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Those stories about a short ice crop have been put into cold storage, at least for the season

Next thing we know, the thermome ters will all strike for extra pay for working overtime.

My, but isn't Mr. Groundhog glad he saw his shadow and went back to his hole to keep warm!

If Germany is having weather like that on this side, the return of the coal miners to work is easily understood.

Senator Hipple Mitchell of Oregon is not the first politician who got himself into trouble just because his letter was not burned.

If those Hearst-Sullivan debates are to be continued the office of sergeant-atbe no sinecure.

Ten years ago we were threatened and pebbles with a gold famine-now we are threatened with a coal famine, and the last is much the worse.

Misery always loves company, and for that reason Omaha commiserates with Denver at 27 degrees below and Kansas City at 18 degrees below zero.

The Bryanite organist of these parts is always firing long range guns at the unreachable enemy. But where does he

stand on the commodity rate bill? The United States never emphasizes its bigness so much as when reports of rain in Alabama follow reports of 30

degrees below zero in South Dakota. Now that the Porto Rico house of delegates has declared its strong adher-

in hand at San Domingo can proceed. In refusing to tell of the profits of the private car lines the president of the Armour company confesses that they are probably more than he cares to reveal.

The untrammeled west has at least one advantage over the Atlantic coast states in winter. None of its population is caught floating around on icebergs.

When "Bluebeard" Hoch had told the number of wives he would acknowledge. his hearers were again impressed with tion. the bad luck which accompanies the number "13."

little difficulty in proving her marriage independence. A bill has been introto Johann Hoch, as she asked him for duced in the house of delegates of the money the first time they met after his island calling for the establishment of

arrest-and he told her to wait, Those papers which are reprinting stories by Maxim Gorky should say It is said that the proposed scheme is whether they are trying to justify the a peculiar mixture of sovereign and of Russian government or to create sym- dependent powers and while the move-

pathy for the imprisoned novelist.

In seizing two German colliers carrying fuel for Rojestvensky the Dutch government may have done more to summary action will become necessary. stop hostilities in the South Pacific ocean than all the Quakers on earth.

project a bill to create a governor-ap- disadvantage of American rule and pointed board to take charge of our mupleipal paving plant with fat salaries cation for this, the fact remains that and extensive powers, in all respects there is a good deal of dissatisfaction city government.

There is really no good reason why the state should maintain two separate ance as the result of this political unhomes for the friendless with only two rest. The people of Porto Rico are not there is why the state should maintain two soldiers' homes when one soldiers' home would answer the purpose better ment no little trouble and embarrassthan two. Concentration and consolidation are the order of the day and Nebraska should not lag behind.

BRYAN AND ROOSEVELT.

supervision, restriction and regulation.

achievements in curbing the power of national domain. corporate monopoly. When the granger movement swept the prairie states both were in their teens and too immature to frame a sane and safe opinion on the contest that followed as the sequence of state railway regulation was raging in combatant spectators. From that date their careers diverge.

Bryan became a dramatic orator and Roosevelt a dramatic actor in the political arena. The one sought and obtained popularity by fervent and catchy appeals to popular sentiment and prefudice against the money power and the trusts; the other sought and obtained popularity by attacking abuses and dealing telling blows at colossal and grasping combines. Bryan's four years' career in congress is devoid of any attempt even at national supervision, regulation or restriction of public carriers and trusts

But Roosevelt, when governor of New York, did not content himself with soulstirring perorations and red-letter decamations against the public utility corporations. He grasped the reins were compelled to contribute millions of dollars annually toward the support of state and municipal governments.

While it is true that Bryan never oc cupled an executive position, his opportunities as the acknowledged leader of him to make good on the lines of reform that he has advocated within recent vears. It is a lamentable fact, nevertheless, that Bryan has held aloof from the ulation and railroad tax evasion. Never has he formulated any measure of relief for the producers of the state; never has not disposed to take any step in that he appeared before a legislative committee to champion and advocate any railroad regulation or railroad taxation bill; and although he is a lawyer, he has never invoked the power of the courts to secure redress for the great mass of taxpayers or offered to assist others who against railroad discrimination and railroad tax shirking.

