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The supreme court has not yet said that the Bartley bond is not enforceable.

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Four battleships ready for commission is America's latest contribution to peace with all nations.

There can be no doubt that Ireland exwould not have been carried into Belfast last week.

If Russia really desires an effective navy it should devote its first efforts to discovering some means of keeping at least one harbor free from ice.

The man who made the calendar this year has also kindly fixed it so that Andrew Jackson's memory may be devolving on them. The main object

If Speaker Rouse compels members of committees to work full time he may have a hard time to retain that popularity which landed him in the speaker's

Political affairs in Oregon must be in a bad way when it is necessary to take a man from the Washington office of the Department of Justice in order to secure proper material for United States district attorney.

in bringing the "standpatters" and powers and functions devolving upon "tariff rippers" in congress into harmony he would confer a favor upon Iowa by South Omaha. This proposed change taking the republican state chairman involves, not merely a revision of into his confidence on the subject.

is a bad business proposition for the state to carry its own fire risks. The to take this bad business off the state's

The aequisition of two of the leading hotels of Lincoln by a prominent politician suggests the thought that he wants to get back some of his campaign money that in other years has gone to defray awe-inspiring hotel bills.

These constant conferences of leaders called to advise with him do not bear out the charges that President Roosevelt is arbitrary, impetuous and headstrong. If the president were a mere dicfator. he would hardly bother about taking ad-

Omaha's weekly bank clearings have, for the past two or three years, averaged from \$7,000,000 to \$8,000,000. They will exceed \$10,000,000 a week at no dis- the new county charter should also protant day as a natural sequence of the vide for a county board of charities and establishment of a grain market of corrections, elective, but nonsalaried, large dimensions.

John Temple Graves vouches for the statement that the south is rapidly changing in its attitude toward President Roosevelt and are beginning to repose their full confidence in him. Perhaps if the late election could be repeated Missouri would not be the lonesome convert out of the solid south.

The Omaha Ministerial association has not yet recovered from the shock ity relief whenever emergencies may that followed the withdrawal of the protest filed with the police board against the renewal of liquor licenses to keepers of tough joints in the proscribed district by the attorney retained by the Civic Federation for the prosecution and suppression of vicious and criminal resorts.

County Attorney Slabaugh's proposition to re-set the timepiece at the police court so that the hands of the clock under severe penalties. Other salutary there will point to the figure 8 at 8 regulations and provisions that may o'clock in the morning is revolutionary. The gentry who accept the hospitality of a night's lodging at the city jail are the county's affairs and prevent extravnot accustomed to rising from their slumbers so early in the morning and if of the service coming under the superviforced to appear in public at so young sion and control of the board of county an hour, may have to apologize for un- commissioners. Such a charter has been kempt hair and disarranged clothing, a long felt want. It would not only not up to the standard prescribed in effect a material reduction of taxes, but good reasons for coining them over into polite police circles

THE EXECUTIVE AND CONGRESS.

That President Roosevelt is taking an intense interest in the matter of legislation is confidently shown in the fact of his inviting republican leaders in 4.00 to the legislative program. While this 2.50 is not an absolutely exceptional course on the part of the chief executive, it is unusual and for this reason is likely to attract more than ordinary attention. It assume that this uncommon action of the president is really prompted by con-

As a matter of fact it means nothing of the kind. There is not a single fact in regard to the public finances or anything else concerning the business of the general government which should cause the American people the slightest worry. The government is still able to take care of all its obligations without the least difficulty. According to the last report of the secretary of the treasury, the available cash balance in the treasury was over \$146,000,000 and there are no extraordinary demands upon it. On the contrary, the probability is that this cash balance will be increased during the current fiscal year unless congress should make extravagant appropriations, which, as now indicated, it is not likely to do. All the tendency, so far as now shown, is against extravagance and there is every reason to believe that this spirit will prevail.

The simple fact is that President Roosevelt is anxious that congress shall observe a due degree of prudence in the matter of appropriations. He indicated this in his annual message and what he then said he still adheres to. There is no demand from the chief executive or from any other source for a policy of economy that would have the effect of impairing the efficiency of the public service. To do that would be a grave mistake. But there is a demand and a very proper one, that no more money shall be spent than is absolutely necessary to the Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this first day of December, 1904.

(Seal)

M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public. proper carrying on of the business of the government and which will keep expenditures within estimated receipts.

