded by the electric light pushers, but their contention is that the electric light company stands ready to replace the incandescent lamps with arc lights at the regular contract price, if it is found that the incandescent do not prove satisfactory. Here is the rub. The electric light people know in advance that the incandescent will not prove satisfactory to the people in the gasoline district. The proposal submitted to the council is simply the insertion of the camel's nose into the tight board fence. The head and the hump will soon wedge in, and then the whole camel will pass through without any obstruction. Give the electric light company the contract for the whole gasoline light district and within less than six months it will have the entire field covered with arc lamps at the \$92-a-year rate.

Possibly this may be deemed desirable by members of the council, who have undergone a change of heart on the question of municipal ownership of electric lights since the city election, but the great majority of the people of Omaha, especially the people who pay the taxes, have not undergone that change and are not likely to experience it until municipal ownership has been given a fair trial.

The Rock Island wreck in Kansas has given another example of autocratic railway officials refusing to do anything to assist the newspaper reporters to get to the scene to give accurate information to the public as to the identity of the killed and the extent and character of the injuries suffered by the wounded. It is not denied that the first debt of the railroad authorities is to the victims of the wreck, but the friends and relatives of the victims are also entitled to be relieved from their suspense, and the only effective way to afford such relief is to facilitate prompt and truthful newspaper accounts. Unfortunately, too many railroad men are imbued with the narrow idea that publicity of such wrecks is to be avoided, for fear it will injure the business of the road and with the hope that they can compromise damage claims with the victims in person if they can prevent their friends and relatives from communicating with them and protecting them in their rights. For such conduct the severest condemnation is deserved.

As one of the reinstated expelled of the Jacksonian bunch Henry W. Yates now declares all democrats should support the nominee without reference to his personality, providing only he stands on a sound platform. Is this not the time-worn idea that demands the acceptance of any yellow dog who wears the party label? A bad man on a good platform is not as good to the mind of most people as a good man on a bad platform. Senator Spooner's declaration that he would not consent to hold a seat in the senate if he were to be controlled by others has the ring of independence, but there are plenty of senators at Washington who do not dare to vote until they are told how by some one else. If they were all like Senator Spooner the wheels of legislation would move faster and the interests of the whole people would be more often paramount.

It is worth noting in passing that at the implement dealers' convention the speaker who decanted most on the beauties of trade combinations was formerly a leading light among the trust-smashing fusionists, running once as their candidate for congress on a platform denouncing trusts and combinations. It makes a huge difference evidently whose ox is gored.

The lawyers from different parts of Nebraska gathered in Omaha for the annual meeting of their state organization are invited to come again and to come often without waiting for the law business to bring them—for otherwise some of them might not get here very frequently. The coroner's investigation is bringing to light such criminal negligence on the part of theater managers as now seems appalling, yet just such as has been tolerated in practically every city of the United States ever since we had theaters.

President Palma of Cuba is entitled to credit for vetoing the lottery bill that

was put through the Cuban congress under pretext that such a device is needed to secure money to pay the Cuban veterans of the Spanish war. If Cuba cannot raise the money in some less objectionable and more equitable manner it must be in hard financial lines.

The more the circumstances surrounding the terrible Chicago theater fire are stirred up, the worse the mess becomes. If half of what is alleged as to the reckless carelessness of those responsible for the erection and management of the theater is true, the only wonder is that anyone should have gotten out of it alive.

Original and Expressive. Indianapolis Journal. The phrase "collective civilization," used by President Roosevelt in his special message, is an original and expressive coinage to represent the demands of world progress against those of local opposition.

Only the Only. Philadelphia Press. Hon. Richard Olney is acting very much as if he thought himself the only democrat in the land willing to be a candidate for the presidency. It must be a cheerful feeling when the cold winds do not blow too fiercely.

Waste of Good Money. Detroit Free Press. It was a waste of good telegraph tolls for the Washington correspondents to report that Senator Morgan is prepared to speak on the Panama question. But whenever the correspondent can announce that Senator Morgan is prepared to stop speaking they will have a sensation.

A Voice From the Grave. St. Louis Globe-Democrat. On the same day that the president's convincing message on the Panama treaty appeared, ex-Senator David B. Hill made a speech in which he said citizens "see the best traditions of the government set forth in the course of the ages, and in the struggle and in the international matters is recklessly and shamelessly entered upon." Mr. Hill uses language with the looseness of a man who realizes that he is down and out for good.