It is this policy of nonintervention that has lost the Bryanite fusion party its foothold by depriving it of any claim wanted bread the demo-pop fusionists threw them a stone, and it takes an ostrich stomach to digest paying bricks

THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.

According to reports from Washington there is to be a clean sweep of federal officials not subject to the civil serv ice law when the new administration comes in next month. It is said that President Roosevelt is very strongly opposed to officials serving a third term and that those who have been eight years in the public service will very likely not be permitted to continue in their positions, even though having made the most creditable records.

We are inclined to doubt the authenticity of this report, for the reason that Mr. Roosevelt earnestly desires to secure the highest efficiency in the public service and consequently is not likely to remove those who have proved efficient. objection to a third term for officials in the public service is not unreasonable It is a recognition of the principle of rotation in the service of the government which a great many people regard as essentially fair and just. The report article lii of the constitution, which of the president's intentions under the new administration is calculated to cause some anxiety among a very considerable body of officeholders, but we doubt if there will be the clean sweep that is predicted. We believe that officials of established ability and efficiency have nothing to fear from the new administra-

WANT INDEPENDENCE.

There appears to be a growing senti-There is one woman who should have ment among the people of Porto Rico for Porto Rico as an independent territory. under a United States protectorate, to be known as the State of Porto Rico. ment in behalf of it is not yet particularly active, yet American residents of the island are said to be apprehensive that it may ere long reach a point where

A Washington report says that the heart of the matter is in the question of comparative conditions today and ten We are still waiting for some one to years ago. Comparisons are made to the while some insist that there is no justifi-"paramount" to all other officers of the and discontent among the people, and if report is to be credited this feeling is growing. There is, of course, very little if any danger of a serious disturbdozen inmates in each, any more than likely to attempt anything like revolution. But they may keep up an organized agitation that will give the govern-

> ment Porto Rico has at present what is

Bryan in support of President Roose- will ever advance beyond this. If any velt's policy of railway regulation is of its people are seriously entertaining highly commendable, but Mr. Bryan's the idea that Porto Rico may become admirers claim altogether too much for a state of this union they are doomed him when they picture him as the bed- to disappointment. There may be justifellow and peer of Theodore Roosevelt fiable reasons for complaint that all as champion and advocate of corporate which was expected or hoped for under American rule has not been realized. Colonel Bryan and Colonel Rooseveit but this may come later, and in any are very nearly the same age. There is, event the island will remain indefinitely however, a vast difference between their in its present position as a part of our

AN IMPRACTICABLE IDEA. The president of the United States has been asked, through the head of the Inrailroad problem. When the protracted terparliamentary union, to use his good offices in the interest of the termination of the war in the far east. It was the halls of congress they were non- stated to the president that the consensus of opinion in Europe was that the chief magistrate of the United States is the best man to bring the subject before the nations of a cessation of hostilities between Japan and Russia and of terminating the war through arbitration. It is said that the German emperor is in a position to offer the good offices of his government, but he has shown no anxiety in this direction. In fact, the understanding is, as conveyed in a recent report from Berlin, that the German government has no disposition whatever to intervene in the far-eastern conflict.

When the matter was presented a few days ago to President Roosevelt, it is stated that he assured the representa- Steel Works put in the same bid, working tive of the Interparliamentary union of together in this matter. There was hope of his earnest desire to do whatever properly can be done in the interest of neace in the far east. But it was pointed out firmly and literally forced the legislation that the Russian government is absoby which the franchise corporations lutely hostile to any efforts on the part of the neutral nations looking to the settlement of the war with Japan and would in all probability refuse to seriously consider any suggestions, from whatever source they might come, which had in view a termination of hostilities. the party that dominated Nebraska for The great consideration with Russia is at least four years would have enabled that she cannot recede from her present position without suffering more or less humiliation and loss of prestige and it is most natural that she should hold out against this. There is reason to porting corrective legislation, in testimony irrepressible conflict by which Nebraska believe that Emperor Nicholas and some was torn up for years over railroad reg- of his more conservative advisers are not altogether unwilling to listen to proposals looking to peace, but they are