In other words, as was said by President Roosevelt in his annual message. "the cost of doing government business should be regulated with the same rigid scrutiny as the cost of doing a private business." That states a principle which we think is very generally recognized as sound and it appears to be the disposipects a general election soon or the war tion of the republican leaders in congress to give heed to it. That their doing so will be of benefit to the party is not to be doubted.

A COUNTY CHARTER.

The committees designated by various commercial bodies and the city council to frame a new city charter appear to have no clear conception of the task celebrated on one or all of several days. of charter revision is to secure a material reduction of municipal expenses and greater efficiency in the administration of municipal affairs.

The consensus of opinion among all men who have given charter revision any thought is that the greatest saving can be brought about by the merger of the assessment and tax departments of the city and county. Manifestly this must be effected by conferring upon the county treasurer the powers and functions devolving on the city treasurers of Omaha and South Omaha, and con-If President Roosevelt should succeed | ferring upon the county assessor the the tax commissioners of Omaha and Omaha, but also a revision of the statutes relating to county government.

This leads up squarely to the question whether this is not the opportune time willingness of the insurance companies for formulating a charter for the gov ernment of Douglas county separate and distinct from the governments of counties whose conditions and whose wants differ very materially from those prevailing in this county. In other words, the charter making committees should endeavor to formulate two separate charters-one for cities of the metropolitan class, and the other for counties of the metropolitan class.

The charter for counties of over 140. 000 population should clearly define the powers and duties of all county officers, provide for the election of a county au ditor by the people and expressly au thorize and require the county treasurer and county assessor to be ex officio treasurer and assessor for all cities and towns within the county.

In addition to the changes proposed like the Board of Education. The county board of charities should have control and supervision over the county infirmary and hospital, over the county jail, county work-house, whenever one is established, and all charitable and corrective institutions maintained at the expense of the county. The board of charities should also have supervision over the distribution of fuel, clothing and supplies to the destitute, and incidentally, to improvise measures of char-

The new county charter should expressly prescribe the conditions under which franchises are to be granted, new bonds issued and the funding bonds negotiated. It should require that all fees from whatever source collected by any county officer, should be paid into the county treasury and prohibit the farming out of public funds and trust funds suggest themselves may be inserted to enforce a businesslike administration of agance and wastefulness in any branch

erally.

THE PANAMA COMMISSION.

The creation of the Panama canal commission was made with deliberation. congress to confer with him in regard The matter was most carefully and thoroughly discussed in congress and in as now organized and conducted it is a will not be strange if some thoughtlessly failure. This view, it seems, is not only by a great many members of congress, ring scandals. who are in favor of reducing the commission or abolishing it altogether, leaving the whole duty of conducting the canal construction in the hands of the president of the United States.

A bill having this in view has been in troduced in the house of representatives. This measure calls for abolishing the commission and provides that the powers now vested in the president be extended until the end of the next, or fifty ninth congress. The president is authorized to employ such persons with such appreciation? official designation as he may deem necessary until such time as congress may otherwise direct and is authorized to fix the compensation until regulated by con-The bill in effect permits the president to perform, through persons he may designate, the duties now performed by the canal commission.

It appears to be unquestionable that commission is satisfactory and that the inevitable effect of its continuance will commission are thoroughly capable, there is diversity of opinion among them in regard to the course that should be pursued which is proving trouble some to the government and necessarily have been more or less radical disagreements among the commissioners and it as an interference with the undertak-

abolish the commission is a question. There are some who urge that this is power and authority provided for in the bill before congress. Perhaps this view is correct, but the matter is manifestly one for the most careful deliberation, involving, as it does, an enormous outlay and work that will be prolonged for is the fact that the isthmian canal problits philanthropy and public spirit. lem is still one for very serious consider-

Why should the city council hesitate about the establishment of a municipal asphalt paying plant? The experiment has proved a success wherever it has been tried. The latest and most connicipal asphalt paving plant last year with the most satisfactory results. The Detroit paving plant, which was put in the plant, and a second plant is to be and Stamping company. established by Detroit next spring which will be ample to do all the asphalt paving that the city may need hereafter.

erection of half a dozen mam moth grain elevators in Omaha, South Omaha and Council Bluffs, with all the handling grain makes assurance doubly Power company, which is in friendly agreesure that Omaha will henceforth occupy a prominent place among the great grain markets of the country. But Omaha's should not stop with the erection of elevators with large flouring and cereal into staple food products that are constantly in demand, not only in America but in foreign lands:

Among the laws that should be enacted by the legislature this winter should be a law prohibiting county boards from granting eternal franchises to suburban trolley lines on any condi-Every franchise granted should have a time limit not to extend beyond a period of fifty years under any circumstances, and no time limit franchise should be given without some compensation, either in a bonus or a royalty. Under the constitution of Nebraska a franchise is a valuable thing.

