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Once more the man behind the gun looms large as the hero of the deck.

Every crown tossed into the melting pot contributes to the uplift of humanity,

Take notice this is the week that is to mark the advent of spring on the calendar!

Credit Carranza with being foxy enough to play both ends against the middle and to get away with it.

Secretary Daniels' zeal for news censorship strikes an underhanded blow at the policy of "pitiless publicity."

Great bodies move slowly, but when they do as in Petrograd, the efficiency of the road roller sends a chortle around the world,

Positive assurance comes from the lawyers of the company that United States Steel is "a good Why then seek for other proof? trust."

No doubt the national weather man means well and is doing the best he can. Twenty-four state legislatures in active eruption is a hard com bination to buck.

Greetings to William Jennings Bryan on his 57th birthday. He is stronger in the hearts of the "home folks," even if he cannot command their votes as of yore.

If the people could stand aside and escape the blows, the spectacle of the Big Six and the Big Four on the mat for a finish bout would be worth all kinds of small change.

It is fair to assume, however, that Mrs. Catt will want more corroborative evidence before she repeats again the charge that the suffrage amendment was "counted out" in Nebraska in 1914.

Postoffice economy that piles up mountains of full mail sacks at transfer points and delays their transmission for days is hardly the kind of "economy" to make a hit with postoffice patrons.

It should be understood in advance that spring poets seeking the customary courtesies must submit packages of spring as a guarantee of good faith. Allowing imagination to get too gay in times of stress involves too much risk to escape

Correspondents returning from Berlin ex press surprise because Germans manifested little interest in the news of the break with the United States. Remember, though, that people distracted by war and struggling with short rations are in no condition to respond to new thrills.

Missouri and Illinois constitute the main oases bordering on the expanded dry belt of the middle west. The former is booked for the third electoral tussle with the demon, while the latter hesitates on the brink. In both states wet salvation depends on the votes of Chicago and St. Louis.

After years of legal skirmishing the govern ment at last succeeded in bringing the Shoe Machinery trust to the bar of the supreme court in defense of its existence. Of all the comi brought into court since the trust war began not surpassed the Bay State Shoemakers' in resource and fighting ability.

Russia as a Republic.

However high hopes of humanitarians may be raised as a result of the happenings in Russia. it is wise to consider what lies in the path the proposed republic must travel. The Russian empire occupies one-sixth of the land surface of the globe; from the Baltic on the west to the Pacific on the east, and from the Arctic to the Caspian it is the mightiest realm ever held under single dominion. Its population is given variously at from 130,000,000 to 150,000,000. Of these 110,000,-000 live in Russia in Europe. The ethnological complexity is commensurate with the empire's geographical extent, while the governmental system, built up through centuries of autocracy, under which exigency has been met with expedient, is perhaps the most complicated now known to man. Moreover, the great mass of the Russian people is sodden in ignorance and steeped in superstition.

To readjust the relations of the government to the people, to establish liberty as proposed by the Duma's program, and to give orderly administration to the extensive and varied affairs of the nation is a task of stupendous magnitude. It is conceivable that a group of able and intelligent men may preserve the form of a republic, while actually maintaining an oligarchy, for the govern ment of Russia, but the actual participation of the people on a basis approximating republican forms as understood in the United States or France, or the limited monarchy of England, is scarcely within the range of possibilities yet. The work to which they have set themselves is a worthy undertaking, and their progress will be watched with the closest attention and deepest interest by the world.

For the Romanoffs little of sympathy will be felt. During 400 years this family has been a retarding influence. It has shown strength at times, but that strength has always been exerted in the interest of autocracy. Mostly the czars of the line have been despots, devoid of ability and of negative force. Their place in history is fixed, and the passing of the house as a controlling factor in the world's affairs, if it may be it really has gone out, will occasion little regret.

To the courageous band of leaders who have struck this tremendous blow for freedom, human ity will give credit and support. If they succeed it will be a triumph almost unrivaled-if they fail, it will be because Russia is not yet fully ripe for real liberty,

Preparing for Spring Floods.