Corporation graft diminishes. Philadelphia Press. The posting of the books of the New Jersey corporation factory at Trenton shows a falling off of business for 1903. There were fewer charters issued than in 1902, and they were for less pretentious promotion. The receipts of the corporation fees from this source were diminished \$30,000. Other states have followed New Jersey in limitation of the pernicious laxity with which she has set afloat doubtful corporate enterprises to prey upon credulous investors; but the ruin which has been wrought throughout the country has put a check upon speculative adventure. The abuse of state power in this direction is almost certain to lead to radical and perhaps dangerous federal legislation with a view to the curtailment of the corporate privilege.

CRUSADE AGAINST DIVORCE. Religious Bodies Moving Toward a Common Position. Springfield (Mass.) Republican. The religious crusade against divorce, for any cause, is evidently to be regarded seriously in the new spring given it by Rev. David H. Greer, who has put a check upon the Protestant Episcopal diocese of New York. Representatives of the Presbyterian, Episcopalian, Unitarian, Congregational, Baptist and Lutheran denominations, and some others, are under his leading taking steps toward a common position in the matter of the religious ban on divorce. Dr. Greer is quoted as saying: "I recognize the necessity, at times, for a separation, where, for any of various reasons, the home is impossible. Never, however, should the separation carry with it the privilege of remarriage in the lifetime of both parties, because marriage is an indissoluble relation, to be broken only by death. Even before a separation is granted, every other means should first be exhausted, but if by reason of brutality or other cause a separation offers the only solution it should be granted, yet never covering the marriage bond or permitting either party to be taken up by another. Latin phrasing goes might be heard, and heard, but from the chair, no. For this reason another conference is to be held in February, looking to an agreement on the part of all Christian bodies, whereby a person to whom marriage is denied in one church is not to be married in another under the laws of that church, shall not receive permission from another church. To compass these objects the churches must first be interested, and so may come in time to advise and influence the framing of the civil law. It may be long before the views I have expressed obtain general practical acceptance, but they are true—as I am convinced they are—the time is bound to come."

It is the inevitable position of the Roman Catholic church that marriage, being a sacrament, is not to be dissolved by secular courts, but is eternal, so far as earthly matters are concerned. The Protestant Episcopal church is more and more approaching to the Catholic position. Certainly the words in the marriage service which bind the man and woman together "for better, for worse," "until death do us part," are as solemn as any that can be uttered. No one who has repudiated those noble and emphatic sentences, who has apprehension can think for a moment of the possibility of divorce. If the bond is ever binding, it is always binding. There is no matter of greater importance for the truth of the family union and the clean and wholesome life of society than this. As Dr. Greer says, there will be instances where a separation is necessary, but wherever such occur, it must be held that the marital tie exists. A man perhaps can no longer carry on the semblance of union with a woman when the essential of love has been lost; a woman can no longer be a wife when her husband has agreed. But should the disappointed couple try again, and make other marriages, which are likely to be as ill-assorted as the original union? The conviction of the moral sense negates the question.

Whether this contemplated unity of action on the part of representatives of so many denominations, and the consequent conclusion of Dr. Greer, or not, it is well to have the matter debated; and while it is true that the determination of any or all religious bodies does not affect the laws of the land, which, as they stand, regard marriage as a secular contract, such a stand, if it were taken, by these bodies could not but have an important influence on social morals.

It is an interesting fact that the new administration of Italy, the most radical that has ever held office there, finds it advisable to draw the bill providing laws of divorce which have been presented to the legislative chambers. Mr. Giolitti has left it out of the program, "in deference to the overwhelming sentiment against the proposed law." Italy is still left without a divorce law, as it long has been; while there remains the old provisions for judicial separations, and yet there which descend from Roman statutes.

Significant Remark of a Southern Democratic Newspaper. Atlanta Constitution. Politically the Panama case presents but one issue to the democrats of the country. Whether our party on the plea of a sentimental concern for the alleged "moralities of the case," will defeat the treaty and so supply the present administration party with a pat that that will be manifestly untenable, is the proposition in a nut shell.

The republicans who are wise are beginning to be sorry that President Roosevelt went so far as to make any treaty at all. They sincerely wish he had followed the precedents in the Texas and Hawaii cases that he allowed the republican majority in the senate and house to pass a joint resolution annexing the canal strip, with the consent of the Panama authorities, in return for cash indemnities nominated now in the treaty.

