

# Emmitsburg Chronicle.

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## BAER FLAYS LAW MAKERS

President of Reading Ridicules Proposed Investigation of Coal Roads.

### NO PROFIT IN HIGH COAL PRICES

Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 12.—George F. Baer, president of the Reading Railroad company, gave out a statement concerning the company's attitude toward the investigation demanded by the Pennsylvania legislature into the alleged combination of railroad and mining interests, in violation of the state constitution. The statement is as follows:

My attention has been called to the possibility that there are a great many people in the country who may take the action of the Pennsylvania legislature seriously, and that, therefore, some statement of the facts should be made.

First—As to the right of the Reading company to own stock of coal companies: The legislature seems to be the only law officers and law makers of the state who are ignorant of the provisions of the constitution of 1873. All the corporations referred to obtained their rights and franchises under charters granted prior to the adoption of the constitution. The adoption of the constitution fully protected the rights of the Reading company, and that these were not taken away from them by the new constitution is a fact which the legislature should not ignore.

The supreme court of the state has several times passed upon the effect of the new constitution in repealing vested rights and franchises, and have uniformly held that these constitutional limitations did not apply to corporations existing prior to the passage of the new constitution.

But all this can safely be left to the report of the attorney general, and investors in Pennsylvania securities need not be alarmed at the vagaries of the legislature.

Second—The resolution reads: "It is alleged that the price of anthracite coal has been raised since the last anthracite coal strike in 1899 was \$1.75; the so-called operators are refusing to allow the miners an increase in wages; thus another strike is threatened." This is a statement of fact, and is a statement of fact which the public should know.

Prior to 1899 the wages as paid by the Philadelphia & Reading Coal & Iron company were fixed by a sliding scale. In 1899, under the leadership of the United Mine Workers of America, the labor trouble began. It is not, however, to compare prices and costs in 1899 with present costs and prices.

The average price, per ton, received by the coal and iron company for its coal at the mines in 1899 was \$1.75; the average price, per ton, received in 1905 was \$2.45. This shows an increase of 39.4 per cent per ton in seven years.

The increase in the cost of mining coal was 23.30 cents per ton, which was made up as follows: Labor cost, per ton, \$1.00; fuel cost, per ton, \$1.00; material cost, per ton, \$1.00; and other cost, per ton, \$1.00.

In point of fact, notwithstanding this increase of 10 to 20 cents per ton, if the coal and iron company had charged the usual average price of 20 cents per ton for coal mined from its own mines, the operations of the company would have resulted in a loss.

By reference to the annual report of the coal and iron company for the year 1899 it will be found that the surplus for that year was only \$123,038.75. In the previous year there was a deficit of \$33,254.44.

These are the facts, and if any committee of the legislature wishes to verify the accuracy, the books of the company are open for inspection.

### AFTER THE COAL ROADS

Pennsylvania Legislature Adopts Resolutions to Investigate Them.

Harrisburg, Pa., Feb. 13.—The House resolution directing the attorney general to investigate the charge that certain railroad companies of Pennsylvania are violating the state constitution by engaging in the mining of anthracite coal was adopted by the senate by a viva voce vote. The senate also adopted, with only two dissenting votes, the Wayne resolution asking the governor to call a special session of the legislature at the close of the present session to permit the enactment of legislation to allow the trolley companies to carry freight.

The house adopted a resolution directing the attorney general to investigate the allegation that certain railroad companies of Pennsylvania are engaged in the business of mining bituminous coal. The house also adopted a resolution authorizing the creation of a commission to investigate the statement of President Baer, of the Philadelphia & Reading company, in which he declares that his company has not violated the constitution and laws of the state. Both of these resolutions will come up in the senate for concurrence.

### Lehigh Valley Storing Coal.

Mahany City, Pa., Feb. 10.—The Lehigh Valley Railroad company is storing a large quantity of soft coal at Delano for the use of its locomotives on the Mahanoy-Hazleton division. Several thousand tons have been emptied there within the last six weeks. This is taken as an indication that the company fears a strike in the bituminous fields next April.

### Charged With Murder.

Mauch Chunk, Pa., Feb. 13.—George W. Dentinger, aged 24 years, is in jail here, charged with the murder of W. H. Oswald, aged 45 years, of Wellesport. Oswald was visiting at the home of Dentinger, when the men quarreled, and in the fight which ensued Oswald was so badly beaten that he died a few hours later.

### JOHNSON TO HANG ON FEB. 23

Murder of Miss Allinson Found Guilty After Quick Trial.

Mount Holly, N. J., Feb. 9.—Rufus Johnson, the negro, who was arrested in Baltimore about a fortnight ago, charged with killing Miss Florence W. Allinson, near Moorestown, N. J., on January 18, was placed on trial, convicted of murder in the first degree and immediately sentenced to be hanged on February 23. Because of the atrocity of the crime it was feared by the authorities that there would be a hostile demonstration against the defendant when he would be brought into court, but no unseemly incident marked the trial of the case. There was a large crowd in and about the court house all day, and Sheriff Norcross had a detail of deputies on duty in the trial room. He said he did not fear a lynching, but did not want to take any chances. Johnson, who had been in mortal fear of mob violence, sat unmoved throughout the proceedings.

Johnson was defended by Jacob C. Hendrickson, who had been appointed by the court.

