THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC
ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.
WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL, PUBS.

BIRMINGHAM, FRIDAY, APRIL 10.

"Nothing doing" would be a new and original epitaph.

And speaking of get-rich-quick concerns, what about Wall street?

Perhaps Casey resigned to see if they wouldn't hear him a raise of salary to stay.

There being little doing in the foreign office, John Bull sent in another warning to Abdul Hamid.

If the coffin-makers all strike, people may have to postpone the sad necessity of life—which is leaving it.

A West Virginia police judge has decided that a negro's hoid is a "dangerous and deadly weapon." Goat, too!

The American people drank more than $70,000,000 worth of coffee last year, but slept fairly well in spite of it.

When a girl says she thinks she can keep house on $10 a week you take your life in your hand if you continue to call.

Some people are still foolish enough to waste time in trying to convince the women that they ought not to wear corsets.

The general opinion among the ladies seems to be that Mrs. Harbold will be a real mean thing if she tries the $25,000.

Seven hundred different dialects are spoken by the natives of Africa. That will be a great place for the dialect poet some day.

Lizzie Romance was the name of the maid in the service of Mrs. Pennell of Buffalo. Did you think it was Mary Ann Tragedy?

The case of the defunct Jingo was certainly one in which the insurance company may be said to have had an elephant on its hands.

The discovery of the English scientist that a fish diet has no value as a brain food should at least rid the world of that old joke about eating a whale.

Mme. Roger-Miclos, the newly arrived French celebrity who plays the piano, announces that she has no pet dogs or cats. Hurrah for Mme. Roger-Miclos!

The census of the most populous nation in the world has just been taken and it shows a population of 426,477,000, which is six times that of the United States.

"Dry" smoking is recommended as a cure for insomnia. For persons trying to go to sleep they can be recommended, also, as being much safer than real smoking.

Said to be a literal copy of a sign in a western city: "Latimer & Cranmer. Fuel of All Kinds. Kindling Wood a Specialty." Wonder where they got their stake.

They have as many as 140 religious holidays in a year in Russia. No wonder the Russian workman and farmer finds it hard to compete with the rest of the world.

A novelist is to go on the stage to learn how to write plays. Now if some players would go some place to learn how to write novels the proper balance might be preserved.

Czar Nicholas' method of going about the task of borrowing $100,000,000 shows that in the art of "touching" he has a good deal to learn from his neighbor, the sultan.

Persons familiar only with the English language may not know what a ukase is, but judging from the one recently issued by the czar they may conclude that it is a gold brick.

The Syracuse clergyman who declares that women's clubs are responsible for the destruction of domestic happiness thinks, perhaps, that men's clubs have a tendency to make home life happier.

As to J. Pierpont Morgan and his personal property, if he paid $7,000,000 for the art treasures he has in Europe the presumption is that he was taxed pretty heavily by the dealers who sold them to him.

An English astronomer says the moon has a slight atmosphere and some insignificant rivers. There are people in Arkansas and some of the other low places along the Mississippi who would probably be very glad to find out how the moon has managed it.

Those unmarried women of London who have organized a "Society for the Promotion of Indifference to Man" seem to have made a fatal error. Why flatter that conceited creature man by giving him to believe that any such promotion is needed?

The Chicago alumni of Augustana College has declared that "we must take woman as she is." That's what most of us have been doing right along, and we have been glad to get her on her own terms.

The mayor of Baltimore, who is 50 years old and a bachelor, says he will get married if the people will give him another term. Once the office-holding habit fastens itself upon a man he will do almost anything rather than try to shake it off.

A new cure for tuberculosis consists in inoculating children with a serum as soon as possible after they are born. Is it any wonder that some parents are pondering the wisdom of bringing children into a world so full of experimentation and inoculation?

Michigan Items

State Happenings Succinctly Told by Our Special Correspondents.

TO INSPECT NATIONAL GUARD.

Federal Army Officers Will Be Detailed Under Dick Bill.

Adjt.-Gen. Brown has been notified by the adjutant-general of the army that the commanding officers of the various departments of the army have been instructed to detail inspecting officers to examine the national guard of the several states under the provisions of the Dick bill, in co-operation with the adjutant-generals of the states. The names of these inspecting officers will soon be made public and the inspections held. No other information has been received from the secretary of war regarding the encampment of the state troops at the regular army rendezvous.

Resentful Coal Dealers.