Winter conditions throughout the plains states suggest the need of preparedness for risks and damage of spring floods. This is made clear by the statement of Colonel Welsh, government observer at the Omaha station, regarding the thickness of ice in the rivers and the snowfall in the Missouri river watershed. Mr. Weish reports forty-two inches of ice up in North Dakota and thirty inches of snow at Sioux City. Doubtless the ice in connecting streams is correspondingly thick and capable of doing great damage of forced to move by spring rains. Much depends on spring weather. The longer moderate temperatures prevail the less is the danger. A sudden and continued run of warm winds of the chinook variety would let loose a vast amount of surplus water lifting and moving ice of great strength, which usually means trouble along the moving streams. The greater risk is in ice jams and gorges, with the resulting back water. "We cannot tell what will happen," says Colonel Welsh, which is all the more reason why county authorities should prepare for eventualities. Adequate arrangements for keeping streams open and preventing jams at bridges makes for safety and is in line with true public economy.

Surplus Supplies for Europe.

Some interesting information is disclosed by the report of theDepartment of Commerce on the foreign trade of the United States for the month of January, Exports reached the highest total ever recorded for a single month in the history of the country, amounting to \$613,553,693, as compared with \$330,036.410 for the month of January, 1916. This shows an increase of almost 90 per cent. Of the total, \$185,789,985 was for foodstuffs and fuel oils, which compares with \$106,618,732 for the same month in 1916, an increase of over 75 per cent. The share of the belligerents in this enormous volume of foreign trade is overwhelming Exports to Germany and Austria have fallen away to nothing, but the countries allied against them during last January bought from the United States goods to the amount of:

THE BEE: OMAHA, MONDAY, MARCH 19, 1917.

Uncle Sam in the Caribbean I. What We Bought

By Frederic J. Haskin. Charlotte Amalie, D. W. I., March 10.-The American flag is shortly to be raised over this group of islands, the United States having agreed by treaty to pay the Danish government \$25,000,-000 for all of the holdings of the latter country

000 for all of the holdings of the latter country in the West Indies. On the map the West Indies are seen as a string of islands, begining with the large ones of Cuba and Santo Domingo, thinning out in mid-ocean to a few almost invisible dots, and then emerging to the south again in the larger French and English islands. What we have bought from Denmark are about fifty of these little pin head islands. Only three of them are large enough to have names on the map and the large enough to have names on the map, and the largest contains but eighty-lour square miles. In-significant as they appear geographically, how-ever, these islands are most interesting, and may St. Thomas and St. John belong to the Virgin

St. Thomas and St. John belong to the Virgin group of islands, which was discovered by Colum-bus, as was also St. Croix. St. Thomas was set-tled by the Dutch, who left it for New York. Then the Danes took it, and the English took it away from the Danes several times, but always gave it back because they did not want it. The Dutch and the English also squabbled in a small way over St. Croix; then the Spaniards got hold of it only to be driven out by the French, who gave it to the Knights of Malta. They, being un-able to make a living there, burned up their hold-ings and departed. Denmark thereupon got St. Croix for the same reason that she got St. Thomas; namely, because nobody else wanted it. She has been losing money on the islands almost ever since; that \$25,000,000 will be the first profit that Denmark, as a nation, has made out of her West Indian colonies in a long time.

