THE OMAHA BEE

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Mr. Groundhog must be credited with making good on one-half the shadowy prediction

Ten days more of congress! If, for any reason, you want to "telegraph your senator," do it

In making fee grabbing unlawful as well as odious, the legislature serves a distinct public need. Viewed in the light of prevailing prices, vege-

tarians are becoming objects of sympathy from Every day will be clean-up day in due time. Just now the prime order of business is to clean

up the coal bills It ought not to be necessary this year to put up garden-patch prizes when the products of each garden promise to be worth more than all the

prize money. Admiral Peary laments the absence of many essentials that make for national preparedness. Here is Doc. Cook's big chance to come back

with the goods.

Omaha music lovers certainly have no cause to complain of their opportunities this season to hear the best music by the world's greatest artists without going away from home.

Governor Neville delicately intimates that he can deliver a message first hand to the legislature whenever the needs of the public service require it. Now, Murtey, will you be good?

Governor Neville gives assurance that the state banks are perfectly sound, although he explains that the banking board is making a few of them "clean up." This is a place where eternal vigi lance is the price of safety.

What about the chronic violation of the rules and regulations governing the parking of autos in the streets? A stranger dropping in on us right now might find it hard to decide whether our business thoroughfares were designed for traffic or for auto storage.

To the demand of the city that it cease opcrating its cars and hand over the main part of its lines, the street railway company politely answers: "No, I thank you," which is precisely the answer that was expected. The track is clear now for "the lawyers' special."

Uncensored stories of American correspondents just out of Germany indicate widespread graft and favoritism in food distribution. Simir conditions are revealed in England and 'Twas ever so-stay-at-home patriots rarely forget the interests of No. 1.

It is just human nature for a legislature dominated by the democrats to be generous with appropriations to be spent by democratic officeholders and skimpy with money to be spent by republican officeholders. Yes, it would probably be the same with conditions reversed.

Workmen's compensation in Nebraska has wrought great improvement over conditions that previously existed between employer and em ploye. If the compensation law is to be changed, it should be strengthened and perfected, not weak ened and laid open to additional abuses.

Our Auditorium may not be spacious enough to accommodate the growing demands of the annual auto show, but it also has other deficiencies that should be remedied. If the Auditorium were equipped to answer all the purposes it should subserve, it would be a profit-making asset for the city instead of a red-ink figure in the expense ac

What Ye Shall Eat or Drink

Minneapells Tribuns.

A department of alimentation is to be established in Germany. The cabinet has so decided. It sounds imposing and it is, in fact, important since it will have to do with what, when and how much the people should eat.

After the war—possibly before it is over—we may expect to hear from this department a lot of new things about calories for the human body. In the English translation the words most likely to be bumped up against are starch, fat, proteids, albumen, carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, sugar, salt, water, sulphur and phosphates.

The belligerent European powers are giving more and more thought and attention to the question of fuel to run the human organism. They may get down to a scientific basis as exact as that which the automobile experts have reached in the relation of gasoline to motive power in the running of a car. We shall be prepared to learn something of calories per hour per 100 pounds of muscle energy, or the same thing per brain exertion.

It has come to pass that the mere interior decoration or pleasurable excitation of the human body with food is taboo. Nutriment has become purely utilitarian, and the taking of it a naked necessity and not a pastime. Every one must do his or her eating and drinking of everybody else.

This is the first time in the recorded history of the world when so much of governmental gen us has been given to the internal affairs of the human unit. Fortunately four-fifths of what is essential in the average daily diet is water. The rest is made up of starch, sugar, albuminoids, faits, common salt, phosphates and potash salts. The German alimentation experts probably will be called to lay down for the several classes of individuals scientifically devised diets which shall give a maximum of energy with a minimum of content or cost.

Funston.

Another name, that of Frederick Funston, major general of the United States army, has been added to the list of American immortals. His career, closed so suddenly, has in its record so much of spectacular achievement and romantic adventure as to almost resemble fiction in many of its parts. Like most of our national heroes, Funston came from inconspicuous surroundings and apparently through the sheer love of adventure pushed himself into public notice through following the impulsive promptings of a spirit that later showed itself capable of stern discipline and splendid service. That he attained to unusual eminence is not to be wondered at, when all his life is reviewed.