### THREE KILLED BY TRAIN

Were Struck While Making Repairs to Locomotive.

York, Pa., Feb. 12.—Three men were struck and killed by an accommodation train on the Northern Central railroad near Seitzland, 16 miles south of this city. The men who were killed comprised part of the crew of a fast northbound freight train. The dead are: Silas Alder, conductor, of Baltimore; John C. Baughman, engineer, of New Freedom; and Frank McFadden, brakeman, of Baltimore.

One of the fires of the driving wheel of the locomotive burst and the men were repairing it, when the train struck them. They were blinded and deafened by the escaping steam and did not notice the approach of the accommodation. The bodies were brought to this city and later removed to their respective homes. The coroner's jury rendered a verdict of accidental death.

### ACCUSED OF ASSAULTING GIRL

Negro Caught in Delaware For Crime Committed in Pennsylvania.

Wilmington, Del., Feb. 13.—Charged with attempting to assault Nellie Noonan, a 15-year-old white girl, of near Landenberg, Pa., Charles Holcomb, a young colored man, was arrested here by Ward, a special officer.

Word was received from the Landenberg police to detain Holcomb upon his arrival here, and on the description given them Ward picked up the prisoner. He denied the charge, but admitted that he knew the girl. The alleged assault occurred in the creamery of Harry Root, at Deed Park, which is near Landenberg. Her brothers are aroused over the affair and promise to do Holcomb harm if they can get hold of him.

### TOM JOHNSON DENOUNCED

Cleveland Ministers to Begin Campaign to Enforce Laws.

Cleveland, Feb. 13.—Mayor Tom L. Johnson was the object of a severe arraignment at a meeting of 100 ministers here. The ministers went on record as being strenuously opposed to what they termed a diabolical usurpation of the people's power by the mayor, and they declared that they would begin a campaign at once to compel him to enforce the law. Every minister present agreed to speak next Sunday in denunciation of the mayor. Resolutions were adopted calling upon Mayor Johnson to take immediate action in closing dance halls, especially on Sunday nights, in accordance with his previous promises to the pastors.

### Protest Against Princess' Marriage.

London, Feb. 13.—The anticipated Protestant protests against the marriage of Princess Ena, of Battenberg, to King Alfonso, of Spain, have commenced with a petition from the Imperial Protestant Association appealing to King Edward to withhold his consent. The federation, which has a large membership, declares that the proposed marriage has caused the deepest sorrow and distress to Protestants and that the princess' intended entry into the Catholic church has greatly shocked them. The king's answer to this first officially formulated disapproval is awaited with interest.

### Whipping Post Bill Defeated.

Washington, Feb. 13.—The house had sport with the whipping post bill for wife beaters, and then laid it on the table, effectively disposing of it by a vote of 155 to 57. The most impassioned speech for the measure was delivered by Mr. Hopburn (Iowa), who depicted the brutality of the man who would beat his wife, and declared that he would be whipped as hardly adequate punishment. Mr. Adams opened the discussion with a serious speech in favor of the bill. All of the opposing speeches partook of levity, and Mr. Adams received more than one fling because he is a bachelor.

### Left All to Anarchists.

Greensburg, Pa., Feb. 13.—The will of John Walker, of Valley Camp, who was killed on the Buffalo & Allegheny railroad, has been found. Walker was a recluse, professing anarchistic principles, which had estranged him from his family. When his will was opened it was found that he had given his three sons \$1 each and had bequeathed the remainder of his \$100,000 estate to the Anarchist Society, of Paterson, N. J., for the purpose of disseminating its literature. Walker's sons have brought suit to contest the will.

## WILL PROBE THE RAILROADS

Senate Passed Resolution Ordering Investigation of Combines.

### TILLMAN LED THE ATTACK

Washington, Feb. 13.—The senate adopted a joint resolution reported by Mr. Tillman from the senate committee on interstate commerce, which directs the interstate commerce commission to investigate the charge of discrimination and combination in restraint of trade made against the railroads. The adoption of the resolution was preceded by a speech by Mr. Tillman, in which he practically charged that the administration was not proceeding in good faith to secure railroad legislation; because he was not satisfied with the president's advisers. Among these he mentioned Secretary Root and Senator Knox, the former of whom he said was an adviser of the "magnates responsible for the devilment," and the latter of whom had been a lawyer for the Pennsylvania Railroad company. Mr. Knox contradicted the charge relative to himself, saying that he never had been an attorney for the Pennsylvania railroad.

Giving his reasons for asking for the inquiry, Mr. Tillman said that he was convinced that evils existed in connection with the railroad system of the country. He said that he had no desire to do injustice to the railroads, and he believed they should have a fair return on the money invested.

"We find, however, a system of combination instead of the old system of competition, resulting in trusts which are grinding the people to death." He believed there should be a remedy, but added that the present proceeding in congress is a stuporous farce.

"When you look farther you find that the Pennsylvania railroad at the head of the list of oppressors of the people." Hence he contended that the people were being "bamboozled" by the talk of protecting the masses against the classes. He confessed that "with such cooks he was inclined to sniff at the dishes that is set before us." There was, he declared, much evidence that those charged with the execution of the laws were not sincere, because he said they had long been aware of the evasion of those laws.