The history of our own relation to the islands has been much repeated of late. In 1865 Secre-tary of State Seward offered \$7,500,000 for them, tary of State Seward offered \$7,500,000 for them, a vote was taken here, and the people were almost unanimous for the transfer. The bill then died in the senate committee on foreign relations. In 1902 we wasted an opportunity to buy the islands for \$5,000,000. In 1916 we umped at the chance to buy them for \$25,000,000, and now it remains only to pay over the money and raise the flag. The price comes to nearly \$300 an acre, as against 2 cents an acre which we paid for Alaska, 27 cents for the Philippines and about \$35 for the canal zone. Thus it is seen that colonies, like every-thing else, are going up in price.

tor the Philippines and about \$35 tor the Callal zone. Thus it is seen that colonies, like every-thing else, are going up in price. This crude summary of the history of the Dan-ish West Indies gives no idea of their real story, which is filled with romance of the Spanish main, with pirates and privateers and doubloons and creole beauties. The islands are littered with old cannon, rained forts, and all the other stage props of swashbuckling romance. Geologically, these islands are the tips of a badly swamped mountain range, St. Thomas juts suddenly out of the water, like a swimmer's head. From its highest point you can see Porto Rico to the west, and an amazing amount of ocean all around. There is practically no cultivation, be-cause all the people make a living out of the har-bor. Fire and hurricane have swept the island almost clear of forest; but there is a low dense growth of brush, which affords a shelter for wild goats and deer, while a few cattle graze on the open, wind-swept mountain tops. The island is beautiful, with a vivid, unexpected beauty—an ideal place to explore with a pony and a camera. ideal place to explore with a pony and a camera. And the bulk of it is now serving no other pur-pose than to delight an occasional wanderer with an eye for the picturesque.

St. Croix, on the other hand is a rich island. St. Croix, on the other hand is a rich island. It contains eighty-four square miles of territory, a large part of which is planted in sugar cane. One side of the island is flat, while a miniature moun-tain range borders the other, rising steeply out of the bright, tender green of the sugar fields, which reach clear down to the palm groves along the white beaches. This island has fine roads bordered with rows of royal palms, and it boasts no less than twenty automobiles. Long ago it was a favorite wither resort for Americans, and vas a favorite winter resort for Americans, and was a layorite winter resolt to a line to become popular with tourists again. Land has already been bought for the erection of a large modern

Note: St. John contains about twenty square miles. It claims 900 inhabitants, but they are hard to find owing to the density of the jungle, the lack of roads, and the fact that there is no town on the islan

The other forty-seven islands which are in-The other forty-seven islands which are in-cluded in our purchase vary from such bits as Sail Rock, which is a bare spire of granite that looks like a sail and affords a home for a few sea birds, to Buck island, which is several square miles in area, covered with dense growth, and full of wild pigeons, parrots and wild goats. Most of these small islands, or keys, are uninhabited, and many of them are practically never visited by men.

Our purchase includes three principal cities of the cities is Charlotte Amalie, on this island of the cities is Charlotte Amalie, on this island of St. Thomas. In the islands, the town is called St. Thomas, its Danish name almost never being heard. It has about 12,000 inhabitants, most of heard. It has about 12,000 inhabitants, most of whom have negro blood, but it is not a negro town in the sense that Port Au Prince is. The typical St, Thomian of the better class is a West Indian creole, and of a distinctive type. He has just enough negro blood to make his skin dark and his hair slightly kinky. He is indolent and pleasure-loving but intelligent and pretty well educated. Many of the leading merchants of St. Thomas are creoles, including the only million-aire in the islands. These well-to-do creoles have their children educated in Europe, and mingle with the Danish officials as social equals. Many of the young Danes have taken creole brides back to Denmark. In St. Croix are Christiansted, the capital and In St. Croix are Christiansted, the capital and In St. Croix are Christiansted, the capital and Fredrikstad, each having a population of between 4,000 and 5,000. Fredrikstad is a flat, white dusty town, swept by the wind from its open roadstead, and is neither picturesque nor interesting. Chris-tiansted, on the other hand, is a beautiful tropical tiansted, on the other hand, is a beautiful tropical city, full of flowers and palms and picturesque old houses. It has a pretty little harbor choked with sand and mud. The bulk of the people in St. Croix are black negroes, while the dominant class are mostly Irishmen and Danes. From these facts, it will be seen that we have not bought a valuable piece of real estate. The purchase was justified, for reasons which will be made clear in the next letter. But whatever the value to the islands to us, our potential value to walte of the islands to us, our potential value to them is enormous. The people of the Danish West Indies are looking to us with faith and hope for many things, and the whole Caribbean world will watch our course there with keen and critical interest. Wherefore Uncle Sam's new islands are a more important part of his domain than they ap-pear on the map.