He made no pretense to eminence as a student, although early his mind had a scientific rather than a military bent. But no cloister or student's cell could hold him; from a botanizing tour in Death Valley, he found adventure in the subpolar regions of Alaska a preface to a wild notion of helping Gomez and Garcia in Cuba's struggle for freedom. From the canebrakes of the island he emerged fever-stricken and ragged, an officer in the artillery of the army of liberation, and just in time to receive a commission as colonel of a Kansas regiment entering the Spanish-American war. Whatever of fiction may have been written about his adventure on the Baghag river, it is without question that he brought Aguinaldo, leader of the insurrectos, a prisoner into camp, and thus broke the strength of the Filipino uprising. His promotion from colonel of volunteers to be brigadier general in the regular establishment brought out much criticism, but Funston realized his situation as well as his opportunity, and simply settled down to make good.

That he achieved his ambition none will gain say, for he proved himself a capable commander under trying conditions. His service in the army was honorable and notable, and was performed with tact and patience that contrasted strangely with the dash of his earlier days. Fate played another of its unaccountable pranks in preserving him through a remarkable series of dangerous adventures to die as he did. His physique was unequal to his spirit, but he never spared work on that account.

Funston will stand forever as an example of what opportunity affords the American youth, He added luster not only to the west, but to America. and for his services as well as his personal attributes he will be sincerely honored by his coun

New York Food Riots.

Unseemly disturbances in New York, con nected with the high cost of living, sharply emphasize a problem that has controuted Americans for many days. Alleged shortage of food been aggravated by extensive exportation, and through admitted storage of surplus for the purpose of controlling prices. To what extent the later practice prevails cannot be accurately stated, but that it is a factor is fairly well established. Famine prices for food in time of peace has developed much resentment throughout the whole land, and the New York outburst is but indicative of a feeling that is widespread. It is a significant illustration of the maladjustment of social conditions, too, since alongside of these reports we get word of the huge sums that are daily and nightly squandered in the metropolis in pur suit of extravagant pleasures. While it is doubtless true that much of the difficulty is due to exaggeration, and little of real basis exists for the cry of starvation, the very fact that such a demonstration is possible shows but one thing, and that is that the price boosters have very nearly reached the limit of public endurance. Reasonable profits will be denied to none, but 9 cents a pound for potatoes seems an excessive price, even in prosperous, gold-flooded New York.

Espionage and Freedom of Speech

One of the incidental effects of the war abroad is to stir up the federal government to realization of the possibilities of our free and easy ways of life. Especially has attention been given to the facilities our national habits of speech and public communication afford for agents of foreign governments to gain information of incalculable value from a military standpoint. To be sure, our government has some secrets most carefully guarded, but a great deal that other nations with hold from the public is freely accessible in America, and quite as freely bandied about. Thus, when Spain, one of resentatives said a file of American newspapers served his government very well in lieu of an extensive secret srvice.

This is now to be changed, under provisions of a measure prepared by the Department of Justice, and just passed by the senate. Uncle Sam is going to do something, if not behind closed doors, with less of ostentation than heretofore, and when war comes, if ever it does, the government will put the lid on as tight as any European power ever thought of doing. will, of course, be considerable of a shock to many patriots, who prize above everything else their right to know and talk about all that is being done, but it will be enforced as a military necessity. Giving aid or comfort to an enemy has always been held as treason, but many have given such aid with no thought of betraving their country.

It will not be easy for Americans to yield their habit of gossiping about governmental affairs and military movements, but in time they may learn to be prudent if not exactly secretive The safety of the republic may some day depend on maintaining discreet silence as to what we are doing to defend ourselves.

Passing of an Iowa Landmark.