South Omaha politicians are said to be watching the legislature with tremb ling for fear that they will be out of an occupation should annexation be or-But the great majority of South Omaha people are not concerned about the future of South Omaha politicians. They are interested in securing

better and cheaper government.

Baltimore American. Colorado's rioting experiences will cost the state nearly \$800,000. In these days of civilized government, anarchy is a luxury which comes very high to those who must

Not Liberal Enough.

By the czar's decree, one month's service n the defence of Port Arthur will count for a year to the credit of the survivors, and those who escaped from that "living hell' seem to think the czar's estimate of time spent there was not liberal enough by half.

Mr. Bryan Has the Floor New York Bun.

1900 Colonel Bryan, an old soldier in war against corporations, emitted plan for a federal license of corporations. What has the colonel to say of the bettering of his instructions? The world awaits eagerly the words of that great mender and amender of the constitution

Get Busy, Please.

Chicago Tribune. If there are 600,000,000 practically useless sliver dollars piled up in Uncle Sam's vaults there would seem to be 600,000,000 would frustrate wastefulness and cor- the fractional currency for which the busi- been admirably done by the government.

ness interests of the country are howling so lustily.

Trail of Public Demoralisation. Springfield Republican. The whiriwind of corruption which swept through the public life of the country following the civil war was a theme of much discussion and moralizing for years, but it never obtained such force or dimensions the public press. It now appears that a as to embrace the indictment of as many mistake was made. The opinion is that as three senators of the United States, adthe commission is too large and that ditional to many other public officials. The recent industrial prosperity is evidently to leave full as broad a trail of public demoralization as did that of the period endentertained by the administration, but ing in Credit Mobiller and the whisky

Politeness and Appreciation.

Cleveland Leader. Testimony from all sorts and condition of Russians who have been made prisoners by the Japanese is unanimous as to the conspicuously courteous treatment, mingled with a kindliness that impresses even the most stolid Russian soldier. If the Port Arthur captives are taken to Japan and subjected to this same system of sym- be hoped may prove to be the case, pathy and kindliness who shall say that treasury deficit may yet be avoided. the mikado's government is not wise in its day and generation in recognizing the

Pretty Baubles from Royalty.

Portland Oregonian It is not alone the fair sex who abando the United States for "dear, old England" that come in for titles, for it is announced that King Edward is about to make a knight of Charles M. Hays, an ex-American who is now at the head of the Grand Trunk Pacific railway. Thus far railroad men seem to be the favorites for this form as now constituted the Panama Canal of reward, the first and most notable of them being Sir William C. Van Horne, ex-president of the Canadian Pacific, who a generation ago was pretty well known be to embarrass and delay the work on through the middle west as the plain the great enterprise. While there is no American citizen "Billy" Van Horne. Of doubt that the men who constitute the course the recipients of these honors cannot eat 'em or drink 'em, but they may be pretty baubles to have around the house.

Cruel Waste and Drain.

Boston Herald. If the pitiful human heart will but unite in one tenderly pleading, thunderously reverberating demand, kept up year in, year out, this hideously cruel waste and drain of war will stop. Noble souls are always is needless to say that these operate rousing to resolute action and in this the American government has, thank God, taken the lead. Reason and love shall dominate brute, tiger passion. There shall be tribunals, supreme courts of the nations. which shall interdict private vengeance and bloodshed between nations, as our law absolutely necessary and that the only courts have already interdicted it between safe plan is to give the president the private citizens. But these tribunals will have no weight of authority until backed up by my heart, your heart and the universal heart,

Missouri's Next Senator.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Thomas Kay Niedringhaus was born in St. Louis in 1859, and comes of a distinyears. What is unmistakably apparent guished St. Louis family, widely noted for graduated from Washington university His first political experience was in 1888, when he successfully managed the campaign of his father, Hon. F. G. Niedringhaus, for congress. For a number of years he served as the treasurer of the repub Hean city committee, until two years ago He married in 1888, the same year in which his father ran for congress. Several months ago, at the convention held in St. Joseph, spicuous example is the city of Detroit, Mo., he was made chairman of the repubwhich invested \$15,000 in its first mu- lican state committee without solicitation business interests and worked night and day throughout the chtire campaign, and has since had the pleasure of introducing operation June 8, 1904, closed down at the famous Mysterious Stranger to the big the end of twenty-two weeks with a republican brotherhood of states. He is larger saving than the original cost of the manager of the National Enameling

NIAGARA GOING DRY.

