

comrades who labor at his side are Swedish, Irish and American. Yet among them there are no race troubles or animosities. They speak pleasantly to each other and the irresistible laugh of the darkies is the only sign of a stumble and a spilled barrow. The clothing of the men is wet through with perspiration, all day long they are bent over and are lifting heavy burdens. At six o'clock their back bone must feel like an ulcerated tooth three feet long. Yet among them there is not a deadened, hopeless face. Any one of them standing beside the man with the hoe would, make Mr. Marcham's poem seem, as applied to the American workman, as absurd as it is.

Trusts.

Against trusts war to the knife and the knife to the hilt is likely to be the slogan of both parties next year. The trust, however, is compound of good and evil. It accomplishes large results and makes large profits by a minimum expenditure of energy and capital. It is a labor and time saving invention in methods and operation, and since men first began to work they have been inventing machines to do handwork and to lessen the cost of production by making fewer workmen necessary. The years of adjustment, after the introduction of any great machine, have been full of suffering to workmen, their opposition has failed to interfere with its use. The law of development and discovery and of combination to lessen friction is as indestructible and as little under the control of man as the movement of the heavenly bodies. It is doubtful if any political party can destroy trusts because they have all the characteristics of the best machines, even in the suffering they cause. The party which advocates their abolition should be called upon by the doubting voter to explain how their destruction is to be accomplished and by what means, under the constitution, men are to be prevented from going into business together and pooling their profits, losses, and expenses. There is no question but that our present commercial system is unjust, and oppressive, but it is less appalling than the tyranny of the socialists, system of espionage and restraint of the individual citizen.

The Nude in Advertising.

Illinois club women have tried this past year to prevent the use of the pictures of the nude female figure on tobacco and liquor advertisements. Their efforts might be extended to the Notobac company, the indecency of whose advertising posters shock a decent man trying to stop chewing and smoking. The postmaster general has shown his desire to cooperate with the women in their efforts for decency and has suppressed a number of advertisements which have heretofore gone unchallenged. The women's clubs of every town in Nebraska might undertake as part of their winter's work the inspection of posters. The very fact of inspection and interest will raise the value as well as the character of billboard and other advertising. For the club women of the United States are buyers of family supplies. Man—the ordinary man, not the sissies who accompany their wives on their shopping tours—and especially the western man, is too busy to do the marketing and buying for the household. Moreover he accepts the fact that a dollar spent for the children or in careful marketing by his wife is worth two of his own expenditure. If the woman be the careful housewife described in Proverbs, and most Nebraska women are, she knows the

exact condition of each child's wardrobe. she knows the supplies in cupboard and ice box, she knows the difficulties of the several appetites of the members of her family, and she knows best how to adapt its slenderness or plethora to the necessities of wardrobe, ice box, servants, and furnishings. The incomes of this country are spent by women. Men buy their own clothing after taking samples home and consulting their purchasing agent, they buy tobacco, they occasionally buy horses and carriages, though as in the case of their own clothing rarely without consultation with and the approval of their buyers. They are trusted to buy theatre tickets occasionally with a limited choice as to location of seats, etc., and finally as rent is a fixed sum and is not to be lowered by managing, men are often allowed to pay it. Besides the items mentioned a man's importance as a purchaser is limited to tobaccos and liquors. If it were not for men the saloons would close and there would be no prohibition party because there would be nothing to prohibit. The anticigarette leagues would also disperse for lack of *raison d'être*.

The conclusion from this state of affairs is that advertisements of groceries and provisions, dry goods, furnishing goods, boots and shoes, boys' clothing, medicines, and all kinds of drugs and perfumes, confections, trunks, and all leather goods (excepting harness), and vehicles are addressed to women and if the advertisements are shocking to their sense of the dignity of their sex, the advertiser will know it by the loss of their custom, which is of far greater bulk and importance than that of men. The nude in art is one thing and the suggestive employment of it in an advertisement quite another.

The coming winter if the members of the woman's club will immediately protest against indecent bill board pictures or against objectionable advertisements inserted in the local papers, one of the very useful and community elevating functions of clubs will be at once apparent. In the last five years bill board advertising has grown to unknown proportions. The cleverest poster artists are employed to make them attractive and their success is proved by the number of eyes which are riveted upon the huge bill boards as their owners hurry on their way. The bill boards are competitor of newspapers, nevertheless it is good and attractive advertising. It does not require a strong hint to incline the vicious small boy to evil and world weary eyes which have lost the sensitiveness of the youthful vision can pick out a suggestive poster a week after it has been hung by the legends written on it by the gamins or by the unceremonious way they have torn it. We have not any right, for greed's sake, to hang a millstone about the gamin's neck, even though he may like millstones.

It is timely, therefore, for women to remember their overbalancing economic importance as purchasers, their privileges to cut out any advertisement from any paper and send it to the postmaster general protesting against its obscenity or indecency and its consequent bad effect on the young, or to protest to the mayor on the appearance of any objectionable billboard matter.

The Rennes Court-Martial.