One of the things the city administration at Lansing had to contend with in the recent political campaign is the fact that it established a municipal coal yard last winter and sold coal to the people at cost. While the amount of coal disposed of was not large, the presence of the municipal coal pile kept down the prices in Lansing and made it easier for the poor to get fuel. One coal dealer is claimed to have said that "the fact that a city coal yard was established cheated him out of hundreds of dollars."

Albino Birds.

Tekonsha citizens are considerably interested by the appearance of a white robin and a white sparrow among the spring birds. The sparrow especially is an exceedingly rare specimen, one never having been seen before in Michigan, so far as is known. It resembles the common English sparrow in every respect except its plumage. The feathers are entirely white, excepting the tips of the wings and a black circle around its neck.

Money in Peas.

Farmers around Central Lake don't go much on sugar beets, but when it comes to seed peas they are in. It will take thirty carloads of seed to plant the acreage in the immediate vicinity of the village this spring. The peas are grown under contract, and about $50 an acre is cleaned up by the growers.

Tumor in Child's Throat.

For several months a growth has been forming in the throat of a 7-year-old child named McEvery, whose parents live at Bay City. The trouble became so bad that an operation was performed upon the child and the growth, which proved to be a tumor, was removed.

Field Stone.

A new industry has sprung up in the neighborhood of Chilson. Cincinnati parties are gathering up all the field stone they can get and shipping them to that city. They pay nothing for the stone, but are employing quite a number of men and teams at good wages gathering and delivering them at Chilson.

Delinquent Tax Roll.

Bay county's delinquent tax roll is $45,766, the smallest in years. The state tax of $25,833 was collected with the exception of $3,322, and the county tax of $30,874 has $3,969 outstanding. The balance comprises over half a dozen different taxes, including city and school.

Boy Till Tappers.

Five Bay City boys have been sent to the county jail for thirty days each for tapping tills. Some of the thefts ran up as high as $10 at a time. All their stealings were used in slot machines.

Marketing Potatoes.

Potatoes are being rapidly hauled in by the farmers around Kingsley and are selling for thirty-five to forty cents with prospects of the market being closed early this year.

'Phone Girls Are Quick.

The manager of the Citizens' Telephone exchange at Lansing says the girls of his office answer calls on an average of two and a half seconds.

To Build New School.

The present schoolhouse at Shepherd, which was built twenty-five years ago, will be replaced this summer by a $12,000 brick structure.

State Land Office Receipts.

The receipts of the state land office during March amounted to $74,774.25, of which $9,844.91 was for the sale of tax homestead lands.

Barber Is Good Talker.

A Port Huron man has for two years past been buying and using hair restorer recommended to him by a bald-headed barber.

Blooded Cattle for Farm.

C. W. Taylor appreciates that the upper peninsula has good farming land. He has a farm of 40 acres at Sands, near Negaunee, that he will stock with blooded cattle and supply neighboring towns with creamery products.

Outdoes Benzonia Hen.

A citizen of Clare declares that one of his hens recently laid an egg similar to the Benzonia one, with the addition that there were perfect yolks in both inner and outer ones.

Geese Flying North.

Thousands of wild geese are at present quartered on Portage prairie, six miles southwest of Niles. Many flocks are flying north just now.

Like the Superintendent.

C. L. Pemberton, principal of Tekonsha schools, has been offered the same position for the third successive year.

Peach Buds Are Killed.

The peach buds are reported all killed in southern Calhoun county.

MINE STOCK WORTH FORTUNE

Swedish Woman of Calumet Bought It at Low Price.

A Swedish woman of Calumet purchased a small block of Calumet & Arizona stock at $10 a share a year ago. Her husband became incensed. The poor woman went to Charles Briggs, president of the company, and told him her story. Mr. Briggs gave her the amount she paid for the stock. After the stock had advanced to about $80 a share the husband changed her mind. Her husband had changed his mind also by that time, and Mr. Briggs was approached for the stock. The certificate was returned to the woman by Mr. Briggs upon the payment of the original price. Calumet & Arizona is now selling for $200 a share, and the woman's stock is worth a small fortune.

Will Provide Lambs.

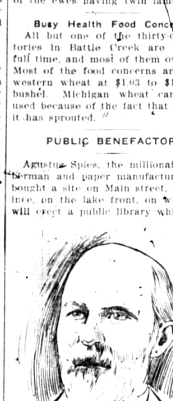
Hans Riedel, a farmer living in North Brighton, says he will provide the lambs if the residents of Brighton and vicinity will provide the Marys to take them to school. Riedel has twenty-three ewes that recently gave birth to fourty-four lambs, twenty one of the ewes having twin lambs.