Industries Steadily Lessening the Power of the Great Cataract.

New York World. The day predicted by Lord Kelvin when Niagara will run dry is brought nearer by the installation of two new turbines, of 10,000 horse-power each, by the Canadian ment with the chief American company. The additional power thus drawn is equivalent to a close-order procession of two horse wagons forty miles long.

In California electric power has been carried nearly 140 miles. At that rate Niagara may soon turn wheels in Syracuse, Rochester, Erie and Toronto, and possibly Cleveland, as well as in Buffalo. Ten companies mills that will convert the raw material are now equipped to divert about 10 per cent of Niagara's power. When 20 per cent is taken the American side of the fall will run dry. The Lockport power "grab" bill, defeated last year, is about to be again

introduced in the legislature. The state has spent over \$2,000,000 in buying the falls from their owners and in beautifying the surroundings, only to surconder them piecemeal, with value, greatly million people have visited the falls since the state park there was established. Even if the good of humanity demands

that men should walk dry-shod where now Niagara runs, there is no reason why the nillions which its power is worth should go as a gift to the capitalists that wait in legislative lobbles for legislative "plums."

PUNISHMENT FOR LAND SHARKS.

Persistent Work of the Government Crowned with Success.

Baltimore American. In nothing does the government deserve more credit than in its handling of the land fraud cases. These frauds have been going on for many years, and sporadic efistrations to put a stop to them, but the simster influences at work have always been able to check or thwart them before anything of value to the public could be accompaished. In fact, the trauds were so extensive and involved so many men of rominence that it was nearly always possiple to cover tracks and throw government agents off the scent. These spoliators have in the past induced congress to pass bills with the ostensible purpose of benefiting the poor settler or immigrant, and have thus secured for themselves many militons of acres of the best public lands

In one or two instances on the Pacific coast these schemes and schemers have been exposed in court, but beyond depriving them of the specific land in dispute nothing has ever been done. This immunity from punishment has, of course, increased the number of land sharks amazingly and made the difficulty of ferreting out and breaking up their conspiracies all the greater. The loss to the government and the outrage on the public has been enormous. Much of the valuable timber and farming land held for thrifty settlers and for the benefit of states is no longer the property of the government, and it would be almost impossible for the latter to recover the land or convict the depredators. It is exceedingly gratifying, however, to note that what remains will be more closely guarded hereafter, and that some of those who have fliched from the public will be brought to justice. The work of unfolding these land conspiracies appears to have

THE LEGISLATURE.

Fremont Tribune: Speaker Rouse talks like a man who has no strings on him. It remains to be seen if he acts that way. Norfolk Press: If the legislature does as well all the way through as it has done at the start, its record will pass inspection Custer County Republican: The election of George L. Rouse of Grand Island speaker of the house was a victory for the farming element of the legislature. Howells Journal: The present legislature should exercise the greatest possible economy; the financial condition of the state demands it. That two-and-a-half-million-

dollar debt must be reduced. Norfolk Press: The man who chases after a legislature clerkship as a means of livelihood may be forgiven for the first offense, but there's something wrong under his hat if he tries it a second time.

Kearney Hub: Speaker Rouse seems not to have suffered from an impediment of speech when he handed his ultimatum to the hungry at Lincoln. If the speaker's backbone is equal 'to the strain, as is to O'Neill Frontier: While we would like to have seen a north Nebraska man in influences of consideration, politeness and the speaker's chair, we wouldn't want anyone there with rallroad strings to him.

The fact that J. A. Douglas of Bassett had two powerful railroads back of him was suspicious in itself. The Frontier heartily concurs in the growing and popular sentiment of turning down the railroad lobby. Butte Gazette: Now that Rouse has been slected speaker of the house the popocratic papers jump on him roughshod as a tool of the vile railroads. When defeated for the speakership other times he was held up to the public gaze by the same papers as an honest and anti-railroad man. Its a cold day when the World-Herald and others can't discern a railroad brand on a successful republican candidate.