In the death of J. J. Richardson of the Day enport Democrat an Iowa landmark has passed. In the days of the reconstruction and growth of the union, when Iowa statesmen loomed large in the counsels of the nation, J. J. Richardson was a figure of some size in the affairs of the democratic party. He belonged to the most active and notable era of the state. Contemporaneous with William Boyd Allison, John Henry Gear, David Bremner Henderson, William Peters Hepburn, James Harlan, James Wilson, Samuel Jones Kirkwood and others of great caliber on the republican side; and of John P. Irish, Judge Claggett, James B. Weaver, "Ben" Frederick, "Ben" Hall, Timothy O. Walker and democrats of similar strength, Mr. Richardson was a factor in the affairs of a day when "there were giants in that time" in Iowa. He outlived most of those with whom he was closely associated, and by whose side he gallantly engaged in many a hopeless combat for political control. Iowans will enshrine his name with those of other sturdy Hawkeye editors whose efforts brought fruit in the glory of their state.

The Second Inauguration

-Washington Letter in Boston Transcript

For the first time in the nation's history the For the first time in the nation's history the wife of its chief executive will be by his side when he takes the oath of office at the impressive inaugural ceremonies of March 5. On that Monday morning Mrs. Woodrow Wilson will not only ride with the president from the White House to the capitol, but she will stand only a few feet from him when he takes the oath of office on an improvised stand that will be erected in the eastern corner of the capitol plaza. Thus Mrs. Wilson will establish an even more noteworthy preceimprovised stand that will be erected in the eastern corner of the capitol plaza. Thus Mrs. Wilson will establish an even more noteworthy precedent than did Mrs. Taft eight years ago when
she caused almost endless comment by riding
down Pennsylvania avenue with President Taft
and by going as far as the door of the senate
chamber where the ceremonics were held. While
Mrs. Taft could not go on to the floor of the
senate and stand beside her husband as he took
the oath of office, Mrs. Wilson can and will be
near the present president as he replies to the
oath which will be administered by the chief justice of the United States. tice of the United States.

Washington has been converted into a tre Washington has been converted into a tremendous workshop in preparation for the ceremonies. Thousands of mechanics are constructing the great wooden stands from which the people will view the almost endless passing parade.
The greatest care has been taken in designing
the court of honor which will be occupied by the
president and his guests. Thirty-three architects
entered into the competition and the design submitted by C. Percy Adams of this city was finally
selected. His sketches provide for a classical
colonnade extending the length of the court,
each column carrying an urn of flowers and
smilax, the columns being relieved at intervals by
pilons bearing the American flag, and the whole
connected by festoons of laurels.

pilons bearing the American lag, and the vision connected by festoons of laurels.

At the entrances at Fifteenth and Seventeenth streets the pilons are to be exceptionally elaborate. Each will be surmounted by a tripod bearing a cluster of lights. The intersection at Madison place and Jackson place will be marked by pavilions roofed with domes, through the rockes of which a passage for vehicles will be Madison place and Jackson place will be marked by pavilions rooted with domes, through the arches of which a passage for vehicles will be provided. Immediately in front of the White House on the south side of the street will be a portico with luge columns marking the center of he president's reviewing stand. The illumination of the president's reviewing stand. The illumination of the court will be accomplished by lighting each pilon and its flag, and also the center pediment, by flood, lights placed on the opposite of the street, by lighting the festoons with incandescent lamps and the uras on the columns by separate lamps. The globes on the main pilons will be kaleidoscopic, with an exceptionally wide range of colors. White and green will be the coloring effect of the court. No other hues will be used except those of the American flag, which will be liberally employed in the decoration scheme. be liberally employed in the decoration scheme.

Exceptional care is being exercised in arrang ing for the de instration on the mant of March 5. If the plans work out satisfactorily, the city will be literally in the limelight that evening White House, the capitol, the government build-ings, the parks and the wide streets and avenues will be bathed in a flood of patriotic glory. The first innovation will be the illumination of the first innovation will be the illumination of the capitol. From the glass roofs of the senate and house chambers will came a glow of light, while the great dome itself will stand forth in striking relief against the clouds in the brilliance of powerful searchlights. The Union station in the near distance, with its great plaza he a picture of lights. Spotlights will be the non the Peace monument, which at one time during even-ing will stand out vividly in a flame of fire. Spot-lights, too, will be played constantly on the Washington monument, the treasury and other

No only will Washington be hung with electric lights and triumed with thousands of yards of bunting, but it will be serenaded by every kind of a band in the United States.