Busy Health Food Concerns.

All but one of the thirty-odd factories in Battle Creek are running full time, and most of them overtime. Most of the food concerns report a big western wheat at $1.03 to $1.08 per bushel. Michigan wheat cannot be used because of the fact that most of it has sprouted.

PUBLIC BENEFACTOR.

Agustus Spies, the millionaire lumberman and paper manufacturer, has bought a site on Main street, Menominee, on the lake front, on which he will erect a public library which will



AUGUSTUS SPIES

be donated to the city. The building will probably be erected this spring. Mr. Spies has not made the formal offer to the city as yet, but will probably do so before long.

Stubbornness.

Two Green Oak farmers recently had a lawsuit over the amount of eight-foot rails. Justice Power advised them to settle the case without a suit, but the plaintiff sued, had a jury trial and a verdict was rendered for the defendant, costing plaintiff over $11.

Where Lumber Is Scarce.

It seems queer, but it is a fact that Menominee, where millions of feet of logs are sawed up into lumber every year, is a hard place to buy lumber at retail. The product of the mills is sold only in cargo or carload lots and is all shipped away.

Forger's Wife Is Free.

The wife of Luther W. Shear, the notorious forger, who was convicted at Muskegon some months ago and sent to Jackson prison for twelve years, has received an absolute divorce and been given the custody of their children.

Soo Gets Car Service.

After a lapse of five years the cars of the Trackless Navy Trackless Company have been started on both sides of the river, and residents of both the Soo are now happy.

Want Deer Protected.

Petitions are being circulated in Emmet county asking the legislature to pass the bill protecting deer in that and neighboring counties for a term of five years.

Christian Endeavor Meeting.

The central convention of the Branch County Christian Endeavor society will be held at Union City May 22 and 23.

Matchett May Recover.

Frank Matchett, who was struck by a falling tree upon his father's farm near Kingsley, is on the gain, and some hopes are entertained for his recovery.

To Drill Test Wells.

The machinery is now on the ground to drill test wells for oil near Romulus.

Rents Go Up.

Within the past year house rents at Alpena have been advanced about 25 per cent.

Cement Factory in Sight.

Alpena already has one cement factory, and another will probably be established there soon by eastern capitalists.

Arrest of Aged Man.

An 87-year-old man was arrested at Lansing for using bad language in the presence of women.

Sandstone Brick.

Sault Ste. Marie will have a sandstone brick plant, which is to be in operation by May 1.

CAR CUTS OFF HEAD OF MINER

Fisherman Stumbles on the Track and Is Decapitated.

Nelson Fortin, a coal miner, living in the first ward of West Bay City, met a shocking death near Bradley. Miller & Co.'s planing mill, his head being cut off by the wheel of a coal car. Fortin and a companion were seated on the track which runs along the river, fishing. A switch engine was shunting cars nearby and as some of them were coming toward the anglers both jumped up to get out of the way. Fortin stumbled, fell across a rail and the car wheels crushed his head out, severing the head completely from the shoulders.

Ousts the Landlord.

G. W. Brott and John Smith, his tenant, two Tekonsha farmers, have an original and emphatic way of settling difficulties. Smith rented Brott's farm the past year, his time expiring April 1. The landlord appeared on the farm the day before the expiration of the lease and ordered Smith to make a division of the personal property. Smith failed to take kindly to Brott's demands and proceeded to walk him a distance of about a half mile into the public highway.

Not Always Mute.

Union city has a social organization consisting of ladies and called "The Silent Nine." They give mute parties at frequent intervals, at which any member speaking aloud is heavily fined. The husbands of several members recently compared notes and it was thus discovered that after each session of the club the ladies go home and talk to their better halves till night. The husbands want the organization disbanded.

Skull Is Crushed.

Frank Fish, a carpenter, was killed by a fall from the second floor of a house he was building in Corunna. He stepped on a loose board on the rafters and pitching forward, struck on his head fifteen feet below. His skull was crushed and death ensued almost immediately. Fish was 60 years old and leaves a grown up family.

To Muzzle Dogs.

Two cases of hydrophobia in that vicinity precipitated the action of the Central Lake village and township boards, and they have each passed resolutions providing for the muzzling of local canines. There are several hundred dogs in Central Lake, and hardware dealers are looking for a boom in business.

Courtesy to Woman.