Wood River Interests: All Hall countyites can take a commendable pride in the selection of Hon. George L. Rouse as rather cheap and ruffled over the incident. speaker of the house. Rouse is an able, It really looked as if I did not have the bonest and experienced member of that body and should and will render a good account of himself in that important position. Rouse is the first farmer to have the speakership in many years. W. H. Jennings of Thayer county was elected speaker pro tem of the senate.

Springfield Monitor: If Speaker Roussucceeds in carrying out his plan of keeping lobbyists from the house, or in a meas ure prevents them from applying their wiles to bring members of the legislature over to their way of thinking, then the people of the state will arise as one man and call him blessed. But will he be equal to such a herculean task? The Monitor hopes so. Here is a fine opportunity for members to show their hands.

Wood River Sunbeam: George L. Rous has been elected speaker of the Nebraska house of representatives after a bitter fight between representatives of different factions represented by the railroads of the state. Be this as it may, Mr. Rouse is the strongest man in the house and can fill the chair with honor. Already he has made plans for giving the state the most businesslike session of the house of repre sentatives in the history of the state.

Howells Journal: This editor wants to go on record as opposed to the repeal, modification or amending of the Slocumb law. We consider it one of the best, if not the best, liquor laws upon the statute of any state in the union. True, in many cases some of its provisions are not enforced, but that is the fault of the officers charged with its enforcement and not of the law itself. We do not believe that if the quesion was fairly presented to them that the people of Nebraska would vote for change.

Papillion Times: To a close observer it appears that the bluff of the railroads in refusing to pay their taxes is a ruse to stay any adverse legislation being passed by the legislative body just convened. If they are able to make the people believe that the present law is unfair to them then they are reasonably sure that the present law will not be tampered with or at least modified to better suit them. The railroads employ shrewd lobbyists whose duty it is to look after their interests and the plan of refusing to pay the taxes is very likely a part of the campaign marked out by these hired cappers.

Beatrice Express: On the day the legislature organized, Representative Casebeer offered a resolution providing that members wanting supplies should make a written request for the same and file it with the anecdote lies in its application. I don't keeper of the supplies. There isn't anything very startling about that, is there? It is get through in five minutes, for I have a what every business concern employing half as many men as the number of members of the legislature does, and it is good business sense. And yet no sooner was the resolution offered than sundry members of the house objected vigorously because, they said, "It would be a reflection upon the members of the house." And so it was voted down. Why is it any reflection upon any member of the legislature to be asked to do the business of the state on business principles? Why should any member of the legislature be so sensitive, if that is enhanced by time to corporations. Sixteen what prompted the objection, that they want everything run wide open? The coner the members of the legislature get over that sort of feeling the better it will be for the state. Everyone knows that, of one of the assistant secretaries I said the bill for supplies would be just about one-half as large if the record showed where each item went to. Mr. Casebeer & right and his resolution should have passed. We congratulate him on the stand

PERSONAL NOTES.

Countess Helene von Schweinitz has just passed a most satisfactory examination in dental surgery. Germany has many titled practicing lawyers and physicians, but the countess is the first titled dentist. Judge Peter C. Pritchard, former United

which was captured on Bald Mountain and measured four feet from tip to tip. Governor Durbin of Indiana is consider ing the advisability of suggesting to the legislature that the state appropriate money for a monument in Arlington cemetery to the memory of General Henry W. Lawton. A statue in his honor will b erected shortly in Indianapelis.

States senator from North Carolina, has

sent to President Roosevelt a golden eagle

Emperor William sent to King Edward as a Christmas present an enormous wild boar's head, and the king sent the kalser a choice hamper of turkeys and sirloins of beef from his own farm at Sandringham. Emperor Nicholas sent the kaiser a barrel of the finest caviar.

The Cincinnati Chamber of Commerc has .given William H. Taft, secretary of war, the rare honor of a unanimous election by its board of directors as an honorary life member. The only other instance of the kind was the election years ago of Senator Pendleton to the same

Andrew Carnegie has given or pledged himself to give 1,290 library buildings at an aggregate cost of \$39,325,240. These figures were given at Beloit, Wis., by Horace White of New York, who represented Mr Carnegie at the dedication of the \$50,000 library building, the gift of Mr. Carnegie Of the Carnegie libraries 779 are in United States. Of the total outlay, \$29.084. 680, or practically three-fourths of the whole, has been expended in this country, about \$6,000,000 in England, about \$2,000,00 in Scotland and \$1,475,500 in Canada.