"Even the poor besotted Pennsylvania legislature, owned body and soul by the Pennsylvania and Reading, had shown signs of life by adopting a resolution as to the control of the coal output by the railroads, as if everybody did not know that the anthracite output has and has been for years controlled, both as to quantity and price." He declared the Pennsylvania railroad "to be a head devil in the whole policy of monopoly," and referring to the Baltimore & Ohio's policy in West Virginia, he said that road had practically told the public that it "be damned."

He declared that the Hepburn rate bill had a loophole in it that a freight train might be driven through, and added: "You'll never stop the devilment till you put some millionaire in prison and put the stripes on him."

### MIDDIES RECEIVE DIPLOMAS

Graduation Exercises Rather Gloomy, Class Remembering Hazards Fate.

Annapolis, Md., Feb. 13.—The career of the class of 1906 at the Naval Academy was brought to its close officially in the magnificent new armory, when Secretary of the Navy Charles J. Bonaparte delivered to 101 members of the class their coveted diplomas in the presence of fully 2500 persons. In the large crowd were the families and friends of the graduates from all over the country, and while not marked with the joyousness of similar occasions in the past, the scene was an impressive and beautiful one.

The handsome sword given each year by the class of 1876 to the midshipman holding the best record in the department of practical and theoretical ordnance and gunnery, was presented to the man who earned it this year. He was Midshipman W. A. Glassford, of Seattle, Wash., who received the prize from the hand of Secretary Bonaparte.

### LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY

600,000 Methodist Congregations Celebrated the Event.

Cincinnati, Feb. 12.—The Methodists throughout the United States celebrated the 97th anniversary of Lincoln's birthday, and 10,000 Epworth League Societies and 600,000 congregations held song service in connection with the celebration. Cincinnati is the center of this movement, being the headquarters of the Freedmen's Aid and Southern Educational Society, whose president, J. B. Walden, delivered an historical address detailing the struggles of the society from 1866 to the present.

### Death Due to Enterprise Failure.

Pittsburg, Pa., Feb. 12.—Word was received here of the death of Joseph Hastings, of this city, in a sanatorium at Summit, N. J. Mr. Hastings was prominent in business life, and his illness dates from a period following the collapse of the Enterprise National Bank. He was associated in many private business ventures with T. Lee Clark, who was cashier of the bank and who committed suicide.

### A WEEK'S NEWS CONDENSED

Wednesday, February 7.

The South Carolina legislature has passed a bill to abolish the state dispensary.

The funeral of the late King Christian of Denmark will take place on February 18.

James B. Doherty has been reappointed commissioner of labor for the state of Virginia.

Three little girls of J. B. Cypher were burned to death in a fire that destroyed their home at Helena, Mont.

Jacob Kohler, 65 years old, of Thompsville, near York, Pa., was seized with cramps and died in a carriage while being taken to a doctor.

Thursday, February 8.

A locomotive on the Erie railroad struck an electric car at Pittsburg, Pa., wrecking it and injuring four passengers.

In a dynamite explosion at Tank Point, Utah, on the Western Pacific railroad, three men were killed and four fatally injured.

President Roosevelt has appointed Griffith T. Davis, of Scranton, Pa., collector of internal revenue for the 12th Pennsylvania district.

The constitutionality of the Louisiana state law prohibiting the possession of bird feathers for trimming women's hats has been upheld.

Friday, February 9.

Fire destroyed the Portsmouth (O.) Stove and Range works, entailing a loss of \$100,000.

The Pennsylvania Retail Hardware Dealers' Association will meet next year in Pittsburg.

General Charles J. Anderson has been appointed adjutant general of Virginia, to succeed General Nalle.

The Illinois supreme court denied a rehearing to Johann Hoch, sentenced to be hanged in Chicago February 23 for wife murder.

While hurrying to get a doctor for his sick wife, William H. Parks, of Philadelphia, Pa., was struck by a Pennsylvania railroad train and instantly killed.

Saturday, February 10.

Twenty-five roller skaters dropped to the floor of a rink at Zanesville, O., overcome by escaping fumes from a gas stove.

John E. Madden paid \$47,000 for Prince William at a sale in Chicago, the price being the highest ever paid for a horse in the west.

The whole of Long Beach, N. J., has been sold to a syndicate headed by the Henry Morganthau company, who will convert it into an all-year-round resort.

After confessing that she had stolen \$600 worth of lace, Ida M. Marriner, a New York domestic, committed suicide by shooting herself through the mouth.

Monday, February 12.

The anthracite miners get 1 per cent. less wages for February than in January.

While listening to the merry song of a passing sleighing party Lon Hensyl was run down by a train and killed near Shamokin, Pa.

Frank Populace, of Philadelphia, shot and killed Mrs. Anna Jablowsky because she would not listen to his love-making, and he tried to commit suicide.

While doing guard duty at Fort Brady, Mich., Private Thomas Stewart, of Hopper, Ky., was killed by the accidental discharge of a gun held by his friend, Private Joseph Young.

Tuesday, February 13.

David E. Filson, professor in mathematics at Blair Academy, Blairstown, N. J., died of typhoid fever.

Two persons were killed and 12 injured, when a Pennsylvania railroad train struck a crowded street car in Chicago.