It is not surprising that the foreign correspondents reporting the Dreyfus trial go to sleep whenever the witnesses are not excited to the point of shrieking. A droning, reasonable, impartial witness gives his testimony in the midst of snores. The audience is mostly composed of foreign corres-

pondents whose despatches are not sent until one in the morning and who must be at the court by half past six of that morning. That is a very early hour for judges, whose long terms and the habit of reflection induces American judges to assemble court at ten or half past ten in the morning. The sleepiness of the correspondents may account for the tiresome and pointless reports of the trial. Even the conscientious, peruse the long reports without being able to find out what it is all about and where the head line writer found his information. The witnesses are allowed to tell what they think like the heroines of the state university English department students, and like them the witnesses fail to relate anything that Dreyfus really did. Their testimony is only what they think he did and are sure he did because he is a Jew and wanted to know things and was always asking questions. That must have been a funny scene the other day when two journalists of international reputation dropped their heavy canes with a crash on the floor while asleep. "The audience awoke startled, thinking, in its dazed condition, that some outrage had been committed. Since then the gendarmes have carefully gathered up all canes and umbrellas." The correspondents, that moment from dreamland, fancied themselves in the midst of a melee and grasped their sticks with the intention of selling their lives as dearly as possible. The sheepishness which settled upon them when they found out the true cause of their alarm was like that of the hypnotized when the snap of the "professor's" fingers brings them out of their trance. There is a satisfaction, however, to the readers who have labored through the reports without getting an idea of the proceedings, in knowing that they are written by sleepy men who were sound asleep when most of the testimony, they record, was taken.

The Cry from Luzon.

The Washington correspondents report that General Miles will sail for the Philippines the last of October, with no intentions of, or orders to supersede General Otis. He will however act in his capacity of general of the army and will have a supervision of field operations. "He will direct the assignment of the different regiments," though, "and participate in mapping out plans of campaigns." If this be so it is the overture to a drama the noise of whose mimic warfare will fill the states where General Miles' privileges, rights and duties end, General Otis' privileges, rights and duties begin and the boundaries are as undetermined and unsurveyed and as sure to cause trouble in Luzon as in Cuba. It is supposed by the common people that General Miles ranks every other officer in the army. And yet if he be sent to the Philippines under such ambiguous orders, it will be the second time during this war that the war department has walked into an impossible situation with its eyes open.

There is still another report that General Merritt has been asked by the president to go over to the Philippines and keep an eye on General Otis, not supersede him but just hint a more energetic campaign to him so that the impatience of people on this side may be less vociferous.

It is of course extremely unlikely that either General Merritt or General Miles will consent to furnish either brains or energy to General Otis in a secondary capacity without the likelihood of securing the credit if either should earn it. Neither of the two generals possesses a meek and humble spirit. They are self asser-

tive and peremptory as it is fitting that a commander of armies should be. Besides, no living general has made the war record written down against the name of General Miles in the civil war and in Indian campaigns. So far in the war it cannot be contradicted that General Miles has not played an heroic part. He has never been unequivocally in charge of the army in the field. He ought to be put in charge of it or if he be not equal to anything but the honorary enjoyment of his title, he should be superseded by the commander-in-chief in fact and activity, whoever that may be.

Mr. John F. Bass, the Harper's Weekly correspondent says that out of 139 miles of railroad, we have only 39 miles or less than one third. "The value of the railroad is of the utmost importance to the enemy and enables them to transport their troops and provisions. Besides that all of the territory above San Fernando is rice land and furnishes them with provisions." Then Mr. Bass asks why it is that the American outlook is blacker now than it has been since the beginning of the war. General Otis has never been out on the lines nor seen the troops in action. The maps are very poor but he relies on them rather than on his officers' descriptions and the maps are most inaccurate. Mr. Bass says "Generals and other officers have repeatedly told me that as things are now, no commanding officers are necessary except General Otis. He is the only American officer of the original army in the Philippines who has not seen a fight or a skirmish, yet he persists in dictating the detail of movements to an army in fields entirely unknown to him. How different was the conduct of the great Napoleon whose successes were due to the rapid movement of his troops over ground he had examined and learned by heart.

Impertinent Yellowness.

Newport women are compelled to wear thick barege veils to prevent reporters of the yellow papers from securing their photographs. No place and no occasion is sacred, but the poor Vanderbilts and Wideners and Roches are snap shotted as they come out of church, as they stroll on the pier or as their carts stop in the midstreet that the young ladies who drive them may exchange greetings and the customary gossip. A veil thick enough to effectually disguise the features is a stifling thing even in Newport but the girls with objections to being snap-shotted for the Sunday newspapers have adopted the veil as the last resort. Their fathers are talking of special legislation, as magistrates refuse to hold culprits brought before them for taking pictures without asking the consent of the sitter, holding that no copyright on ones own face is recognized.

The St. Louis World's Fair.

St. Louis is having the usual preliminary scraps which precede and attend a world's fair. A world's fair as an exposition or show is an overestimated element of civilization. In the city where it is held it even strengthens the venom of competing newspaper publishers. It divides neighbors, it breaks up families, it intrudes upon regular business and attenuates that of neighboring cities, it lowers morals by means of detestable midways, it increases drunkenness and encourages gadding and loafing. Respectable business men whose business will not be benefitted by the fair are coerced to make donations. In St. Louis a large proportion of the wealthy merchants are opposed to the fair for these and other local reasons. They doubt