The suggestion of the Interparliamentary union that the United States initiate a movement for bringing about peace between Russia and Japan will probably receive no serious consideration at Washington. It is well understood that Presiappealed to our courts for redress dent Roosevelt would be glad to do something for the settlement of that conflict, but he will do nothing that would imperil the position of the United States or put this country in a position which might be inimical to its influence when to popular gratitude or even confidence. the final settlement comes between the Sympathy and advice are cheap com- belligerent nations. Consequently our modities. When the people of Nebraska government will undoubtedly stand aloof and flocks that was left after the fall sellat least until there is a request from both the powers at war for mediation and this is a possibility of which there is not at present any promise. There is no reason why this country should under present circumstances depart from its traditional policy and therefore the suggestion of the Interparliamentary union s manifestly untimely and impracticable.

The traveling public expects train ervice to be more or less demoralized by present unfavorable conditions, but railroad patrons have a right to demand perfect frankness on the part of the railroad officials. If a train has been abandoned, there is absolutely no excuse for the railroad men to tell waiting passengers that it is due any minute or to reverse to be true. The railroad that takes special care not to impose on its ence to American institutions, the work yet it must be admitted that his reported patrons will go up several notches in popular confidence.

> The proposition to increase the salaries of city councilmen who are now holding office may strike a snag in section 16 of reads as follows:

The legislature shall never grant any extra compensation to any public officer, servant or contractor, after the services shall have been rendered or the contract entered into, nor shall the compensation of any public officer be increased or diminished during his term of office. If members of the city council are

constitution, that would hit them.

The true solution of all this charter inkering is an amendment to the state population with the power to frame and adopt their own municipal codes, thus giving them the fullest measure of home Such a constitutional amendment. without opposition. It is up to the present legislature to take the first step toward this much desired goal.

Down at Lincoln they are talking about reducing their city council to seven members, one for each ward. elected at large, after the fashion of Omaha. Here in Omaha at the same time the movement is toward increasing the membership of the council, more after the fashion of Lincoln

department of the railroad is torn between a desire to get trains in on time and to get them over the road without danger, and, despite the frequent reports of wrecks of more or less importance, the decision is usually in favor of safety over promptness.

agree on statehood bills nor upon rallroad legislation. The senate and the president cannot agree as to reciprocity treaties. Under these circumstances it practically a territorial government in is not difficult to discover the disturbing anish.

which her people have representation, element at Washington and the people The stand taken by William Jennings It is not at all probable that the Island are not directly responsible for it, either.

> The Line of Cleavage. Pueblo Chieftain. Every republican will seen have to ide whether he is a Roosevelt republican corporation trust republican.

Calling for a Show Down. Kansan City Star "If there is a 'barrel' here," shouted

Not much is heard nowadays from the

Speaker Stubbe of the house at Topeka, yesterday, 'we want to know where it is Too Much of a Cool Thing. Chicago Record-Herald.

monia or threatened with it

Friendly Tip Sorely Needed, If Governor Folk will impart the secret of his success in driving out the lobby to his brother executives he will be entitled to forty-four grateful acknowledgements.

A Stendy Stream.

Philadelphia Ledger. A philosopher of the west thinks there is some connection between the president's tremendous activity in taking over the whole government and the sun spots. This theory breaks down because the sun spots are periodic, but the Rooseveltian activity is like that of Tennyson's "Brook."

An Explanation in Order.

Philadelphia Press. The Navy department may have good reason for rejecting the bid of the Midvale Steel company to furnish it with armor plate at greatly reduced prices, but it will need to make them public to satisfy the nation. The Steel trust and the Bethlehem competition in the bid of the Midvale company. Its rejection requires a thorough explanation. Pigeon-holing the reasons will not satisfy the public for the extra price to be paid for the armor plate.

Backed by the Country. Pittsburg Times. No careful observer of the trend of popular opinion can doubt that the country at large is heartily with the president in this question of discrimination. He has been fearless in his position, in testimony whereof is the revelation concerning the railroad with which one of his own appointees to the cabinet was once connected He has been right in his conclusions, in testimony whereof is the support of the Interstate Commerce commission. He has chosen a good time for suggesting and supwhereof is the unmistakable approval of his constituents.