John Smith died in a Chicago hospital from injuries received in a football game last October, when he was kicked in the stomach.

The car body of the International Railway company, on the Canadian side of the Niagara Falls, was burned, with 27 cars, causing a loss of \$70,000.

Midshipman Minor Meriwether, convicted and sentenced to dishonor from the Annapolis Naval Academy for hazing, has been pardoned by the president.

### PRODUCE QUOTATIONS

The Latest Closing Prices in the Principal Markets.

PHILADELPHIA—FLOUR steady; winter extras, \$3.25; Pennsylvania roller, clear, \$3.40; city mills, fancy, \$4.75; RYE FLOUR, No. 1, \$3.75; WHEAT, No. 2, \$2.40; CORN steady; No. 2 yellow, local, 48¢; OATS steady; No. 2 white, clipped, 36¢; lower grades, 35¢; HAY steady; No. 1 timothy, \$15.50 for large bales. PORK firm; family, 10¢; lard, 11¢; BEEF steady; best hams, \$25.00; POULTRY—Live steady; hens, 12¢; old roosters, 8¢; DRESSING steady; choice fowls, 14¢; BUTTER—Creamery firm; cream, 24¢; per pound. EGGS steady; New York and Pennsylvania, 19¢; per dozen. POTATOES steady; per bushel, 70¢.

BALTIMORE—WHEAT steady; No. 2 spot, \$6.85; No. 2, \$6.80; No. 3, \$6.75; No. 4, \$6.70; No. 5, \$6.65; No. 6, \$6.60; No. 7, \$6.55; No. 8, \$6.50; No. 9, \$6.45; No. 10, \$6.40; No. 11, \$6.35; No. 12, \$6.30; No. 13, \$6.25; No. 14, \$6.20; No. 15, \$6.15; No. 16, \$6.10; No. 17, \$6.05; No. 18, \$6.00; No. 19, \$5.95; No. 20, \$5.90; No. 21, \$5.85; No. 22, \$5.80; No. 23, \$5.75; No. 24, \$5.70; No. 25, \$5.65; No. 26, \$5.60; No. 27, \$5.55; No. 28, \$5.50; No. 29, \$5.45; No. 30, \$5.40; No. 31, \$5.35; No. 32, \$5.30; No. 33, \$5.25; No. 34, \$5.20; No. 35, \$5.15; No. 36, \$5.10; No. 37, \$5.05; No. 38, \$5.00; No. 39, \$4.95; No. 40, \$4.90; No. 41, \$4.85; No. 42, \$4.80; No. 43, \$4.75; No. 44, \$4.70; No. 45, \$4.65; No. 46, \$4.60; No. 47, \$4.55; No. 48, \$4.50; No. 49, \$4.45; No. 50, \$4.40; No. 51, \$4.35; No. 52, \$4.30; No. 53, \$4.25; No. 54, \$4.20; No. 55, \$4.15; No. 56, \$4.10; No. 57, \$4.05; No. 58, \$4.00; No. 59, \$3.95; No. 60, \$3.90; No. 61, \$3.85; No. 62, \$3.80; No. 63, \$3.75; No. 64, \$3.70; No. 65, \$3.65; No. 66, \$3.60; No. 67, \$3.55; No. 68, \$3.50; No. 69, \$3.45; No. 70, \$3.40; No. 71, \$3.35; No. 72, \$3.30; No. 73, \$3.25; No. 74, \$3.20; No. 75, \$3.15; No. 76, \$3.10; No. 77, \$3.05; No. 78, \$3.00; No. 79, \$2.95; No. 80, \$2.90; No. 81, \$2.85; No. 82, \$2.80; No. 83, \$2.75; No. 84, \$2.70; No. 85, \$2.65; No. 86, \$2.60; No. 87, \$2.55; No. 88, \$2.50; No. 89, \$2.45; No. 90, \$2.40; No. 91, \$2.35; No. 92, \$2.30; No. 93, \$2.25; No. 94, \$2.20; No. 95, \$2.15; No. 96, \$2.10; No. 97, \$2.05; No. 98, \$2.00; No. 99, \$1.95; No. 100, \$1.90.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

PITTSBURGH (Union Stock Yards).—CATTLE steady; choice, \$5.40; good, \$5.20; fair, \$5.00; poor, \$4.80; heavy, \$5.15; medium, \$5.00; light, \$4.85; rough, \$4.70; sheep, \$4.50; hogs, \$4.40; pigs, \$4.30; chickens, \$4.20; turkeys, \$4.10; geese, \$4.00; ducks, \$3.90; rabbits, \$3.80; cats, \$3.70; dogs, \$3.60; horses, \$3.50; ponies, \$3.40; mules, \$3.30; oxen, \$3.20; goats, \$3.10; deer, \$3.00; wild game, \$2.90; fish, \$2.80; shellfish, \$2.70; fruit, \$2.60; vegetables, \$2.50; flowers, \$2.40; ornamentals, \$2.30; furniture, \$2.20; fixtures, \$2.10; appliances, \$2.00; tools, \$1.90; hardware, \$1.80; electrical, \$1.70; plumbing, \$1.60; carpentry, \$1.50; painting, \$1.40; masonry, \$1.30; roofing, \$1.20; contracting, \$1.10; labor, \$1.00; services, \$0.90; transportation, \$0.80; communication, \$0.70; entertainment, \$0.60; education, \$0.50; religion, \$0.40; politics, \$0.30; science, \$0.20; art, \$0.10; literature, \$0.05; sports, \$0.02; games, \$0.01; amusements, \$0.00.