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot. Jonah K. Kainalano, commonly known as "Tiki" Tiki, Hawaiian delegate to congress, went up against the rest of the world in Washington a few evenings ago. Long and thoughtfully he gazed upon the electric signs proclaiming the great age and purity of the booze handled by the bootleggers of Pennsylvania avenue and decided to test the stuff in the usual way. A few inspiring fingers brought the prince to the fighting stage and he immediately started a South American revolution on his own account. A policeman attempted to soothe his warlike spirit, but the prince resented the plebeian olive branch and was hustled to the effect, but the prince's dignity has been battered beyond repair.

Senator Cockrell of Missouri makes a couple of apples do for lunch every day, munching them wherever he chances to be, either in the senate chamber or committee room. When the pangs of hunger overtook him the other day he clapped his hands for a pie, when he gave a note to his private secretary in his committee room, asking him to send the daily supply of apples. The page delivered the note, the secretary gave him the apples and the boy departed. Half an hour or so later the senator, by this time being exceedingly hungry, sent a second note to his secretary asking him what had become of the apples. The secretary replied that the apples had been sent by the boy who brought the first note. Then the senator went gunning for the boy. Calling the chief of pages, the senator pointed out the youngster he thought carried the note and he was marched over to the senator's desk.

"Are you the boy that went for my apples," he asked him. "Yes, sir," the page replied. "Well, what did you do with them?" "Why," said the youth, "I ate them. Your secretary gave me the apples without saying anything about them, and I supposed he meant them for me." The senator laughed, sent the boy this time to the restaurant, for his favorite fruit, and was soon regaling himself. But he is still amused by wondering who the joke is on.

One of the prerogatives of a United States senator, says the Washington Post, is that when he steps aboard an elevator in the senate wing of the capitol he is carried immediately to his destination, no matter in which direction the elevator may be bound or who may be aboard. Three rings on the bell indicate that a senator wants to ride, and the conductor loses no time in responding to the call. One day last week Mr. Barnes, the assistant secretary to the president, stepped aboard a senate elevator from the ground floor. In a portfolio under his arm he carried a message from the president of the United States to the congress. "Senate floor," said Mr. Barnes, as the conductor shut the door. Just then there were three rings of the bell, and the indicator showed that a senator wanted to get off the terrace. The elevator went down instead of up, and Mr. Barnes went along. The senator in the terrace only wanted to go to the ground floor. As he stepped off, however, there was another senatorial ring from the terrace. This senator wanted to go to the ground floor, and the elevator went up without stopping. As the car started down there were three rings from the ground floor, and again the car failed to stop at the destination of the president's secretary. Fortunately for Mr. Barnes, this senator wanted to get off at the senate floor, and the conductor, after a long delay, received the message from the president.

The board of geographic names has been asked to arbitrate the dispute over the title to be accorded citizens of Panama, the new republic. It is no new dispute. President Pierce decided by writing in a message to the inhabitants of Panama that half a century ago a state paper was drafted with a reference to the "Isthmians." The State department follows the example of President Pierce and in cable dispatches and news columns as well as in conversation hereabouts one meets the terms "Panamanians," "Panamanian" and "Panamanians." Variations on these most common forms are "Panamese" and "Panameno," the latter being a begging of the question behind the native Spanish of the isthmus. The word "Panamanian" should be the plural of "Panama," should this be adopted, and follow it up with speculation about "Panamaids" and "Panamatrons." The board of geographic names intends to ponder for some time before handing down its decision.

The new congressmen have been long enough about Washington to no longer feel that great burden of responsibility which seemed to weigh them down when they first arrived. They have discovered that they have not been selected to revolutionize the government and reform the methods of Europe. They find that the only duty of a new congressman is not such a "devil of a fellow" as he was supposed to be when he left home, and also that it is impossible to carry out great legislative ideas from a low seat on the committee on accounts, or one of the dozen committees "to examine accounts, expenditures," etc., which were created years ago to give some good fellow a chairmanship and a clerk. Still the new congressmen have been useful, for he furnished interviews during the dull season and even yet his views on the questions of the day can be utilized when there is nothing else doing.

"PAT HAND FOR THE ENEMY." Significant Remark of a Southern Democratic Newspaper. Atlanta Constitution. Politically the Panama case presents but one issue to the democrats of the country. Whether our party on the plea of a sentimental concern for the alleged "moralities of the case," will defeat the treaty and so supply the present administration party with a pat that that will be manifestly untenable, is the proposition in a nut shell.

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FOREIGN-BORN WORKMEN.