Care of Stock on Ranges.

Portland Oregonian The intense cold that prevailed during the first week in February in eastern Montana did not result, as it was feared would be the case, in heavy loss of stock. A few years ago a temperature sinking in some places to 53 degrees below zero would have swept the ranges of every living thing, and, abating, would have left the guiches piled and the plains strewn with carcasses. Now. however, the ranges are practically swept of stock by prudence and thrift (and let us hope humanity has a hand in the clearing), in advance of the storms of the two last months of winter, with the result that the loss is nominal. Chance for many years played an important part in stock raising on the great ranges of the interior, from Nebraska to the Cascade mountains. Little or no provision was made for feeding and id as a result at least once in five years thousands upon thousands of animals perished miserably. Stockmen have in late years, however, got their commercial second sight, and the loss from stress of weather is now relatively small any season, and never utterly disastrous.

FIGHTING AGAINST NATURE.

New York Efforts to Check Grain Shipments to the Gulf. Wall Street Journal.

Last week there was gathered at the Produce exchange a collection of representatives from the various trunk lines entaring New York, and from a great number of large shipping companies on the Atlantic coast, with the ostensible purpose of devising ways and means whereby the Atlantic coast ports can recover the trade they have lost to the gulf ports.

One and all, these gentlemen appear be under the impression that New York has promise that it will make up time when lost its export and import trade to the gulf they know, or ought to know, the exact largely through indifference on the part of the New York railroads and shippers, or through artificial means adopted by the railroads and shippers of the gulf region. The sooner these gentlemen realize their mistake, the better. B. D. Caldwell of the Lackawanna, perhaps unconsciously, epitomized the real situation when he quoted the remark of an Arkansas darkey: "I am in the hands of an all-wise and un-

scrupulous Prodidence. The reason why there has not been the same growth here that there has been in the commerce of the gulf ports lies in that decree of Providence which has ordained that the center of population in this country shall move from the east to the west, and not from the west to the east. So long as the population of the west keeps on increasing in greater ratio than the population of the east, just so long will the export and import traffic through the natural public officers within the meaning of the commercial gateways of the west keep on of this traffic through the eastern gateway. It was this same law of nature that brought Chicago with a rush from the bottom of the list of great commercial centers to within one notch of the top. It was for onstitution vesting cities of over 50,000 this same reason that St. Louis, from being a straggling river village, has come to rival

Boston in its commercial activities. Nature will not reverse its mandates for the sake of swelling the visible revenues of New York shippers. So long as the law of if submitted, would carry practically gravity prevails it will be manifestly to haul a ton of freight from Omaha to New Orleans than it would be to haul the same ton of freight from Omaha. across the Appalachian mountains to New York or Boston

Paul Gothiel, representing a great ship ping firm, states that a continuance of present conditions must result in the withdrawal of the large cargo boats at Atlantic ports and the transfer of export business to the gulf. He therefore desires to see present conditions discontinued. is natural. Its fulfillment would be unnatural. If these gentlemen could move the Atlantic seaboard 500 miles to the west, or could run the White Star liners into their docks at Pittsburg or Chicago, the These are the days when the operating wish would have a fair chance of fulfillment. As it is, because Canadian Pacific and a multitude of other lines can put their steamships 500 or 600 miles nearer to the wheat fields of Nebraska than can the White Star, these smaler lines will inevitably get the transportation of the wheat of Nebraska into their own hands. The shippers of New York and the railroads of New York must sooner or later recognize in their struggle to maintain trade in low grade western export staples they are not fighting the ports of the gulf. the lines that serve the gulf, the western shipping firms or any other human agency They are fighting nature. One of the trunk line presidents says his line will fight to a finish. It is not difficult to guess the

LIFTING BY BOOT STRAPS.

What Our Commercial Club is Said to Do for Omaha.