The growing pains which children complain of are a mild sort of rheu-matism and the child should be company of the child should be treated as if he had rheumatic fever, as many cases of heart trouble fol-low "just growing pains."

One Year Ago Today in the War. French attacks checked on Dead Man's Hill at Verdun.

Man's Hill at Verdun. Russian troops entered Ispahan, the old capital of Persia. British aviator brought down one of four German scapianes engaged in a raid on the southeast coast of Eng-land.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago.

The Omaha Homeopathic Medica tociety met in the office of Dr. E. T lien, the following being present



Prz. O. S. Wood, A. W. Hartupes, arson, Emma J. Davies, Mary J. Breckenridge, G. W. Williams, C. G. Sprague, Amelia Burroughs, John Ahmanson and E. T. Allen. G. F. Swift of G. F. Swift & Co., the beef packers of Chicago, was closeted for several hours with Hon. J. A. Mc-Shane, president of the Stock Yards company. Mr. Swift has requested the Stock Yards company to make him a proposition to locate at South Omaha. Mr. Fearon of the firm of Fearon & Cole has returned from a month's trip to California.

Cole has returned trip to California. The Centred

Central Improvement company have filed articles of incorporation, the incorporators being M. H. Goble, J. E. Markel and Thomas Swobe.

J. E. Markel and Thomas Swobe. A munical program was rendered at the Young Men's Christian associa-tion social by the following: Profes-sor E. Weihle, Mr. Gaston, Dr. C. Smith, Mr. Sperry and Mr. McCarty. D. J. Collins, superintendent of the gas works, has gone east to be mar-ried.

gas works, has gone east to be mar-ried. Mr. Moxon is a recent acquisition to Omaha society from Chicago. He has taken a position in the gas office. Mrs. Major Brown gave an elegant dinner to General and Mrs. Crook and Mrs. Boyle. The other guests were Mrs. Read, Major and Mrs. McClin-tock.

This Day in History.

1734—Thomas McKean, signer of the Declaration of Independence, born at Londonderry, Pa. Died in Phila-delphia June 24, 1817.

Seth Green, the father of ar ificial fish culture in the United States, born at Rochester, N. Y. Died there Aug. 20, 1888. 1835-Battle near Goliad. Tex., be-

tween Mexicans and Texans. 1865-The Confederates under Gen-eral Joseph E. Johnston attucked a part of Sherman's army at Benion-

ville, N. C. 1867—General Sheridan was ap-pointed commander of the Fifth mili-tary district, comprising Texas and

tary district, comprising Texas and Louistana.
1873—San Salvador was nearly de-stroyed by an earthquake.
1893—Tremont Temple, Boston, was destroyed by fire.
1895—Battleship Oregon started on her famous trip around Cape Horn in anticipation of Spanish war.
1899—Patrick Walsh, journalist and former United States senator, died at Augusta, Ga. Born in County Lim-erick, Ireland, Jan. 1, 1846.
1802—Edward Green, husband of Hetty Green, died at Bellows Falls, Vt.

1903-United States senate ratified

1993-United States senate ratified the Cuban reciprocity treaty. 1997-Thomas Bailey Aldrich, fa-mous author, died in Boston, Born at Portsmouth, N. H., Nov. 11, 1836. The Day We Celebrate.