Churlish Accusations Shown to Be Unfounded. Portland Oregonian. The depraved and ignorant foreigner has many sins to answer for. He is a most convenient scapegoat whereon to lay our national shortcomings. It is certainly true that labor troubles in this country have been made worse at particular times by foreign workmen. Yet the blame does not lie with the foreigners. It lies partly with the corporations who bring them over, whether Chinese in San Francisco, Italians in New York or Huns in Pennsylvania, in the hope of undermining American labor, and partly with the native demagogues who utilize them for political mischief in party crises, or else organize them into unions and hold up employers for reward.

The fact is that the European laborer is more carefully bred to obedience and order than is the youth of our own country. Coming from worse conditions abroad, he has made more of himself than wages here until discontent has been aroused in him, partly by agitators and partly by the injustice of employers. Few can blame the Pennsylvania miners for restiveness under the method of payment imposed by the Anthracite trust. Few will blame the coal miners of the South for holding their wages by technicalities they could not understand. Chicago has it, it is true, a considerable foreign population, but labor troubles are not in proportion to percentage of native-born. Some of our most disastrous strikes have been in cities where nearly all the workmen are native-born. The indiscriminate censure of our foreign born population for poverty, ignorance and crime is a cruel wrong. Many immigrants are poor, but poverty is not a crime. That they are poor is one reason they come. And if they come with stout hearts and willing arms they deserve a welcome. Many of them are ignorant, but ignorance is not a crime. That they are ignorant and crave a land of free schools is one reason why they come. Is it a generous part to grudge them the satisfaction of their laudable desires for work for themselves and an education for their children? The mere fact that they come here shows a spirit of enterprise and an ambition to be like us which should arouse us in their favor. There is no greater compliment they can pay us than to leave their homes and native land for a place here. Have we so soon forgotten how recently the ancestors of most of us crossed the sea? The desires of children and grandchildren of immigrants to prohibit immigrants today is a churlish and ungracious piece of business. There are those whose ancestors were religious outcasts from England and Holland, and who curl the lip in scorn at religious outcasts today from Russia. The descendants of those ancestors are now gross superstitious and fanatical barbarity in New England something over 200 years ago, who draw their skirts closely about them lest they be contaminated with superstition and barbarity from the south of Europe. What this country is today it owes to its foreign-born—the foreign-born in the revolution, the foreign-born in the northern armies when the native south went for secession, the foreign-born in the north in 1862, when the south went for Bryan and free silver.

SAEGUARDING RAILROAD TRAVEL. "Exigencies of Business" Responsible for Much Slaughter. Kansas City Star. A recent volume on "American Railways," by Mr. Edwin A. Pratt, an Englishman, comments on the poor provision for passengers who cannot afford to travel in luxurious "sleepers," and the terrible frequency of disasters. The author quotes a railway owner as saying that the prevalent conditions were the result of the exigencies of business and that eventually the railroad companies could afford "to indulge in the luxury of surplus emotions." Is it "surplus emotion" to take every possible precaution to safeguard the lives of persons entrusted to one's care? And if it is, isn't it time to force by strict laws an "indulgence" in that "luxury." It is a noteworthy fact that where railroad collisions occur the Pullman "sleepers" are rarely affected, but the "smokers" and chair cars are smashed to fragments and their occupants usually killed or injured. So the \$2 or \$3 paid for luxurious travel purchases immunity from death. It is possible to prevent fatalities even through neglect in management or parsimony in overworking employes causes accident. The cars could be made heavier or constructed so that they would not "telescope" or burn. "Indulging" the "luxury of surplus emotions" means spending money to protect life rather than saving it to kill patrons.

The details of improvement could not be pointed out in a short article. They could not be known except by an expert. But the mass of the people can and do know that by some means railroads can be made safe for travel. All this popular knowledge ought to form a general demand that all custodians of the lives of others be held to a stricter measure of responsibility and that they be compelled to "indulge in the luxury of surplus emotions."

FRIDAY SATURDAY Only Two Days More Your last opportunity to purchase boys' and children's suits and overcoats at Half Price Here is some of the good things to be had Friday and Saturday:—

Sailor Blouse Suits—sizes 3 to 8 years—that were \$3.50 to \$7.50—now \$1.75 to.....\$3.75 Child's Reefers—sizes 5, 6, 7, 8, 13 and 14—that were \$2.00 to \$6.00—now \$1.00 to.....\$3.00 Boys' Overcoats—sizes 14 to 18—that were \$12.50, \$15, \$18 and \$20—are now \$6.25, \$7.50, \$9.00 and \$10.00 Boys' Knee Pants—10 to 15 years—ONE-HALF PRICE. Friday and Saturday positively the last days of this big 50 Per Cent Discount. NO CLOTHING FITS LIKE OURS. Browning King & Co. R. S. WILCOX, Mgr.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Looking the stable after the horse is stolen is sensible enough if it happens to be some other stable. The marvel of civilization grows more and more amazing. A Texas editor has just died of the infirmities due to old age.