Carl A. Kelly, republican candidate for school inspector at Brighton, has withdrawn his name from the township ticket because his opponent is Miss Ella Kennedy, who has been a school teacher in Brighton for over twenty years and is now teaching some of the children of her former pupils.

Bible Reading.

A South Haven pastor asked his flock how many had read the Bible through within a year. Eight hands went up. The preacher was charitable and let the incident pass by remarking that the other 392 who made the promise to him a year ago were probably not present.

Nominate a Woman.

At a republican caucus recently held in Tekonsha for the nomination of township officers, a woman was placed on the ticket, for the first time in the history of the party. Miss Julia Whitcomb, of the public schools, was nominated for the office of school inspector.

Plenty of Offers.

No less than a dozen factories, each employing not less than a hundred hands, have informed Union City people that they would like to locate in that prosperous town, provided the proper thing is done in the way of organizing stock companies.

City Coal Yard a Success.

The special council committee which ran the Detroit municipal coal yard last winter sold $4,921 worth of coal to citizens at much less than regular dealers asked, and the deficit to meet at the final closing of the yard was but $135.

To Make Cheese.

A co-operative cheese factory company, recently organized at Tekonsha, composed of thirty farmers as stockholders, have employed an experienced cheese maker and will commence the manufacture of cheese as soon as machinery can be installed.

Canning Factory Nearly Ready.

Work on the buildings for the canning factory at Shepherd is well under way and the machinery is on the ground, so the plant will be ready for operation in time for the early fruits. Seventy-five persons will be employed.

Seeks Cheap Rates.

Marshall wants to secure commutation rates upon the new electric road so that workmen can live in that city and work in the Battle Creek factories.

Early Closing.

The clothing, dry goods and shoe dealers of Sheboygan have agreed to close their stores early every evening except Saturday hereafter.

Interurban 'Phone Line.

An independent telephone line will be built at once between Camden and Reading.

Cement Walks.

Seventeen of Alpena's twenty-two miles of sidewalks are made of cement.

AROUND THE STATE

The postoffice at High Bank, Barry county, will be superseded by rural free delivery April 15; mail to Hastings.

Thomas J. Navin, of the prison board, and his family are quarantined, owing to one of the children having smallpox.

Concord citizens are suffering from an invasion of dogs and now claim the largest number of dogs to the square rod of any village in southern Michigan.

A Lexington genius has invented a clothespin which he thinks will win. It is so small that a woman can hold several dozen such pins at once without interfering with neighborly chat over the backyard fence.

Fully 1,500 persons attended a meeting for the interest of the Salvation Army work in the auditorium Sunday afternoon. Congressman Henry Merrian was chairman, and Maj. Blanche Cox, of Detroit, spoke.

What is said will be the largest drug and chemical factory in the world is to be started in Grand Rapids by the Interstate Medical association, capitalized at $10,000,000. Just organized by A. C. Wheeler and N. S. Phelps, of Battle Creek.

Burglars raided the hardware store of Howell & Lawton at Coopersville, Monday night, securing cutlery to the amount of $25. This was the fifth hardware, going to Grand Rapids. This makes the third heavy burglary in the town in three weeks.

The mourners at a funeral in Kalamazoo recently shocked to find, just as the coffin was being lowered, that they were at the wrong grave. The one for which they had arranged had not been dug, and the services were suspended until the grave could prepare it.

Roy F. J. Beckwith, of Schoolcraft, held a novel service at his church Sunday evening. A dozen men of his congregation wrote brief opinions on the subject, "Jesus Christ Is Right Or He From the Man's Standpoint." But not one of the married men who contributed dared sign his communication.

Rev. Fr. Van Strelen, of the Catholic parish in Schewaing, has become violently insane, choking and otherwise abusing his aged housekeeper. Bishop Foley has ordered the demented priest to be removed to a retreat in Detroit, where he can receive proper treatment.

The special council committee which ran the municipal coal yard at Battle Creek last winter sold $4,024 worth of coal to citizens at much less than regular dealers asked, and the deficit to meet at the final closing of the yard was but $865.

The largest log jam ever seen on the Menominee river is at a point four miles from this city. Five million feet of logs are piled 40 feet high. The boom company has a crew at work breaking it with dynamite. The jam extends nearly a mile.

Tom White, aged 18, a section hand on the Grand Trunk railroad, was killed near Owosso Friday morning by being run over by a hand-car, the only witnesses to his death being his three brothers, who are also section hands, and who were working with Tom.