To show Denver business men commercial club can accomplish, the Den- (that the man away up in Montana bad as ver Post prints this pen picture of the R. A. Eston, under the caption, "Lifting by Boot Straps:"

Omaha is today one of the greatest joi bing centers in the United States, and it has been made so solely through the efforts of its business men.

what push and determination by business men, organized as a commercial club, can accomplish

people who like an old-fashioned winter. Omaha, in the beginning had commer-Most of them are either down with pneucial difficulties to overcome that would torlums in the heart of the United States, have appalled some towns. It was practicated in the heart of the business sectically surrounded by competition. South and southwest it had Kansas City and St. Joseph, to say nothing of St. Louis. East and north was Chicago and north were Sloux City, St. Paul and Minneapolis. Going west, Omaha competed with San Francisco and the cities in the northwest, with Denver at one side.

Apparently there was little hope for Omaha to become a jobbing center, but the business men of that city decided to make it one of the big jobbing centers, not only for the transmississippi country, but of the entire country.

ould, bolstered up spasmodically, its principal aim being to advertise Omeha. Out of this grew the Commercial club Omaha. members of the chamber of commerce than are the members of the house. decided that it was time to do something, They organized a special excursion to the Black Hills country and northern Wyoming, taking in Nebraska enroute.

This was the beginning. As a result of this excursion Omaha business men realized that with lively hustling they could make a fact of what had been only a of eviction in the senate and the election prophecy.

The chamber of commerce gave way to

the Omaha Commercial club. Business men, jobbers and manufacturers and professional men and hustlers were taken into active membership of the Commercial club. The club secured the top floor of one of the principal business buildings in the heart of the up-town business section. An experienced man was employed to have charge of the rooms and a force of clerks was employed. The object was to make these rooms the home of the business people of Omaha and of business visitors. Business men throughout the territory tributary to Omaha were taken to this club and dined when in town. Tickets were given to business visitors and they were made to feel at home in the club. If Jones brought a business friend into the rooms he was introduced to Smith and Brown, no matter if the visitor was a hardware dealer and Smith and Brown

the stranger feel acquainted. There were frequent meetings of the club, so that all members became ac quainted with each other. Business men took their lunch in the club rooms and the noon day hour was one of not only social, but business intercourse. This brought the men together. It promoted harmony. There was an interchange of views and out of it all grew the prosperity of Omaha.

were in the grocery and dry goods bust-

ness respectively. The idea was to make

Early in the history of the Commercial club it was recognized that Omaha must and Chicago were crowding Omaha be- war of American independence. Lewalter cause of their advantageous rates. Omaha is an eminent authority on folk songs. labored under the load of unjust rates. John A. Utt, an experienced freight man was employed by the club as a commis-The story of the struggle is a long one, but in the end Omaha gained health, it is said, has been undermined for the point it sought. It secured freight rates that allowed its business men to do business in competition with the business men in the other cities.

It was a long and bitter fight, for Kansas City fought Omaha, and so did St. Louis, St. Joseph, Chicago, Minneapolis, St. Paul and other cities. But victory came in the end.

The business men, however, did not give up the fight because they had secured adantageous freight rates. They kept up their fight to make Omaha a commercial The Commercial club kept in touch dity. with manufacturers and others desiring a new location and these manufactories were secured. Money was secured, too, for manufacturers already established to enlarge and spread out

In the course of all his fight for su premacy houses came to Omaha from St. Joseph and St. Louis and other cities Great manufacturers opened big branch houses in Omaha and the city became one of great commercial importance. This fight in Omaha is still going on. Today there is as much activity as when the fight began. Today Omaha jobbers send their men all over the country west of the Mississippi river and into the Chicago and St. Louis territory and into the San Francisco territory, and their men go into the republic of Mexico and the goods are shipped to South and Central America. Omaha today controls all the territory between the Missouri river and the Rocky mountains and much of the territory west of the mountains.

When the Burlington built its cut-off from Brush it was believed that Denver would get the bulk of the Black Hills. Wyoming and Montana business. Omaha increasing faster than will the movement business men, however, sent their traveling men through the territory. Not one, but four, six, eight men went out from each house to travel in the district and make friends.