## GIFTS POUR IN FOR MISS ROOSEVELT

Jewelry of Unique Design For the Bride-Elect.

### FIVE WATCHES AMONG THEM

Washington, Feb. 12.—Miss Roosevelt's wedding presents are now arriving in large numbers. Among the additions was a beautiful set of cocktail cups of heavy silver, the stands perfectly plain save for the initials of the owner, with the bowls of lattice work and the inner cup of gilt-edged Belok. They were sent by the Vice President and Mrs. Fairbanks. The Secretary of State and Mrs. Root, who were among the first to send a gift, selected a long chain of particularly well matched turquoise, made to Mrs. Root's own order in New York.

The Cuban Minister and Madame Quesada were the first of the diplomats to have their gift delivered, their selection being a tea service of silver. The German Ambassador and Baroness von Speck Sternberg are greatly disappointed at the non-arrival of their present, which was ordered immediately upon the announcement of the engagement and may fail to reach Washington in time for the 17th. Their selection is a set of Dresden plates, made to order, with a special decoration by a famous German artist, and the bride's monogram on each plate.

One of the choicest gifts is that of the Ambassador from Austria-Hungary and Baroness Hengelmüller—a brooch or pendant in a new design, which is almost a four-cornered design, wider than it is deep, with the centre a large sapphire surrounded with diamonds.

Five watches already have been received, one of the last, from Mr. and Mrs. John R. McLean, of this city, being a small Swiss timepiece in a case incrustated in sapphires and diamonds.

Mrs. Knox, wife of the senator from Pennsylvania, has sent a silver jewelry case made to accommodate a large portion of the large collection of jewelry. This box is nearly 18 inches long and nine inches in height, of heavy hand-carved silver, and lined with blue velvet in various compartments for watch, necklaces, rings, brooches, chains and a tiara, the latter being the only ornament not yet received by the bride-to-be.

The Secretary of the Navy and Mrs. Bonaparte have sent a service of small table silver, made in Baltimore from an exclusive design, while in course of decoration by the same silversmith is a complete dinner service.

The King of Italy's gift is of rare value and beauty. It is a table of Italian mosaic work, showing scenes from Italian cities and towns. The table was made in Florence and was personally selected by the king.

The bachelor diplomats invited have decided to confine their gifts to flowers, to be sent the morning of the wedding.

Mr. Longworth, who has been suffering with an attack of tonsillitis, is much improved. Sunday night he ate dinner with the members of the household. He will probably be able to go out today, if the weather continues favorable.

### PAUL LAURENCE DUNBAR DEAD

Famous Negro Poet Dies of Consumption at Dayton, Ohio.

Dayton, O., Feb. 10.—Paul Laurence Dunbar, the poet of the negro race, died at his home here of consumption. For three years he has been seriously ill and for a year critically ill, but he kept at his work intermittently and wrote his last poem for his Christmas book, "Howdy, Honey, Honey," just before Christmas.

Mr. Dunbar was born in Dayton, June 27, 1872, and was first a newsboy and then an elevator boy, and in his ups and downs for a livelihood practiced writing. His first poem was written before he was 7 years old. His first work to attract attention to him was a class poem written for the Steele high school in 1891. His first of a total of 21 books was "Oak and Ivy."

Editor Fined For Contempt.

Tampa, Fla., Feb. 13.—C. R. Hawk, editor of the Tampa Daily Herald, was fined \$100 for contempt of court by Judge Gordon in the criminal court, who ordered Sheriff Jackson to hold the editor in custody until the fine was paid. Last Wednesday the Herald published an editorial asserting that Judge Gordon had reserved sentence on several persons who had pleaded guilty to gambling in order that he might sound public sentiment and make his sentence accordingly.

Fatal Fire at St. Albans, Vt.

Charleston, W. Va., Feb. 13.—Daniel Leeds was burned to death and a loss of \$60,000 was caused by a fire which originated in a room in the Lewis building at St. Albans, Vt. The building at St. Albans, Vt. The Lewis building and several stores were destroyed.

St. Albans, a town of 2000 people, was visited a few days ago by a fire that destroyed most of the business section and caused a property loss estimated at over \$100,000.

### Boast He Will Denounce Doctrine.

Williamstad, Caracas, Feb. 12.—Conditions in Venezuela were unchanged at the date of the latest advices from that country. The censorship is rigid. One report is that the attitude of President Vincente Gomez, who is said to be plotting a revolution against President Castro, in case of a French blockade, is causing some anxiety. President Castro is said to be boasting that he will bust the Monroe doctrine.

### A SELFISH MAN.

The Prayer He Addressed to the Throne of Mercy.