Adjt.-Gen. Brown has been notified that the inspection of the state national guard under the provisions of the Dick bill will be held in the near future, as soon as the officers of the regulars, who will co-operate with the state adjutant-general in this work, have been detailed.

AMUSEMENTS IN DETROIT
Week Ending April 11.
DETROIT OPERA HOUSE—Julia Marlowe. "The Cavalier." Sat. Matinee at 2; Evenings at 8.
LYCEUM THEATER—"Kitty Kiddie's Sweethearts." Ch. Coe. Sat. Matinee at 2; Evenings 7 and 8.
WHITNEY THEATER—"The White Slave." Sat. Matinee at 2 and Evenings 7 and 8.
TEMPLE THEATRE AND WONDERLAND—Afternoons 1 to 6 and Evenings 6 to 10.

THE MARKETS.

Detroit, cattle—Choice steers, quotable, $5.70@5.85; good to choice butcher steers, 5.00 to 5.50; fair to good butcher steers, light to good butcher steers and heifers, 5.00 to 5.25; common butcher steers, fat cows, $3.25@3.75; canners, $1.00@2.00; common bulls, $2.50@2.75; good stockers and feeders, $4.00@4.50; common feeders, $3.00@3.75; good welshired feeders, $3.75@4.25; light stockers, $3.50@4.00; Veal Calves, Market 50 cents lower than last week. $5.50@8.50; milch Cows and Springers, Steady, $25@60.

Sheep, Best lambs, $7.25@7.40; fair to good lambs, $6.50@7.00; light to common lambs, $5.50@6.50; yearlings, $5.75@6.25; good to choice wethers, $6.00@6.25; fair to good mixed sheep, $5.00@5.50; culls and common, $3.00@4.00.

Hogs—Light to mixed, $6.20@6.25; pigs, $6.40; roughs, $5.75@5.90; stags, $3.50@4.50; dressed hogs, 7@7½c.

East Buffalo, cattle—Fancy yearlings, $6.50@6.75; prime dry-fed steers, $6.25@6.40; prime weighty steers, $6.10@6.25; choice do, $5.90@6.00; do, $5.75@5.85; plain do, $5.50@5.65; coarse, $5.00@5.25; stockers, $5.00@5.25; Sheep and Lambs—Spring lambs, $8.00@8.50; fair to good do, $7.50@8.00; culls and common do, $5.00@7.50; fair to good sheep, $5.50@5.75; western sheep, $5.75@6.00; fair to good mixed, $5.25@5.50; culls and common, $3.25@5.00.

Hogs—Yorkers, $6.60@6.65; prime grade, $6.70; pigs, $6.75; roughs, $5.50@5.75; stags, $3.25@4.50.

Chicago—Cattle—Good to prime steers, $5.90@6.25; poor to medium, $4.00@5.85; stockers and feeders, $3.40@5.25; cows, $2.50@5.75; calves, $4.75@7.75; Texas fed steers, $5.00@5.75; western steers, $5.00@5.75. Sheep—Wethers, $5.75@6.25; lambs, $6.50@8.25. Hogs—Mixed and butchers, $6.15@6.35; good to choice heavy, $6.25@6.35; rough heavy, $6.15@6.25; light, $6.00@6.30; bulk of sales, $6.20@6.35. Sheep—Good to choice wethers, $5.60@5.75; fair to choice mixed, $4.50@5.50; native lambs, $5.00@8.50.

Grain.

Detroit, Wheat—No. 2 white, 76c; No. 2 red, 76c. Corn—No. 3 yellow, 52c; No. 4 yellow, 50c. Oats—No. 3 white, 34½@35c. Rye—No. 2, 72c. Beans—Spot, $1.90. Clover Seed—Prime spot, $6.75; March, $6.75; April, $6.75; May, $6.75. Timothy—Prime spot, $2.60; March, $2.60; April, $2.60. Alsike—Prime spot, $6.60. Flour—Per bbl., Spring patents, $5.50@5.75; Spring wheat, $5.25@5.50; winter patents, $5.50@5.75; winter straights, $5.25@5.50; Michigan roller milling, $5.00@5.25; clear, $4.75@5.00. Feed—In 100-lb sacks, Coarse middlings, $27; fine middlings, $29; cracked corn, $29; coarse cornmeal, $29. Hay—No. 1 timothy, $17@17.50; No. 2 timothy, $15@16; light mixed, $17@17.50; No. 1 mixed, $16@16.50; No. 1 clover, $14@15. Potatoes—$1.25@1.35 per bu. Onions—$2.50@2.75 per bu. Cabbages—$4@4.50 per crate. Apples—Spy, $3@3.50; Baldwin, $2.75@3.25; Greening, $2.75@3.25; Northern Spy, $3@3.50. Dressed Poultry—Turkeys, 14@15c; broilers, 25@30c; fowls, 14@15c; ducks, 15@16c; geese, 12@13c. Veal Calves—Extra, 9@9½c; fair to good, 7@8c; common, 5@6c. Beans—Marrow, $3.25@3.50; medium, $3.25@3.50; pea, $3.25@3.50; red kidney, $3.25@3.50; white kidney, $3.25@3.50. Honey—Strained, 12@13c; in comb, 15@16c per lb. Cider—$4@4.50 per bbl. Maple Sugar—15@16c per lb. Maple Syrup—$1.25@1.50 per gal.