Patriotism Above Politics

The On Bee pertinently a "The Ameri-tan peol will unquestionally, without di-vision, support the president in upholding the honor of the nation, but they a lalso second vision, support the president in upholding the honor of the nation, but they 'also second his every effort, as they have neretofore, to find a way to keep us out of war without sacrificing our standing among nations or destroying our own self-respect. In the meantime, let us hope for the best and prepare for the worst." This is a most patriotic spirit shown by The Bee, for during the campaign it fought the president to the last trench hut fought the president to the last trench, when international complications arise Mr. Rosewater is American to the core and will direct his energies for the good of the nation—and all will concede that his talents are great.

—Ulysses (Neb.) Review.

Aviation of the Lowly Spud -Louisville Courier Journa

Yesteryear we called 'em spuds. They were free, universally, with each meat order in a restaurant. They were the ever-present reliance in the household. Farmers hauled 'em to town and sold 'em from 90 cents a barrel upward. Today potatoes are retailing in Louisville stores at 6 cents a pound. Selected potatoes for baking sell for 4 or 5 cents each.

Potatoes once were the mainstay of the poor Nowadays only the well-to-do can afford pota-

toes.

Restaurants, which abandoned a couple of years ago the time-honored custom of serving bread and butter free with each order, struck the free potatoes off the meat order. Nobody can blame them for so doing. Can anyone afford to give away 5-cent potatoes?

But try to be not utterly disconsolate. Potato planting soon will be begun. Before the frost is out of the ground, or at least as soon as it is out sufficiently for land to be tillable potato growers will begin—those of them who can raise the price of seed potatoes—to plant a crop that will be will begin—those of them who can raise the price of seed potatoes—to plant a crop that will be harvested in July. If the crop is a good one not all the speculators' horses and all the speculators' men can keep the price of a bushel of potatoes up to the present price of a peck.

The potato is 78 per cent water. Water is one of the few commodities that remains cheap. In a potato skin it costs very nearly 6 cents a pound. Rather high-priced water! Eighteen per cent of the section is attention.

the potato is starch. Some persons need starch in their diet. Many should avoid it. Whether you need potatoes for the starch they contain depends upon your physical condition and powers of assimilation. The potato contains 2.2 per cent protein and 1 per cent ash. It contains only one-tenth of 1 per cent fat.

When potatoes are so cheap that they are When potatoes are so cheap that they are hardly worth hauling to market it does not pay to feed them to hogs. There is not enough protein, ash or fat in them. When they are as high as they now are, does it pay to eat them? Very probably it does not. The potato is at present, seemingly, selling at prices wholly out of proportion to its food value, but if it is the fact is a poor argument against the allurements of potaseemingly, selling at prices wholly out of proportion to its food value, but if it is the fact is a poor argument against the allurements of potatoes au gratin, or lyonnaise, or French friend, German fried, cottage fried, or just fried, or boiled, or baked, or treated in any one of fifty other ways.

The fact that potatoes promise to be plentiful in July, and promise to be cheap, does not make the steak look the same without the usual trimmin's, or the roast seem like the real thing without potatoes browned in the gravy.

There is hope always. Hope springs eternal in the human breast. But is there, at present, balm in Gilead? Are there potatoes?

Another Boy Prodigy.

Master Roy Fork, the 6-year-old son of a well driller living at Findlay, O., is hailed as the latest mathematical prodigy. If you tell the lad your age he can tell in a second the year you were born, and if you give him the date of your birthday and ask him what day of the week it comes on he replies at once, correctly and without fail.

Health Hint for the Day.

Worry should be avoide is possible as it is as much the source of many diseases as physical deficier

One Year Ago Today in the War.

One Year Ago Today in the War.
British House of Commons voted
war credit of \$2,000,000,000.
Austrians captured tussian advanced posts at Koslov, on the Stripa.
Germans captured \$00 yards of
French positions near Souchez, but
jost of most of them jater.
Petrograd reported Kussians had
captured Bitlin, below Lake Van, and
were close to Trebozond.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago.