The Day We Celebrate. * James G. Martin of Martin Bros., live stock commissioners, was born March 19, 1854, at Kirkwood, Ill. He has the tilte of "colonel" by virtue of appointment on the governor's staff. William J. Bryan, former Sccretary of state in the Wilson cabinet and now a leader of the peace propa-gandists, born at Salem, Ill., 57 years age today.

ago today. Grand Admiral Alfred P. von Tir-

Grand Admiral Alfred P. von Tir-pits, former German minister of ma-rine and accredited author of the pol-icy of "frightfulness," born 68 years ago today. Duke of Westminster, the richest peer in the United Kingdom, now do-ing active military duty, born 38 years ago today. George W. McEiroy, one of the new rear admirals of the United States



Hail to Paine, the Prophet Omaha, March 17.-To the Editor of The Bee: What glorious strides to-ward democracy we are making these Editor

days. Who would have hoped that the

days. Who would have hoped that the ezar could so easily have been forced down and out? True they have only rid themselves of a person, retaining the form, but that form will never ngain be the absolute that if was. Russia has shown us what it means to have a nation ruled by its "intei-ligent classes." Such governments are always failures. Let us hope that the words of the German chancellor are truly ominous of what shall occur there, too. He shows himself a true prophet when he cries: "Woe to the statesman who thinks that after this war is over gov-ernment can resume its work where it was at the time of interruption." The German people will yet hear the ple of all nations." Rulers and their secret councils are a thing of the past. They all shall follow the czar, a part of his own flesh and blood. But in Germany the

follow the czar, a part of his own flesh and blood. But in Germany the of opposing any person or persons, but simply a protest by an American citi-zen against what I believe to be in-tolerance. LAWRENCE DONALD. way than in Russia, and its work will be even more complete

way than in Russia, and its work will be even more complete. So in England. Long ago the ruler there ceased to be a monarch. He has become a pitiable form merely. The English people will soon see the absurdity of retaining the form after discarding the substance. Then George might become a useful citizen, performing some productive labor for the good of his health and the welfare of his family. Thomas Paine, a century ago, pre-dicted that in another century every crowned head of Europe would disap-pear. Hail to Paine, the prophet. L. J. QUINBY.

In days of old Bome pirate hold Took toll upon the sea. The Day, the Bay and the old Bashaw From the coast of Barbares. Bugland, France and proud Castlle All paid their little fee.

Uncle Sam was a honoful lad. He'd beaten his dear old nurs. For the Dey, the Bey and the old Bashaw He didn't care a curse. He said: "Til be darned If 1 pay tribute To sail the ocean free. This country's flag is not a rag To insuit with impunitee."

Question of Car Shortage.

Question of Car Shortage. Omaha, March 17.—To the Editor of The Bee: Il becomer so monotonous to be eternally complaining that one begins to get disgusted. Here comes the same old cry once more, "short-age of cars." One writer was five weeks in getting two cars, had three ordered and was furnished two. Our farmer friend got disgusted by further waiting and dribbled out to his neigh-bors the third car in small lots. This waiting act became intolerable. Now, Mr. Editor, what we wish to say: Our duty calls us through these yards every day and in a fair measure keep "caps" on this car question. I find cars that I have paid demur-rage on after twenty-four hours standing in the yards as long as three days empty, that I was given to un-derstand were in such great demand that I must unload and release, even threatening a double demurrage if carried one day over. It was our privilege yesterday to see a party turned back on cars that said he had order in for over three weeks, with same oid threadbare reply: "Impos-

The Day, the Boy and the old Bashaw Spied out the American flag. "Ship aloop!" cried the old Bashaw, "Haul down that striped rag. Hand over the 'good things' You have brought into our tollswept sea. To do this p. d. q.", he said. "Is the law of Barbaree." Decause handed 'em one-iwo-three, He gave them shot and shell. To use a term of suphony. He gave those priates h-iL do not wish to criticize Our Uncle Sam today

Our Uncle Sam today: To say he is too proud to fight. Too fat to run away. But just recall the days of old When Decatur sailed the sea. Our rounty? disg tas not a rag To insult with impunites.

privilege yesteroay to see a pairy turned back on cars that said he had order in for over three weeks, with same old threadbare reply: "Impos-nile, we need 400 cars this very min-ute." The party got no satisfaction, and if it was not the ridiculousness of the matter, and knowing the mu-sical turn of the average railroad man, I would have it set to music. I would nivite one to go with me to the Twenty-fourth street viaduct, and take a glance east and west. He will find nearly 159 loaded cars and many have not been moved fifty feet in a week. Of course, some have been taken away. In conclusion, I would nake where would the little man be if demurrare was facing him with this many cars a week at a time? I must wind up this effusion by saying there is something radically wrong. The great public is the goat. is something rate goat. great public is the goat. JAMES HALE.