THE NEW CONGRESSMAN.

Experiences of a Budding Statesman on His First Trip to Washington. A new congressman whose identity is journalistic secret relates in Harper's Weekly a chapter of his experiences when he blew into Washington loaded down with new acquired importance as a representa

tive of the people. This is the way he go

a fall or two: I was elected by a comfortable majority I am not a proud man nor a vain man, but I must confess that when I first began to be addressed as "congressman" I had a sensation about the head that very much resembled an enlargement of the cranium I became at once the leading man in my own town. Everybody instinctively deferred to me. All of the letters that I received were addressed to the "Hon. John Smith"-Smith is not my name, but it will answer all purposes in the narrative that

I am about to tell. I went to Washington on the eye of the opening of congress and was treated to a rude awakening. At home everybody regarded me as a man of importance. At the national capital no one thought it worth his while to pay any attention to me The tension beneath the leather of my hat disappeared and the proud feeling evaporated into thin air.

I reached the door of the house of repre sentatives and was about to step in when the doorkeeper took me by the arm and

"Pardon me, but you can't go in there. You'll have to go up in the gallery.' "Why?" I inquired.

"Because this is for members only." "I am a member," I said, with some indignation in my voice.

"Well," was the reply, "then you will have to be identified." The chief clerk of the house came out and identified me, and the doorkeeper, apologizing for his scepticism, admitted me. After that I had no trouble in getting into the house. But I must say that I felt appearance of a congressman. I felt rather lonesome for some days-the feeling is difficult to describe, but it was more like

One morning a measure that affected some of the people in my district came up for consideration, and I jumped to my feet and called:

good old-fashioned homesickness than any-

thing I can think of at present.

"Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker!" But the speaker paid no attention to me whatever. Instead, he looked on the other side of the house and, pointing to a man who was not claiming recognition at all, said:

"Mr. Brown has the floor." Once again I attempted to get recognition, but was ignored in the same manner. The third time I arose, and then some wag in the seat behind me called out in

stentorian tones: "Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of information." . Although this man was immediately back

of me, the speaker recognized him at once. and, turning to me for the first time, said: "Will the gentleman yield to a question of information?" "I will," I said, surprised but curious.

"Then, Mr. Speaker," said the man behind me, "I desire to ask if the gentleman is a member of this body." The roars of laughter that greeted this sally completely demoralized me and made it impossible to continue my remarks. It was a long while after that before I at-

tempted to address the chair again. Before I had been in Washington a week found it necessary to obtain an audience with the postmaster general. There were quite a number of men in my district clamoring for fourth rate postmasterships, and I had a long list of applications in my possession. I asked the postmaster general if he had half an hour to spare in order to go over these lists. He smiled

as he said: "You are asking a good deal of time. You remind me of an incident that occurred when General Arthur was president. The postmaster general at that time dropped in on the president and asked him if he could have a half hour of his time.

The president replied: "'Half an hour? Why, my dear fellow, dynasties have been overturned in three minutes. You will have to cut your re-

marks short. "Now, my dear congressman," he said, turning to me, "the force of this little want to hurry you, but you will have to

number of very important engagements Met their lips again with fervor; Whisper'd yows were fondly plighted. Then she led him through the darkness that I must keep." I solved the problem by leaving the names of the applicants with him and promising to call some other day to learn his decision. After leaving the Postoffice department I strolled over to the State department, and when I reached the entrance met a gentleman of medlum height,

neatly dressed, carrying a leather portfolio. Addressing him, I said: "Pardon me, but could you direct me the office of the secretary of state?" "Certainly," he replied; "if you just con tinue down this corridor you will find the

place you are seeking." I did so, but before going into the room to the usher: "Who is that courteous gentleman who

directed me down this hallway?" He looked through his glasses at the disappearing figure and said: "Why, that is John Hay, the secretary of state.

other departments not many days after this, and was trying to impress the head of a certain bureau with the merits of one of my office-seeking constituents. "This man," I said, "is especially fitted for the position to which I have recommended him. He is an expert and understands his business thoroughly. He is a graduate of the University of Iowa."

sudden that the prime minister of the

president looked very much like his por-

traits. I was very much impressed that

time, as I have been ever since, at the

extreme courtesy of all the State depart-

ment officials. That is more than can be

said for some of the men who are in public

life in Washington. I was in one of the

The bureau chief looked at me quietly for a moment, and then a smile began to

lurk about the corners of his mouth. He leaned over and said in a soft tone, freighted with sarcasm: "Is there a university in lowa?" What was the use of trying to talk business with a man of that kind? My friend

did not get the appointment and I am

SAID IN FUN.

afraid he never will.