Mrs. George Squires entertained the following ladies at the club: Mesdames Armour, S. T. Smith, Andrews, Dietz, Cole, Squires, William Waltace, Gar-rabant, Allen, Ramsey, Coutant, Car-tage Courter and Second

ter, Carrier and Sargent, Charles Fratt, the popular general storekeeper of the Union Pacific, has returned from London, Ontario, Willnis bride, formerly Miss Minnie Gal



tique oak chest containing a complete

set of solid silverware, the gift of Messes Callinway, Smith, Burns, Hackney and Wing, heads of the several departments of the Union Pacific.

Mrs. Estabrook gave a reception at her residence, Twenty-eighth and Decatur, at which she was assisted in receiving by Mesdames Redick, Chesbrough, Misses Collins, Russell and Congden.

J. H. Giffoll, recently of Detroit, has moved to Camba and is looking for a location for a varnish factory. He brings experienced men with him and expects to build an institution here. The following committee on arrangements for the turnverein masquerade ball has been appointed. Prof. Hempel, Robert Rosenzweig, P. Andres, Henry Kummerow, C. F. Elsasset, E. G. Grube, Charles Metz and C. E. Burmester. sasset, E. G. Grube, Charles Metz and C. E. Burmester. Frank Wasserman of this city was

married to Miss Addie Fox of Coun-cil Bluffs at the home of the bride's

parents.
George P. Bemis has placed a me-morial window, commemorative of his grandfather, in the Seward Street Methodist Episcopal church.

This Day in History.

This Day in History.

1798—General Antonio Lopez de
Santa Ana, one of the foremost figures
in the history of Mexico, born at Jalapa, Mexico, Died in Mexico City,
June 20, 1876.

1803—Execution of Colonel Despard
for plotting to assassinate King George
III

1847-American army under Gen-1847—American army under Gen-eral Taylor arrived at litena Vista. 1848—John Quincy Adams, sixth president of the Unit i States, died in Washington, D. C. Bern at Brain-tree, Mass., July 11, 1767. 1874—Benjamin Disraeli became premier of Great Britain for the sec-cent time.

nd time. 1885-Dedication of the Washing

t a monument in the national capital.

1891—Funeral of General William
T Sherman held at St. Louis.

1900—General Builer crossed the
Tugela river and drove in the Boer

rear guard.

1912—A great fire at Houston, Tex.
destroyed property valued at \$7,000.

The Day We Celebrate.

The Day We Celebrate.

Charles H. Pickens, president and general manager of the Paxton-Gallagher company, was born in Detroit, February 21, 1856, and has been in Omaha from boyhood. He is a topnoteher in all the local business organizations and enterprises.

Thomas L. Davis, cashier of the First National bank, is an Omaha boy, born February 21, 1882, the son of F. H. Davis. He was educated at Yale and began climbing the ladder of banking twelve years ago.

of banking twelve years ago.

H. H. Fjah of the Western Newspaper union, is 47 today. He was born at Oxford, N. Y., and has been with the Western Newspaper union since Thomas Z. Magarrell.

practices as a drugless doctor and conducts the Vitapathic sanatarium, was born February 21, 1852, in

William H. Garratt, assistant general freight agent of the Union Pacific, is 50 today. He was born in London, Canada, and began railroading with what is now the Grand Trunk railway when he was only 16. Alva H. Cook, president of the Union Fuel company, was born February 21, 1863, at Astoria, Ili. He has been engaged in his present business since 1898.

Boss B. Johnson, who works for William H. Garratt, assistant gen

been engaged in his present business since 1898.

Ross B. Johnson, who works for the Nebraska Telephone company, is celebrating his natal day today. He was born in Omaha February 21, 1887, and is a grandson of one of Omaha's pioneers, J. T. Allan.

William H. Osborn, United States commissioner of internal revenue, born at Oxford, N. C., sixty-one years ago today.

Brigadler General George P. Scriven, U. S. A., retired, late chief signal officer of the army, born in Philadelphia, sixty-three years ago today.