Chicago, Wheat—No. 2 spring, 76@77c; No. 3, 69@72c; No. 2 red, 77@77½c. Corn—No. 2, 52@52½c; No. 2 yellow, 52@52½c; No. 3, 51@52c; No. 3 white, 52½@53½c. Oats—No. 2, 33@33½c; No. 3 white, 34@34½c. Rye—No. 2, 69@70c. Barley—Fair to choice, 55@70c. Timothy Seed—$2.60@2.80. Clover Seed—Prime, $6.75@7.25. Pork—Per bbl., $17.25@17.35. Lard—Per 100 lbs., $8.90@8.92½. Ribs—Per 100 lbs., $8.75@9.00. Flour—Spring patents, $5.50@5.75; winter patents, $5.50@5.75; straights, $5.25@5.50; clears, $4.75@5.00. Hay—Timothy, $14@18; clover mixed, $14@16; clover, $14@16. Eggs—Fresh, 14@15c per doz. Potatoes—$1.25@1.35 per bu. Cabbages—$4@5 per crate. Onions—$2.50@2.75 per bu. Apples—Spy, $3@3.50; Baldwin, $2.75@3.25; Greening, $2.75@3.25; Northern Spy, $3@3.50. Poultry, Live—Turkeys, 14@15c; broilers, 25@30c; fowls, 14@15c; ducks, 15@16c; geese, 12@13c. Veal Calves—Extra, 9@9½c; fair to good, 7@8c; common, 5@6c. Beans—Marrow, $3.25@3.50; medium, $3.25@3.50; pea, $3.25@3.50; red kidney, $3.25@3.50; white kidney, $3.25@3.50. Honey—Strained, 12@13c; in comb, 15@16c per lb. Cider—$4@4.50 per bbl. Maple Sugar—15@16c per lb. Maple Syrup—$1.25@1.50 per gal.

Broadling was charged by Speaker Whitson before the Missouri lower house in connection with the Davidson school text-book bill, and during the discussion Broadling's friends struck Rep. Ralph. The house was in an uproar and a general mix-up was narrowly averted.

Miss Marion Fergus Woolman, of Burlington, N. J., beautiful and accomplished, but lately a pupil in Vassar college and mistress of a fortune of $100,000, has deserted her drawing room friends for the Salvation Army barracks, and nightly exhorts on the streets to save the souls of the lowly.

Many who have read of the hair-cutting events at Ann Arbor, have supposed that it was a student invention of recent years. It is said, however, that this is not a fact; that the student life in the thirteenth century was wild and hard and that "all day the rowdy bawds came to depose against the students, and that they had been struck or had had their garments torn in pieces or their hair cut."

The State Anti-Saloon league is planning to have 100,000 or more citizens of Michigan petition the legislature for the passage of the Holmes bill. Blank petitions are being sent to 2,000 congregations in the state.