The following example of a quaint and selfish prayer does not come from the liturgy; it is from "Glimpses of Ancient Hackney." "O Lord, thou knowest that I have nine estates in the city of London and likewise that I have lately purchased an estate in fee simple in the county of Essex. I beseech thee to preserve the two counties of Middlesex and Essex from fire and earthquake, and, as I have a mortgage in Hertfordshire, I beg of thee likewise to have an eye of compassion on that county, and for the rest of the counties thou mayest deal with them as thou art pleased. O Lord, enable the bank to answer all their bills and make all my debtors good men. Give prosperous voyage and return to the Mermald sloop, because I have insured it, and, as thou hast said the days of the wicked are but short, I trust in thee, as I have purchased an estate in fee simple, which will not forget thy promise, as I have put in a bill of exchange, which will be mine on the death of that profligate young man, Sir J. L. Keep my friends from sinking and preserve me from thieves and housebreakers and make all my servants so honest and faithful that they may attend to my interest and never cheat me out of my property night or day."

### THE CHINESE MOTHER.

She Is Steadfast in Affection For Her Children.

The Chinese mother is very fond of her children. She is happy in their company and spends much time caring for them. In a Chinese family the birth of a child is a greater event than in other oriental lands. Long before the child is born the mother performs rites and ceremonies to propitiate the gods that her child may be a boy. After birth the little fellow is wrapped in old rags and in winter is sometimes put in a bag of sand sewed close around its neck to keep the little one warm. Great rejoicing follows the birth if the child is a boy; otherwise there is an air of chastened disappointment. But good Chinese parents make the best of their little lasses, becoming very fond and even proud of them. I have known more than one Chinese father to exhibit his toddling wife girl for approval, though always with the customary national verbal depreciation of what belongs to one.

Indeed, this evidence of excessive courtesy may be found everywhere in this strange land. It is good to know that what is mine and land what is yours is all still troubling the earth with their presence. How is your honorable family?"—Pilgrim.











ADVERTISED THEIR TRADE.

Falling of Professional Men Once Told by Their Dress.

"Professional men do some things better than they used to," droned an attorney who doesn't practice if he can help it.

"That is," he went on to explain, "professional men don't do some things they once did, and I think they're better for it. There was a time, when I was growing up, when they advertised their calling by means of their dress. You could pick out a clergyman as far as you could see him, and it was much the same with lawyers. Nowadays preachers and pleaders wear attire which makes them look like prosperous business men or look like sports, and they seem to be more approachable and companionable, whether they are or not."

"But the greatest change in this respect has taken place among the physicians, not so much their clothes, perhaps, as their manner. I can remember when the old fashioned doctor entered a sickroom you felt that the jig was up, even if you were suffering from nothing more serious than a scratched ear, and you were sorry you hadn't fed a better life. He'd tiptoe in with a face that reached from his forehead to his knees, clear his throat, whisper to mother, take out his watch, feel for your pulse and gaze gloomily into space—the spiciest, farthest away space ever, then he'd whisper to mother again, write a prescription and steal out."

"Is there no hope? I used to ask mother."

"However," as I said, that's all gone by. They're cheerful and breezy when they appear, an odor of fresh air and maybe the smell of a cigar are clinging to them, and they laugh at your fears and talk out loud. That's a sight better than medicine in most cases. The trouble is I don't often have the luck to be ill lately."—Providence Journal.

TROT OR GALLOP?

A Problem For People With Even Very Sharp Eyes.

Here is a problem for people with sharp eyes: As we all know, a horse when walking or trotting advances only one leg of each pair at a time, but when galloping lifts both forefeet together and then both hind feet. Now, the question is how other animals manage this matter.

The wings together, but which limbs run and which hop? We human beings "trot" when we walk and "gallop" when we swim—that is, if we are using the plain breast stroke. The dog, however, "trots" for both. Now, do the amphibious animals—the seals, otters and the rest—swim like men or like other four footed creatures?

Then there are the fish. One would rather expect that, as they move their tails from side to side, they would flap alternately with the fins, which are their hands and feet. Who can tell whether they do or not, and whether all fish at all times follow one rule? By the way, how does a frog use its "hands"? The great anatomist, E. Ray Lankester, has pointed out that, while the "thousand legs," such as our common galley worm, advance two feet of a pair together, the centipedes, which are much like them, do exactly the opposite, and the swimming worms also alternate the stroke of each pair of paddles.

Few people can tell on which system the caterpillar manages its dozen or so legs of whether the adult insect walks, trots, paces or gallops on its six. How does the spider use eight? Altogether, this is a large field for observation, a field, too, where any one may discover new facts as yet unrecorded, and thus add to the store of knowledge.

The Breathing Earth.

That the earth breathes is a well known scientific fact. It is often to be verified by that peculiar earthy smell which arises immediately after a thunderstorm, the lowering of the barometric pressure causing the flow upward of air, just as it is once more squeezed downward when the barometer rises. A resident of Geneva discovered a natural barometer at Ferney-Voltaire. It is a deep natural well or cave with a very small opening. When this opening is made small enough just to fit a whistle the different sounds as the earth inhales or exhales the air warp the neighbors of the coming weather. A lighted match or a feather shows the direction of the flow as well. It is said to be an excellent weather prophet.

A Dowry on Approval.

A curious custom prevails among Roumanian peasants. When a Roumanian girl is of a marriageable age, all her trousseau, which has been carefully woven, spun and embroidered by her mother and herself, is placed in a painted wooden box. When a young man thinks of asking to the girl he is at liberty at first to open the box, which is always placed conveniently at hand, and examine the trousseau. If the suitor is satisfied with the quantity and quality of the dowry he makes a formal application for the girl's hand, but if, on the contrary, the trousseau does not please him, he is quite at liberty to retire.