"We had to do it, we believed," said the general manager of an Omaha whole sale grocery house that employs forty-five traveling men, "end our experience was that instead of losing through the road we gained, for these men we sent out got new business. The cut-off has not affected a single Omaha jobber or manufacturer

It will be remembered that Denver did absolutely nothing to gather in all this trade at the time.

As Omaha prospered the business men of the town began reaching out for more business and they got it. They got all he rates they went after and they got all the business they went after and then they turned to other deeds.

Nebraska, like every other state, was jealous of the metropolis. People out in the state, in plain words, "knocked" Omaha, and the Commercial club knew it so the business men started in to counter act this sentiment.

Business men began paying attention to anything the business men out in the state wanted. Whenever there was a complaint in the state, the Omaha business men, the Commercial club, took it up. Omaha pusiness men, too, went out and personally met their customers, and they started excursions from all over the state into They sent the tickets out to the Omana. business men to come into town and see the houses from which came their goods, and meet the members of the firm and visit the Commercial club and have a good

Then followed the Ak-Sar-Ben, which means a fall festival similar to the Mardi Gras in New Orleans, but Omeha did

not seek to get all the glory. That was not its idea. It wanted the west to enjoy the show, and so people in Nebraska Iowa, the Black Hills. Wyoming, Motana, and. In fact, in all the territory cov-Omaha furnishes them a study in what a ered by Omaha men, were brought in so

much personal interest in the success of Omaha Commercial club, drawn by Colonel the celebration as an Omaha man. Today it is the only successful festival in the country. While Omaha worked constantly for building up its trade, it worked for the city itself, and the Commercial club and the fact that the business men pull to-Omaha today stands as an example of gether are responsible today for the magnificent system of parks, the system of

boulevards and other municipal improvements in Omaha, and these men are also responsible for one of the finest audi-

WILL THE SENATE DARE!

Battle for Public Relief Transferred to Upper House. Kansas City Star.

The vote by which the Esch-Townsend rate bill passed the house-326 to 17-rep resents about the ratio of public sentiment in its favor.

The house is constantly referred to as the "popular branch of congress." By this same token the senate may render itself unbearably unpopular by rejecting or tink-About eighteen years ago the business ering with the act which seeks to protect men of the city organized a chamber of the people against the extortions of the commerce. It struggled along as best it railroads, although such intermeddling in behalf of the "interests" is anticipated the senate, which, by a mistake in our sysof tem of government, is removed much far-In the spring of 1889 hustling ther from the force of public chastisement

All of the instincts of true sagacity would seem to discredit the thought that the senate will take the "short run" in dealing with the railroad question; for, so sure as it attempts to kill or weaken the rate bill, just that sure will the people set their minds and hearts on a general movement of members of that body by popular vote. The people are with President Roosevelt

in his movement, not to "unsettle rates; not to "demoralize business;" not 'spread panic and alarm throughout the ommercial and business world;" not to the markets. question the just claim of any business institution to fair profits, but to challenge the right of a few big corporations in this country not to even amass more wealth than is coming to them, but to hog all of voted as Colonel Hepburn did because they the money there is in the country. If the United States senate thinks in

PERSONAL NOTES.

can stand by that sort of a game it is

welcome to try it.

Even the oldest inhabitant has rothing say about old-fashloned winters.

C. A. Orr, the American consul at Bar ranquilla, Colombia, reports to the government that American money is now the basis for nearly all transactions in Colombia. As only six out of 1,500 New York police

men succeeded in qualifying the other day

as revolver shots, it is evident that the innocent bystander in the metropolis has rough road before him. Sir Henry A. Blake, governor of Ceylon nnounced at a recent meeting of the Asiatic society that Singalese medical books

varieties of mosquitoes and 424 kinds of malarial fever caused by mosquitoes. Johann Lewalter of Berlin has traced the tune of "Yankee Doodle" to 1776, at Wasenburg, the central depot of the Hessian have better freight rates. Kansas City troops, employed as mercenaries in the

It is rumored in Eur the sultan of Turkey is dying. The next heir to the throne is the present sultan's younger brother, Reschad Bey, whose years past by excessive indulgence in al-

Dr. L. L. Seaman, who has just been in vestigating the sanitation of the Japanese army, says "they go us a million times He says that but I per cent of better." sickness is fatal with the Japanese army, while 70 per cent of the sickness in the American army during the Spanish war was

Some thoughtless critics denounce as utterly useless the distribution of congressional seeds. But some good springs from them. They serve to open occasionally pleasing vistas of domestic peace. One recipient of congressional goodwill writes for a second installment for his wife, say ing: "Don't send her any canary seed That might make her want to sing, and the Lord knows I have trouble enough with her now on that score."