STATE LEGISLATURE

Brief Chronicle of Matters of Importance

The passage of the primary election bill was attempted by the house on Thursday and delayed by the members from the upper peninsula who are opposed to it. The evident intent of these members is to defeat the bill by any scheme that may be worked, and the plan seems to be to delay till near enough to the close of the session so that the bill will die. The game was to have Representative Galbraith, of Houghton, offer his substitute and then have Gallup move to put the whole matter over, in order that the Galbraith measure might be printed and properly considered by the members. Galbraith acknowledges that he has had his substitute in hand for a week or more and he could have had it printed at any time, but he waited. There were just enough members of the house apparently in favor of reform who were willing to play into the hands of the convention men to prevent immediate action of the bill, though the direct voting advocates had a majority when it came to a roll call. A feature of the situation is that the Democrats of the house demand that the bill be amended so that voters at the primaries will not be compelled to swear that they will support the party whose ticket they wish to vote in the primaries, and that the provision that only six parties as have had 5 per cent of the vote in the last previous election shall have their ballots printed, be cut out. Colby and other friends of the measure have by no means given up the fight, but they will probably defer to the wishes of the Democrats in order to make sure of the passage of their bill. The measure was made a special order for next Wednesday at 2 o'clock, and 500 copies of the Galbraith substitute were ordered printed. This latter bill would retain all conventions except those for nominating candidates for local offices, and provides a uniform day for the election of delegates to conventions in order that "snap" caucuses may be done away with and delegates to conventions be elected directly by the people.

Representative Rodgers, of Muskegon, wanted to cut down the appropriation for the Soldiers' Home at Grand Rapids from $131,000 to $114,000, and in support of his motion he declared the larger amount is not needed. He pronounced the sum asked for "a barefaced robbery." He declared that deaths are constantly cutting down the number of inmates, but the sums asked from the state for the support of the institution are growing right along. Rodgers declared that the home is being used as a boarding house for the whole Judd family. He said that the commandant's daughter-in-law is employed as a matron and pays nothing for her food, and Rodgers had also heard that Judd's son has taken his meals at the home for four years without paying for them. His motion was defeated.

State land office bills are not proving very popular in the legislature. One of them, by which the commissioner would be empowered to lease state lands, has already gone down to defeat in the house. Another one, introduced by Rep. Stone, of Lenawee, has passed the house by the small majority of 15, and is now on the general order of the senate. Some of the opponents of this measure say the members of the house did not thoroughly understand what they were voting on, or results would have been different. Representative Sheldon, of Bay City, is frank in expressing his indignation at the manner in which the bill was passed. He feels he has not had fair treatment in not being given a hearing by the senate committee before the bill was reported out, though one had been promised him.

A proposed bill, which, it is understood, was drawn up by former Representative F. C. Wells, provides for a $2,000 state experimentalist, and describes at length for the preventing the spread of disease among cattle. It would permit him to hire help at $10 a day for each assistant, and the scope of the measure may be seen in this clause: "The state veterinarian shall have power to employ, at the expense of the state, such assistants and purchase such supplies and materials as may be necessary to carry into full effect all orders by him given."

The house committee of the whole agreed to the bill allowing telegraph or telephone linemen from trimming shade trees without consent of the owners of the property. It does not apply to cities where the matter is regulated by ordinances.

The joint resolution submitting to the people the proposed amendment to the constitution permitting the legislature to provide for a railroad freight rate commission was reported favorably and placed on the house general order.

The house has agreed to the bill to sell the old state capitol on Washington avenue, Lansing, the purpose being to use the proceeds to build an executive mansion. The senate has already passed a bill for the same purpose.

The house has agreed to a bill to exempt from taxation the funds of mutual benefit societies. Though such funds are now taxable, the tax commission has made no effort to place them on the rolls.

The house did not rush business on Friday, but passed a few local bills, and after a session of an hour on unimportant matters, adjourned until next Tuesday night, Monday being election day.

Randall appeared before the house committee to talk on his bill to limit the amount of the appropriation for the State University to $350,000 a year. He advanced no new arguments, however. It is likely that the committee will report against the bill, and that Randall will have to make his fight on the floor of the house.

The bill of Representative Paddock providing that surety bonds may be accepted from liquor dealers was on the general order, and he had it sent to the judiciary committee, in accordance with the compromise agreement entered into between the liquor men and the "dry" members.

A joint session of the two branches was held in the afternoon in Representative hall to pay respects to the memory of the late Senator James H. McMillan. Tributes were paid by ex-Senator Patton, Senators Alger and Burrows.

The youngest parents in Ohio are Earl Oats and wife of Kenton. Neither is yet 16 years of age and a son has been born to them.

President Roosevelt and the commandant at West Point mean to discourage the cigarette habit. One "smoke swallowing" cadet has been dismissed.

Ex-Senator Thompson, of Detroit, in briefly addressing the senate the other day handed out this warm one: "I believe that this legislature will be known for its omissions rather than for what it has done, and my advice to you is to adjourn and go home. One session in five years is enough. You will not do an injustice to Wayne county, or any other part of the state, by adjourning now. Of all the measures introduced affecting the county of Wayne, about nine out of every ten should be thrown into the waste-basket."