Map and His Valet.

"I never saw a man so entirely dependent on his valet."

"Quite helpless without him, eh?"

"Quite helpless. Mabel told me that when he came to propose he brought his valet with him."

"What was that for?"

"Why, when he reached the proper place his valet spread a hemstitched handkerchief on the floor for him to kneel upon."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Diplomatically Put.

"I am afraid you are absolutely governed by your wife."

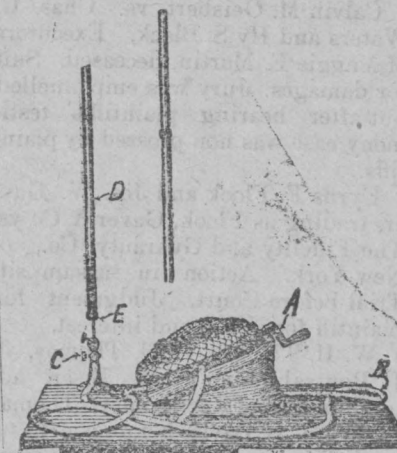
"No," answered Mr. Meekton, who had been reading the foreign news, "I'm not absolutely governed by her, but I must admit that I am very much within her sphere of influence."—Washington Star.

FARM GARDEN

SELECTING SEED.

An Easy Means of Improving the Tobacco Crop.

The increase in the yield of corn and wheat which has resulted from careful seed selection and breeding is considered evidence of the possibility of securing a like improvement in the tobacco crop through similar methods. A. D. Shamel of the department of agriculture has suggested a satisfactory means of separating light from heavy seed the use of a current of air as follows:



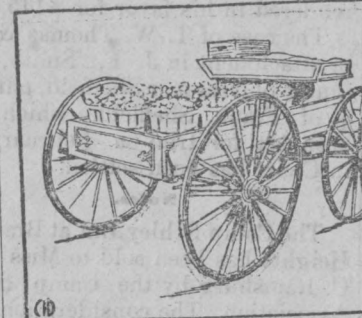
SEED SEPARATING APPARATUS.

A simple and effective device for the purpose is shown in the figure. The material necessary for constructing this machine can be obtained by tobacco growers from almost any chemical supply house. The foot bellows (A) is connected by means of a rubber tube (B) to the valve tube (C). The glass tube (D) is fitted with a rubber cork (E), in which the valve tube is inserted. The top of the cork is covered with a piece of finely woven gauze in order to prevent the seeds from entering the valve tube. About an ounce of seed for separation is placed in the glass tube, and a current of air is injected by means of the foot bellows. The strength of this current must be regulated by the valve (C) so that only the dirt, chaff and light seed will be blown out of the top of the tube. It is advisable to screen out all of the large particles of hulls and trash before putting the seed in the tube.

It is claimed to be easily within the reach of every tobacco grower to select his seed plants in the manner outlined and to thereby improve his crop without any extra expense and very little labor.

Get Tomatoes Into Market Early.

Last season M. L. Brown of Hampden county, Mass., marketed \$300 worth of tomatoes from a patch of less than three-fourths of an acre of land.



READY TO GO TO MARKET.

The majority of them were taken to a nearby city in the manner pictured, says New England Homestead.

For the first fifty-four baskets he received \$60. Mr. Brown says the thing to do is to get the tomatoes into market as early in the season as possible. The vines received no special attention other than cultivation. The Dwarf Champion variety gives him best results.

Manure Spreader.

In a recent prize contest American Agriculturist asked farmers to state what implements they most needed on their farms. It now reports that almost three out of every four of the 700 farmers who sent replies to the question said they wanted a manure spreader. Either they had none, or having an old one and recognizing its value in labor saving and profit making, they wanted a new one. Another point about this particular implement is that the demand for it, as shown in this inquiry, is relatively as great in the central west as in the middle or New England states. The call for gasoline engines, telephones, etc., is almost equally great.

A Point in the Cotton Problem.

If the Cotton Growers' association can succeed in holding back the staple in increasing the market price to 15 cents a pound and holding it there for two or three months it will be useless to advise decreased acreage in cotton. Next season's crop will be a record breaker sure enough if such big prices prevail during the planting season.—San Antonio Express.

Corn in Kansas.

Speaking in round numbers, the state (Kansas) has in the last twenty years raised about 3,000,000,000 bushels of corn, worth on the farms where grown over \$550,000,000. In Kansas corn is the monarch of her many cereals and the barometer of her prosperity.—Columbia.

For Young Turkey Chicks.

J. C. Clipp of Virginia recommends for young turkey chicks sweet milk and raw eggs about twice a week. In place of hard boiled eggs and sour milk curd. Millet and whole wheat he regards as the most satisfactory grains for turkey chicks.

Old Greenwich Village.

Of that part of New York city known as Greenwich village, situated on the lower west side, the Four Track News says: Older as a village site than Fort Amsterdam itself is that of Greenwich village. Here, when Hudson steered the Half Moon through the narrows, was the Indian village of Sapponack, on a high and healthy spot watered by Bestavar's kill, the same Minetta brook that until late in the last century ran above ground instead of below as now across Union and Washington squares and into the Hudson near Houston street.