Self-Confuting Arguments.

Self-Conluting Arguments. Omaha, March 17.—To the Editor of The Bee: Some good friend, evi-dently thinking he is doing me a favor is sending me Bryan's Commoner I find, too, that he is doing me a favor. When one knows that a promi-nent man is going about the country doing his best to hinder the country in its fache afforthe toward assertion in its feeble efforts toward asserting some of its rights, it is comforting to know that "his best" is at best silly and carries its own refutation on its face. Read this:

suip ann carries its own refutation on its face. Read this: "As we understand it, the argu-ment is that the United States should go to war to sustain the doctrine that a merchant ship has a right to arm against a submarine but that a subma-rine has no right to sink an armed ship. This reads more like a lawsuit and a cause of action than an interna-tional question and a cause of war." This quotation is not from the jour-mal of an imbecile asylum, nor is it intended as a joke. It is a serious quotation from the Commoner for March. It surely is comforting to know that the paper is plentifully sprinkled with gems of argument like that. If there are many people who are taken in by that sort of stuff, they Protection that. If there are many people who are taken in by that sort of stuff, they

invested with power equal to that of the Russian ruler, so far as Omaha is concerned, and is quoted as saying

the Russian ruler, so far as Omaha is concerned, and is quoted as saying that those who do not submit to com-pulsory vaccination will be barred from the public schools. Now, just stop here long enough to ponder. It is my privilege to count among my best friends several good physicians, men of high standing in their different cities, absolutely con-scientious in their work and doing their best to alleviate suffering, and I am sure this class of physicians will continue to be beneficial to the world at large for a great many years to come.

I cannot and do not believe, however

Tennot and do not believe, however Tennot and do not believe, however that men of their caliber are back of the many recent attempts to force parents and their children to accept medical treatment against their medicine, and how far from state medicine to state religion? People who believe in vaccination certainly have that privilege, but why force it on people who do not believe in it any more than force a man to take to do calomel if he prefers a glass of hot lemonade or something clee? In my humble opinion it is a direct violation of the great American con-stitution-un-American. For good-ness sake, let us remain American There are no children of school age in my family and so I would not be directly affected by a law of this kind, but if this thing is encouraged it may lead to something worse. This article is not for the purpose of opposing any person or persons, but

WHEN DECATUR SAILED THE

SEA.

William Sage, in New York Sun lays of old

so Uncle Sam called Decatur in.

And toid him what to say To the Day, the Bay and the old Bushaw When they asked him for their pas. A great big ship full of yood things Is the burden of their song. Just load here up with pusher and men-And take some shot along."

MIRTHFUL REMARKS.

She-Don't be downhearted, Richard, even father does say you'll be young enough o marry five years from now. Hs-Oh, I don't care for myself, but how bout you'r-Bostph Transcript.

HOW LONG SHOULD I WAIT

ON A CORNER WHEN I

HAVE AN APPOINTMENT?

30002

THE COP WILL LET YOU

Still thinking of buying a little farm

some day?". "Oh, yes," replied the optimistic flat dwelker. "I never attr the earth in my win-dow boxe with a trower lata I dou't dream of the time when I will own a plot of ground large enough to produce a whole can full of angleworms."—Birmingham Age-Heraid.