Thomas Sterling, United States senator from South Dakota, born in Fairfield county, Ohlo, sixty-six years ago today.

General Charles V. F. Townshend, who commanded the III-fated British expedition against Hagdad, born fifty-

six years ago today.

Brander Matthews, noted author, educator and advocate of simplified spelling, born in New Orleans, sixty-five years ago today.

Edward Ainsmith, catcher of the Washington American league base ball team, born at Cambridge, Mass., thirty years ago today.

Timely Jottings and Reminders. Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. The National Farmers' association,

The Bees Letter Box

To Get the Most Out of Necdless
Omaha, Feb. 20.—To the Editor of
The Hee: I was reading in the best
paper in Omaha, The Hee, about Victroia needles being scarce and that
the clerk said she had orders to sell
but one puckage at a time. Now, I
have a Victroia and about thirty-five
records and I have the best collection of old songs and hymns in the
city. I have been playing some of city. I have been playing some of them for about three years and they are as good as ever and to cut down the high cost of living I turn the needle half around. In this way, I ties the same needle to play four or five pieces. Yes, and I have nothing to sell.

BEN SMITH.

A Protest of Patriotism.

A Protest of Patriotism.

Omaha, Feb. 20.—To the Editor of The Bee: 'I have more respect for the calci-blooded Mexicans who kill their seriously wounded outright than I have for we Christians who, by the Red Cross society, compel them to suffer long and tedious deaths by trying to patch them up and cure them.'

These are the worda! heard from the mouth of Adolph Germer, national secretary of the socialist party, at the meeting in the Auditorium Sunday. What has become of our common sense to permit such talk? And what has become of the individuality and patriotism of those whose applause rent the air in response to such a statement?

The American Red Cross society, one of the greatest, grandest and most

ditions we choose everlastingly to cling to the thread of life, even though it may be nearly broken. zation whose representatives have gone almost into the very mouth of the beiching cannon and bravely carried away the wounded, cared for them night and day in relieving their suffering, and has sacrificed their all in the cause of eliminating human suffering, is worthy of the highest praise and respect that true Americans can give them and I say that any person who sat at that meeting and applauded such a statement is beneath contempt and an enemy to true, American sentiments. zation whose representatives have gone aimost into the very mouth of the

timents.

Patriotism! We should consider it a disgrace to this great national quality of character to allow such a man as Germer to even utter the word. I as termer to even uter the word. I suppose he would have us think that patriotism consists in pacing up and down a platform and slandering our great men who have developed the resources of our country, cursing our

resources of our country, cursing our national government and its executives, or sneering at the American flag, rather than going into the wazone and trying to alleviate human suffering at the sacrifice of all personal ambitions.

I am a member of no political party. I am simply an American citizen. I claim the rights of an American citizen and I also sense the duties of an American citizen. One of those duties is defending those principles, sacred to Americanism which I heard so basely slandered Sunday afternoon. I am deeply offended for the wrong that has been defined in leasing our Auditories. s destructive to our

LA GRANDE S. HAWKE 2244 Landon Court.

How Do They Get Away With 10?

How Do They Get Away With It?
York, Feb. 20.—To the Editor of The Bee: While the legislature is very busy with something like seventy-five bills affecting the revenues of railroads and their management, it may not be worth while to call attention to the methods of the foreign fire insurance companies doing business in the state in evading taxation. Somehow these foreign companies—and with one exception all stock fire insurance companies doing business in this state are foreign—manage to smother all bills calculated to make them pay their just share.

Fire and life companies are not taxed the same way in Nebraska. The life companies pay 2 per cent on gross premiums, less the return premiums. It is very easy to get at the exact receipts of the life companies, too. But the fire companies pay the same tax on receipts at a one-fifth valuation that other form of property pay. Companies with headquarters in states that

other form of property pay. Compa-nies with headquarters in states that tax 2 or 2½ per cent on the gross premium receipts are taxed the Nebraska, less cancellation and rein-In the 1915-16 forty-one fire insurance companies out of 112 licensed in Nebraska paid \$19,-822 in taxes. The life, health and acci-

s22 in taxes. The life, health and accident companies paid \$215.187. In other words, the life companies, receiving less than twice the gross premiums received by the fire companies, paid eleven times more taxes. Approximately 15,000 fire insurance agents are licensed in Nebraska. In fifty-three counties of ninety-three in 1916 these agents reported for taxation premium receipts of \$2,612.045. By putting over this "local" method of taxation the fire companies saved about \$18,000 in local taxes. By the reciprocal provisions and the cancellation and reinsurance provisions they also manage to save something like \$125,000 a year.