CHINESE ART IN STONE.

Its Best Examples and Some of Its Greatest Defects.

The spirit of purely Chinese art in stone is shown in work such as the great monolith figures of animals and warriors which flank the approach to the tombs of the Ming dynasty and in the perfectly plain structures designed for the tombs of the present dynasty.

These are composed of enormous blocks of stone brought with infinite labor from distant quarries over roads and bridges which are hardly capable of sustaining ordinary cart traffic and have always to be specially prepared to prevent the great weights causing their collapse.

The same admiration for the employment of huge blocks of stone is seen in the case of the bridges over the rivers along the coast of South Fuhien, where the stone slabs used in the construction occasionally measure sixty feet in length and are estimated to weigh nearly 120 tons, and the bridges themselves have a length of 1,000 to 2,000 yards.

In almost all cases where the buildings are not of solid construction the weight of the blocks employed has placed a strain upon the supports which the architect's skill was not competent to provide against, and with the lapse of time the melancholy spectacle is seen of slabs fallen from their places and of noble and costly structures approaching ruin. In some cases the interdependence of the arches leads to the same result. One notable instance of this occurred during Colonel Gordon's campaign against the Taipings, when to allow of the passage of his small steamers it was necessary to make a gap in a bridge of over twenty arches, and arch after arch collapsed immediately after the passage of his small flotilla.—London Saturday Review.

AVERAGE HUMANITY.

Most People Are Not Very Good Nor Yet Very Bad.

What do we mean by a good man or a bad one, a good woman or a bad one? Most people, like the young man in the song, are "not very good, nor yet very bad." We move about the pastures of life in huge herds, and all do the same things at the same times and for the same reasons. Forty feeding like one? Argue we mean? Well, we have done some mean things in our time. Are we generous? Occasionally we are. Were we good sons or dutiful daughters? We have both honored and dishonored our parents, who in their turn had done the same by theirs. Do we melt at the sight of misery? Indeed we do. Do we forget all about it when we have turned the corner? Frequently that is so. Do we expect the great day of judgment? We should be terribly frightened if this did not cling to the hope that amid the shocking revelations then for the first time made public our little affairs may fail to attract much notice.

Judged by the standards of humanity, few people are either good or bad. "I have not been a great sinner," said the dying Nelson; nor had he—he had only been made a great fool of by a woman. Mankind is all tarred with the same brush, though some who chance to be operated upon when the brush is fresh from the barrel get more than their share of the tar. The biography of a celebrated man usually reminds me of the outside of a coast guardsman's cottage—all tar and whitewash.—Essays of Augustine Birrell.

Budapest.

"Americans know absolutely nothing of one of the greatest cities of all Europe," said a returned traveler. "I refer to Budapest. Do you believe it has over three-quarters of a million inhabitants and is foremost in many of the arts and sciences? Take my word for it. Why, it has a university with nearly 5,000 students and 230 professors. The trolley was developed in Budapest. Most of the population is Magyar. Buda has the finest Jewish synagogue in the empire. The Danube, dividing Buda from Pest, is a beautiful stream, spanned by magnificent bridges. The largest electrical works in all Europe are in this wonderful city."—New York Press.

The Crab as a Fisherman.

The crab sometimes catches a fish, and it catches it without hook and line. It lies in wait, perhaps in some creek, with its jaws extended in front and open. Perhaps a school of killifish comes along, and it may be that a killifish on the outskirts of the school may swim unsuspiciously along through the clear water between the upper and lower parts of one of the motionless open claws of the crab. When it is well within them the claw suddenly snaps together and that particular little killifish goes no farther.

The Right of Way.

In the early days of western railway building, days not so long gone by as to be out of memory, there were many exciting races between rival roads for the possession of important mountain passes. Such a race, says the World's Work, was that between the Santa Fe and the Rio Grande roads for the right of way through Raton pass to New Mexico and the southwest.

Engineers and construction gangs worked in mad haste to get it ahead of their rivals. The victory fell to the chief of the Santa Fe. When the Rio Grande cohorts arrived they found him alone in one of the big gorges, shovel in hand, silencing earth from an 8,000 foot hill.

"What are you doing here?" they asked.

"Constructing a railroad," he replied. "He turned another shovel of dirt, dropped the tool and hitched up his heavy cartridge belt."

"Any one who interferes with the Santa Fe does it at his own risk," he said quietly.

First the Rio Grande men laughed, and then they raced, and then they turned and went away. Their road was cut off from the south forever.

Life Sentence.

"Poverty's no crime."

"It ain't? Then why is it punishable by hard labor?"—Cleveland Leader.

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Chas. C. Fulton & Co.

FELIX AGNUS, Manager and Publisher.

AMERICAN CITY, MD.

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WANT TO MEET OPERATORS

Miners Put Question of Strike Up to Coal Barons.

Shamokin, Pa., Dec. 16.—The anthracite miners have made their lead and have placed the burden of the question whether or not there will be a strike up to the operators.

In a closed session of the convention here the report of the scale committee was made and adopted by the delegates. The report recommended the delegation of a committee to meet the operators' representatives and confer upon an agreement to govern wages, hours of labor and other conditions of employment. The result of the endeavors of this committee is to be made known to the miners for approval or rejection at a convention to be