Stockholders in the L. V. Nicholas Oil Com-

pany are protected in

many ways — A grow-ing business — A pros-perous b u s i n e s s — Building up a sinking fund — Interested di-

cient corps of depart-ment heads-Insurance

policies carried on the life of L. V. Nicholas more than ample to either liquidate the

business or carry it on

uninterruptedly in event of his death.

been taken to protect stockholders and the

business to mutual ad-

experiment, but are an

integral part of Grow-ing Omaha. Investments are wel-

comed in amounts of from \$100 to \$1,000 in

capital stock. our capital stock. Take your time, think it over and if interest-

ed, call or write.

We are no longer an

vantage.

Every safeguard has

-ROMED WINTON

DEAR MR. KABIBBLE

KNOW!

Official notice has been served on the anthr cite coal barons that refusal to grant the usu spring reductions to the trade will bring down them the weight of official displeasure. If the barons will consult the pulp dukes they will get a pointer on the wisdom of heeding a hunch from the federal trade commission.

Prepare for the Harvest

Minusapells Tribuss Not only to give a generous acreage this year in cereals, but to take what steps they may in preparedness to garner their crops, are duties that the farmers of the spring wheat states owe to themselves, to the country and to the world. The best judgment of military experts on both sides of the occan is that the European war will not end until late this year. How much longer it may go on there is no foretelling. Both groups of belligerents have made preparations with money, materials and men to do desperate fight-ing for at least the next six months. Before the next winter or spring wheat crop in this country is ready for reaper and thresher

<text><text><text><text>

		1917.	1916,
ne	France	\$ 88,935,360	\$ 44,653,305
tes	Italy	28,428,129	16,730,039
	Russia in Europe	51,747,660	17,062,358
$\subset A$	United Kingdom	216,982,574	121,514,297
ra-	Canada	58,921,378	38,318,538
0.379,911	Japan	15,148,776	6,882,177
al	Russia in Asia	17,023,029	6,643,769
on		And in case of the local division of the loc	Contraction of the local division of the loc

Totals......\$477,186,906 \$251,864,483

This shows that 77.8 per cent of the total export trade of the United States was with the en tente allies, and that that trade had nearly doubled within a year. The total volume of exports for the seven months ending with January shows the same story. For the last seven months the exports of the United States amounted to \$3.614. 173,688, as compared with \$2,182,898,752 for the same time a year ago. To the belligerents in this time goods were sold to the amount of \$2,791,-633.072 and \$1,602,522,880. Thus the sales to the allies for the second period amount to more than the total sales of the country for the first.

The sales of foodstuffs to these countries is not separated in the total, but if the same proportion holds good the food supplies sent the allies in January amounted to \$141,244,508, and for the seven-month period of \$877,172,415. These figures are cited at this time to give an idea of the immense quantities of supplies the countries warring against the Germans have been accumulating. It is hard to believe, in face of this showing, that any of them is facing immediate want, or that the cessation of transportation for a month would bring either to starvation,

Street car horses were put out of business long ago and now the fire engine and hose cart horses are booked to disappear. Rumor has it even that the circus parade of the future is to be motor driven. The life of the small boy will never again embrace the thrills it used to give.

Our Puzzle Picture contest for this week calls for answers to the question: "What is Nicholas saying?" Paraphrased, "What would you say if you were in the shoes of the deposed Russian ruler?"

"You may as well kill a person as to scare him to death" is a common saying. Threatening a general railroad strike disturbs business only in lesser degree than actual striking.

People and Events

Once more the patriotic pride of Philadelphia is humbled to the dust. Right on the heels of an official showing that the Betsy Ross story is numbled to the dust. Agent on the needs of an official showing that the Betsy Ross story hadn't a bit of bunting to hang on, comes another official report impeaching the integrity of patriot portraits in Independence hall. The report made by Curator Jordan and an art jury asserted that the collection contains six fake portraits of sign-ers of the Declaration of Independence, six fakes of other famous men of Revolutionary times and five portraits of guestionable authenticity. An alleged portrait of Patrick Henry is really that of Captain Cook, the English navigator. Another purports to be that of Armand Louis de Gontaut Lauzan, a French officer who fought under Wash-ington, "copied from the original in the Ver-sailles gallery." Officers of the Versaillies gallery state that no such portrait exists. A general over-hauling of the collection is promised. At present the hall is adulterated with portraits, one local artist having painted 115 of them.