Will Oklahoma Take Water! Chicago Chronicle.

If the prohibition clause in the enabling act under which Oklahoma is expected to come into the union works as it is expected to the sovereign citizen of that common wealth who becomes unduly exalted will have to depend upon original packages. There are some privileges which even congress can not take away from a man.

A MATTER OF HEALTH

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Significance of the Vote on the Rate Regulation Bill.

Chicago Record-Herald. The figures 326-17 are a sign that railroad men will do well to heed. They stand not only for the vote in the house on the Townsend-Esch rate bill, but for a public sentiment that is accurately reflected in

that vote. Those who try to deceive themselves with the notion that this is not so, that congressmen in their panic misjudged the people, should consider the speech of Colonel Hepburn. The Iowa congressman is certainly not hostile to railroads. His own rate bill proved that. But he talked revo-He declared that if the consolida lution. tion of vast rallway systems were to go on the people would take some means to thwart them; that the people were alert to the menace of the concentration of great wealth, and, in effect, that they flercely resented the power that is exercised by a few individuals over transportation and

This was testimony from the Eighth lowa district by one who had evidently heard from that district since the begin ning of the session. And the 326 members knew that their constituents were with them. They spoke the desire of the coun try, while the minority were but a pinch out of the delegation of five eastern states The question now is whether the public is to be appeased or goaded into a passion ate campaign for more radical action. Wise railroad men will decide for conciliation, and they would prove their wisdom best

LINES TO A SMILE.

by advocating the passage of the bill by

the senate.

Sawney McGflly-D'ye think Sandy Mc-Pherson is a plous mon-does he keep the Sawbath? Andy Anderson—ay, he's a true Scot—he keeps lika thing he can git his han's on!—Cleveland Leader.

Belshazzar saw the writing on the wall.
"If I tried to remove it, they'd only get
out an injunction." he moodily remarked.
Profitting by the example of the future,
he was compelled to believe in bad signs. of the sixth century described sixty-seven New York Sun.

"Yes, my boy's got a position in a bank and he's going to be president of that in-stitution some day."
"Bright, eh?"
"Weil, sir, he can sign his name so that no one can possibly make out the signa-ture."—Philagelphia Ledger.

"Oh, you needn't talk," said the indigment wife. "What would you be today if it were not for my money? Answer that, will You?"
"That's an easy one," replied the heart-less wretch. "I'd be a bachelor."—Indian-apolis News.

"Why don't you try to make a name that will be respected by future generations?"
"My dear sir," answered Mr. Dustin Stax, "my vanity does not go so far. I am content to make a fortune that is respected by the present generation."—Washington Star.

Senator Steele-Now, the railroads and coal mining interests are opposed to this

measure.

Senator Shugar—I see.
Senator Steele—But, on the other hand, the packing and manufacturing interests of the country are in favor of it.

Senator Shugar—And what do the people think about it?

Senator Steele—The which? The people?

Oh, quit your jaking, now. I'm talking Oh, quit your joking, now. I'm to pusiness.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

THE VALENTINE.

Minna Irving in Four Track News. Her yellow tresses hung in curls,
Her lips were like the rose,
Her eyes were blue as summer skies,
Tip-tilted was her nose.
Yet silently and secretly
At dead of night 1 bore
This gay young creature down the st
And to the furnace door. down the stairs

I viewed her with a kindling eye.
Her hat with feathers gay.
Her ruffled skirt and jeweled hands,
And did I weaken? Nay!
I crushed her in my angry grasp.
And fired to frenzy fine,
I cast her on the glowing coals.
My comic valentine.



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