The ways and means committee of the house will visit Jackson prison this week, when Gov. Bliss will be there, to attend a meeting of the board of control. The committee will go to pass on the proposition of rebuilding the west cell wing. It is expected the question of having the staple manufactured supplies of the state institutions made in prison at cost price, will be taken up. Thomas J. Navin is one of the members of the board who prefers this plan to the contract system at present in operation.

The most important measure acted upon by the house Tuesday was the Kelly bill, submitting to the people the question of calling a convention to make a general revision of the state constitution. The bill has passed the senate, and in the house committee of the whole there was no objection to it, so that the measure will probably go before Gov. Bliss for signature in a few days. If it goes through the voters will be called upon to vote on the measure at the fall election of 1904.

Young Corbett the Champion.

Billy Rothwell, of Denver, proved his claim to the name "Young Corbett" and the featherweight championship of the world, by decisively defeating the ex-champion, Terry McGovern, with a knockout uppercut to the jaw in the eleventh round of their fight at San Francisco.

TELEGRAPHIC BRIEFS.

William J. Bryan announces that he will deliver political speeches in the states of New York, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New Jersey and Maryland in May.

A political riot was quelled by the police at Schultz hall, Chicago, Sunday night. Chairs were thrown and broken over heads, clubs and fists were used so freely that four were seriously injured.

B. P. Brown, of Redland, Cal., who was arrested for threatening the life of McKinley before the latter's western trip, has again been arrested for making a similar threat against President Roosevelt.

Indiana has dedicated her monument of Shiloh battlefield. Gov. Durbin, Senator Beveridge, Gen. Lew Wallace were in attendance and Gen. Geo. W. Gordon, of Memphis, represented the southern Confederacy.

Grover Cleveland has written William Pickens, the negro orator, whose the Yen Eyck prize at Yale, for a copy of his essay. Pickens is the first negro in the history of the university to receive such a prize.

Charles M. Schwab brought from Switzerland five $1,000 watches, which he will present to the five superintendents of the United States Steel corporation who got the most and best work out of the armies of laborers under them.

The raising of taxes on New York property causes landlords to raise rents, and wholesale evictions are the result. April 1 there were 350 cases on the docket and 1,000 during March. Large tenements have raised rents from $2 to $5 per month.

Preston Garland, colored, has celebrated his 104th birthday anniversary. Garland receives a small United States pension. He was born a slave in Lynchburg, Va., and enlisted under Gen. Butler's call for negro soldiers and served until the close of the war.

Frederick Stebbins' body was found in a park at Rochester, N. Y., with a bullet hole through his head and a note to the coroner, saying: "To save you investigating, I wish to state, that I was not held up and murdered for my money. I did it with my little revolver."

Paralyzed and dumb for a year, John Matt, a section foreman of the Great Northern at Basin, recently fell down to fall. His physician at last sided in his hearing that he was as good as dead, when Matt sat up in bed and called the doctor a liar and is now improving.

After shooting himself once in the head and three times in the abdomen, Walter Hickley at Milford, Conn., lay down beside the railroad track to die. Remorse for his act caused him to signal a passing express train, which took him to New Haven. It is thought he will recover.

Hallman Sims, well known in the younger social set of Atlanta, Ga., is in charge of the collections of the Capital City National bank, is under arrest charged with devoting about $95,000 of the bank's funds to his own use. He had developed the trick for eight years to cover up his peculations.

Oscar Bareliffe, the engineer of the train that killed nine school children and injured 20 others at Newark, N. J., on Feb. 19, is physically well, but his mind is still unsound and he raves about his engine. Near the hospital is a statue of St. Michael in colors and life size. The clock has a red face and Bareliffe looking at the statue imagined the cape to be a danger signal. This aggravated the case so that he had to be removed.

The annual statement of the Michigan Central shows that its earnings from passenger traffic last year were $103,027 greater than in 1901, and its total earnings were $232,501 greater.

S. Sansom, of Bancroft, received a letter Monday from his brother, Thomas, who resides in the west, whom he had not heard from for 53 years. Sansom had supposed for many years that this brother was one of the victims in the massacre of the 120 immigrants at Mountain Meadow, by a band of Indians in September, 1857, for the erection of 1,000 dwelling houses in Battle Creek this summer.

Sam Beach complained that he had been horsewhipped for an alleged assault on a young girl near Williamston, and he brought suit for $1,500. The jury's verdict was no cause for action.