Nell-I told him if he dared to kiss me

Nell-1 told faint
e'd be sorry for it.
Belle-And was hg?
Nell-No. I was the only one who was
orry-sorry. I told him.-Philadelphia

"What do you think of that college professor who says he never kissed a girl?"
"Possibly," said Miss Cayenne, "it is the simple confession of an unworldly soul; and then again it may be a very sly way of advertising for bids."-Washington Star.

Binks (as snow flies)—I'm afraid, Barnes, that the train you're waiting for will be badly delayed.

Barnes—No, it won't. My mother-in-law's on it—Kansas City Star. on it.-Kansas City Star. "What is the matter?" asked the opti-mist. "I thought your uncle had left you \$100,000?"

"He did," replied the pessimist, "but, confound it, he provides in his will that I've got to use \$150 of it to buy him a tombstone."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Father-What did the teacher say when ne heard you swear? Small Boy-She asked me where I learned Father-What did you tell her? Boy-I didn't want to give you away, pa, so I blamed it on the parrot.—Detroit Free

First Zemstvo-What did the caar give Second Zemstvo-Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

First Zemstvo-That is, we are allowed to live and are free to pursue something he knows darnski well we can never catch.—Cleveland Leader.

"That captain of industry who arrived yesterday keeps up a continual holler for water," grinned the superintendent of stokers.
"Well, we won't be too hard on him at first," said Mephisto thoughtfully. "Until further notice you may let him have one share of Brimstone common three times a day."—Town Topics.

"'Music hath charms to soothe the sav-age breast," quoted-the young lady with a simper as she scated herself at the plano. "That may be," muttered a savage back-elor, "but there are some of us in this crowd who are civilized and deserve a little consideration."—Chicago Tribune.

LEGEND OF HITONKAS.

Of the many Indian legends That are handed down through ages, Some there are with strains of pathos

Rarely met in modern romance. "On the plains now called lows, in his soul unquenched ambition Burned, because upon his people, There had come a peaceful spirit— For he loved the gory battle.

While he slept and dreamed of struggles Where his proud arm proved it worthy, Came a spirit from the Father, Whisper'd in his ear: "Hitonkas, On the west shore of the waters Which the people name 'Big Muddy, There abides a queenly maiden, Who with love awaits thy coming."

Quick he broke the sleep that's mortal, Took he up his trusty weapon, Took he all his store of wampum; Ere the next night's moon had risen Gazed he back across the waters, Where his brethren dweit in slumber. Where his brethren dweit in slumb As he gazed his soul grew scornful Of the hazard of his mission, And his form up-reared it proudly.

While thus poised a voice as tuneful As the turtle-dove's soft cooing Thrilled his ear; "O, marvel! Art thou Sent to me from the Great Spirit To fulfill my sweetest vision?"

"Yea," he cried, her kiss returning;
"And I came to bear thee thither,
Though thy tribesmen come against me
With their legions trimmed for battle!" "Hush." she whispers, "wouldst thou save

me,
Caution must attend the doing.
As you love me heed the dangers
That surround us while I lead thee
To my tepee—long my prison—
Where are many priceless treasures,
Which I may not leave behind me."

To her tepee, where a thousand Tender tokens she did lavish; Gave him of an amber flquid Which soon soothed and numbed his senses. Sweet he smiled on dreamland angels While his wampum she extracted. Fierce he frowned when armed warr Dragged him from her tepee's shadow Early on the morning after.

Reaching for his trusty weapon, He bespoke his birth and prowess, Which did only move his captors To a smile, half scorn, half pity:

Pottawattamies hold council, Come before our dread tribunal!" All the warrior rous'd within him
At the sneer this speech intended;
But he missed his trusty weapon
And his arm fell limp beside him
As they dragged him into council.
Here again he felt the warrior,
And he rear'd and glared about him
But a moment. Then that spirit
Sank within him, and forever—
For he faced Police Judge Berka,
And the charge was "Drunk, a plenty,"
Leavitt, Neb. ISAAC A, KILGORE.

'From the tribe beyond the river



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