Dr. Alonso A. Ames, former mayor of Minneapolis and now under sentence to serve six years in prison for his participation in municipal graft, has become an author. He is writing a book on "Graft." It is said. A New England man is offering a prize for the best essay on how to get "drugs sleep." The old hicksway and the good-horse, with some hickory wood, are wood-ingredients for the dose.

The late Italian premier, Zanardelli, it should be noted, was a great lawyer, and as a writer on legal subjects he achieved a European reputation. He was the author of the modern penal code of Italy, which is regarded as well-nigh a perfect work of its kind. The secretary of the navy, Mr. Moody, is astonished that the newspaper editors do not know how to conduct their papers more efficiently. There is a suspicion floating about that the secretary has a field for all his ability and intelligence in the Navy department.

The present struggle in Japan appears to be between the hotheds of the nation and Marquis Ito, the veteran statesman about whom some of the younger political leaders write: "He is the present and future of our country, personified in one individual; and in spite of all the attacks of party politics, he is still the man to whom all and every one turn their eyes whenever the country is in trouble, whether he be in or out of office." Joseph Chamberlain, the British "man of the hour," presents sharp contrasts to the average type of British politician. In a land of "handed fools at the wheel," Mr. Chamberlain never takes exercise. In a land of hereditary wealth and power he derives neither from his family, Gladstone and other statesmen were famous scholars. Chamberlain was a poor student in the dead languages. Chamberlain is perhaps thought of by those who have not seen him as a middle-aged man. He is in his sixty-eighth year.

Telephone quartet: "Who are you?" "Who are you?" "I asked you first." "Well, I won't talk unless I know who you are." "All right—neither will I; goodbye." Telephone Free Press. "Education," said Uncle Eben, "would be a help if some of our grandfathers of immigrants to prohibit immigrants today is a churlish and ungracious piece of business. There are those whose ancestors were religious outcasts from England and Holland, and who curl the lip in scorn at religious outcasts today from Russia. The descendants of those ancestors are now gross superstitious and fanatical barbarity in New England something over 200 years ago, who draw their skirts closely about them lest they be contaminated with superstition and barbarity from the south of Europe. What this country is today it owes to its foreign-born—the foreign-born in the revolution, the foreign-born in the northern armies when the native south went for secession, the foreign-born in the north in 1862, when the south went for Bryan and free silver.

They were doing some excavating in the town, and the stranger's eyes were sadly jarred. Stopping near a group of workmen, he demanded: "What's the quickest way to get out of this town?" "Stand right where you are," was the reply. "That's what goes off." All ready, Bill!—Chicago Post. WHY PA DOESN'T READ. W. D. Neath in Chicago Tribune. It use to be nother pa a lot if I climb on his knee When he's readin' papers, an' set him to 'let me see.' I want to see 'em pictures an' to ast him what they is, an' he says 'Pa, you read 'em.' My ma, she'd tell me not to ast him 'readin' 'em o' his. But now when come 'round, he throws 'em papers on the floor. An' 'takes me up an' says 'at he don't want to read no more.' Th' paper's full o' pictures, too—o' little boys an' girls—One boy 'at looks a lot like me, ma says, when I had curle. I saw her point it out to pa, an' he says: 'You read 'em.' An' ma, she grab an' hol' me tight, an' say: 'What if it was?' Pa read about some other boys, about all what they were. An' 'neh, he big me, too, an' say he won't read any more. I got a joke on pa. Today he's readin' in his chair. An' I come in an' climb his knee while he's readin' there. An' he put down his paper—neh a grea' big hug I get. An' he says 'the joke on pa! His eyes an' cheeks they is all wet!' I tell him 'at he said 'at none but babies cry ever. An' 'neh he say big men is babies part th' time, 'at he's why. It use to be nother pa so much if I come 'playin' 'round. Or he'll when he's readin' things, or make 'em 'thinks 'round. But now he says for me to make as much noise as I please. Because it's like life music—an' my ma says she agrees. An' 'neh I play, an' pa he leaves his paper on. He says 'at when he looks at me he can't read any more.