navy, born in Illinois, 59 years ago to-

day. Moorfield Storey, eminent Bostor jurist, long identified with various re-Roxbury orm movements, born at Mass., seventy-two years ago today. Alice French (Octave Thanet), well

mown author, born at Andover, Mass

sativs seven years ago today. General George P. Harrison, com-mander-in-chief of the United Com-federate Velerans, born near Savan-nah, Ga., seventy-six years ago today

Timely Jottings and Reminders.

Today is the centennial anniversar, of the birth of Seth Green, who i of artificial fish known as the father of art culture in the United States

Miss Jeannette Rankin, the repre-entative from Montana, is scheduled o deliver a public address tonight in hicago.

annual exhibition of the Na-The annual exhibition of the Na-tional Railway Appliance association is to open in the collseum in Chicago today and will continue through the week. In conection will be held the annual meetings of several railway supply associations. A. D. Simmons, republican candi-date for re-election as city treasurer in today's election at Oscoola, I.a., is op-posed by his son, Paul Simmons, who has been nominated for the office on a nonpartisan ticket.

onpartisan ticket

Governors and other representa-tives of all of the states bordering on the Mississippi river and its principal tributaries are to meet at New Orleans today to inaugurate a movement for river improvement and river traffic declopment

velopment. General George Bell, jr., commander of the El Paso patrol district, and his staff, have accepted an invitation to be guesta at a luncheon to be given in Juares today by General Jose Carlos Murguis, the Mexican commander. General Bell will be the first Ameri-can commander to cross the interna-tional bridge since General E. Z. Steever called upon General Huerts in 1914. 1914.

Storyette of the Day.

Storretie of the Day. Little Gertrude had been especially inquisitive all evening. Her father had answered her questions patiently, but he was becoming exasperated. Finally she said: "What do you do at the office all day, daddy?" Daddy's patience gave way. "Oh, nothing." he said. Gertrude pondered over this answer for a moment. Then she returned valiantly to the charge. "But how do you know when you have finished?" she asked.—New York "times"

tre hopeless, and the paper is full of to hope uses, and the paper is full of others just as silly. It doesn't occur to Mr. Bryan that it makes any dif-ference who starts the thing, that the merchant ship wouldn't have to arm, merchant ship wouldn't have to arm, wouldn't be thinking of arming if the submarine had not already sunk a lot of unarmed vessels and had not an-nounced the deliberate intention to sink them all. Here's another: "A man who denounces as cowardly all who argue in favor of peace ought to have the courage to state to his readers whether, in advocating wur, he is influenced by the sordid hope of financial profit, or is simply giving ex-

he is influenced by the sordid hope of financial profit, or is simply giving ex-pression to his brute instincts." There's a choice for you. This was directed at Frank A. Munsey, but it catches George Washington, Patrick Henry, Ben Franklin, Thomas Jeffer-son, Abraham Lincoln and Woodrow Wilson as well. "Financial profits or brute instincts"--you pay your money and take your choice. I hate to give aid and comfort to the enemy, but surely feel that I must advise any-one who has any doubts as to the duty of this country to get at least one copy of this country to get at least one copy of the Commoner. You probably

of the Commoner. You probably won't need more than one if it bub-bles over with logic and fact like the

March number. H. W. MORROW.

A Protest Against Intolerance. Grand Island, Neb., March 17 .- To e Editor of The Bee: I read the ar--To the Editor

Press ticle in The Bee on compulsory medi-cal treatment in the Omaha schoole. Grain Exchange Bidg., Omaha, Neb. where the city physician scenes to be

> Persistence is the cardinal virtue in advertising; no matter how good advertising may be in other respects, it must be run frequently and constantly to be really successful.

The L. V. Scholas Oil Company Micholas