In my own county of York the assessors reported only \$49,48 of fire insurance premiums received in 1915, which would show only \$247,40 of premium receipts all told during that

year. It would be a joke were it not

year. It would be a loke were it all
so exaspersing
Representative Fuller of Seward is
endeavoring to have these fire insurance companies taxed 2 per cent on
their gross premium receipts, the same
as the life companies. What mysterious influence is being wielded by
the fire insurance combine that enables them to hoodwink—or something worse—members of the legislaables them to hoodwink—or some-thing worse—members of the legisla-ture, who are mighty anxious to pose as defenders of the people against railroad rapacity? Why not make these fire insurance companies pay a these fire insurance companies pay a fair tax, the same as the life companies. In 1916 these foreign fire companies took more than \$3.300,000 more out of the state than they returned in losses paid. And upon this enormous earning they paid to the state the miserable pittance of \$19,822.50!

Would it not be a good idea to pay a little less attention to the private and personal habits of the individual and a lot more attention to this gross perversion of justice in the matter of taxing the fire insurance companies?

WILL M. MAUPIN.

the closing sentence of his wincept the closing sentence of his wincept one of the greatest, grandest and most human sympathizing organizations ever known to the world has been sorely slandered and its slanderer in criticizing it had almost declared himself a murderer. Life is sweet to all and ever under the most adverse conditions we choose everlastingly to cling different that our United States elitions we choose everlastingly to cling the closing sentence of his wincept was always? We country and my fag is my motto. But such should not only be in words without facts to prove it. Mr. Lewis does not seem to be aware of the fact that we have to make provision for the fact that our United States elition growers have suffered the loss cotton growers have suffered the loss of many millions of dollars while be-ing hindered from exporting it. (Ques-tion: by whom?) Neither does he mention that cargoes of meats have mention that cargoes of meats have simply been taken from our citizens in spite of our flag, nor what has been done with our mail to and from foreign countries, and who it was that did it, instead of trying to correct William Jennings Bryan? Mr. Lewis should give us a little light on this subject and state why he condemns Mr. Bryan for continuing the lasue which was used to elect Mr. Wilson as president of the United States.

J. DUIS.

LAUGHING GAS.

"No, I have never played bridge before"
"So I should surmise," said the disgusted partner. "But how came you to enter an important tournament like this?"
"Oh. I thought it would be a good time to learn."—Louisville Courier-Journal.

The Man—You women have invaded almost lines of man's activity.

The Woman—Yos, and now we want to avade some of the lines of man's tractivity. The some some of the lines of man's tractivity.

The Man—You women have invaded almost lines of man's tractivity.

"Jiggs has a hoard of useless infor

"In what respect?"
"He is considered an authority on inter-stional law."—Buffalo Express.

DEAR MR. KABIBBLE. I'M AN HEIRESS AND WILL ONLY MARRY A POOR MAN-WHERE CAN I FIND A VERY POOR MAN?

- PINTE SAMUELS Samo ANY MAN THAT OWNS AN

He was a man noted for his Chesterfieldin address and he had been very ill.
"You were at death's door," remarked the doctor as his patient began to mend.
"Really, doctor?" came the reply. "Do you happen to know whether 1—er—left my card?"—Boston Transcript.

"James, what's the meaning of this they call the Pan-American policy?"
"Just like a woman's stupidity to ask such a question. Americans are getting panned all right, ain't they?"—Baltimore American.

"Art inn't what it was in the old days, my boy."

"That's right. All you had to do then was to wear a slouch hat, flowing its and an old velvet jacket. Now you've got to wear good clother and know how to draw."

—Browning's Magazine.

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