THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC
ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR IN ADVANCE.
WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL, PUBS.
BIRMINGHAM, FRIDAY, SEPT. 4.

Sultan Dosoon should have his name changed to Toosoon.

Geronimo probably has confessed that he was an old chief of sinners.

Jamaica should be a good market for cyclone cellars during the next few months.

"I sleep like a babe," says Corbett. What poetic language these hard-fisted fighters use!

Apparently Mount Vesuvius' grudge against the existing order of things is deep and lasting.

The new college of journalism is primarily intended, however, to produce newspaper men.

Undoubtedly Russia and Japan are merely bluffing. Neither has begun to invest in Missouri mules.

It would be well worth going many miles to see Mr. Jeffries and a good swift red devil collide head-on.

Thomas Cooksey Ward, "The Sage of Maryland," is dead at the age of 111. It takes a sage to reach that age.

A St. Paul girl tried the old reliable test to discover if they were mushrooms or toadstools. It worked.

California regrets to report that she has not prunes enough this year to create trouble in even the Hungarian diet.

Literary people should live as near as possible to nature without getting too far away from the publishers.—Puck.

Perhaps if they had allowed Mr. Corbett to take an ax into the ring with him the result might have been different.

Prof. Langley should not be discouraged. If his machine will not fly perhaps it will be a success as a submarine boat.

A Chicago professor has undertaken the task of writing six large books about money. That's his scheme for getting money.

If a man will only keep on making love to a woman after he has married her they can keep on fooling themselves indefinitely.

Live shells were fired at a French warship without any apparent effect upon it. However, Dewey's men were not behind the guns.

Unfortunately the people the world would like most to be rid of are never the ones who get mixed up in those tunnel accidents.

Lawrence, Kas., had a wind storm the other day that made some of the old settlers think for the moment that Quantrell had come again.

How would it do for the nations, before further increasing their navies, to have a few of the rocks dug out of the oceans, so the boats will have room?

"The sheep which were imprisoned in the turret of the French cruiser Suffern"—that's just what they were doing, even if they were not seriously injured.

It is generally known that potatoes contain a large percentage of alcohol but are we to infer that this is most generously liberated in the process of mashing?

There is a man at Laurel, La., who claims that in the sixty years of his life he has eaten 87,000 pancakes. Some people don't seem to have any sense of shame.

Representative Baker of Brooklyn, who will neither accept railroad passes nor appoint cadets to Annapolis, must have got into politics by mistake.—Buffalo Express.

That man in Mount Vernon who let his wife compel him to sleep for a month in the chicken coop has shown unconsciously that it takes a wife to measure accurately the dimensions of her husband.

The San Francisco earthquake and the eruption of Mt. Colima, following the outburst from Vesuvius, afford ample evidence that the disturbance inside the great round ball on which we live has not been settled yet.

"If you are bitten by a rattlesnake," says an authority, "and can't get whisky, eat tobacco—a pound if necessary. It will cure you." Life is sweet, and there are men, doubtless, who would pay even this price for it.

The Toledo Blade says: "Miss Fairy Titmarsh has a pair of calves that can not be beat in this section of our glorious republic." Perhaps somebody will write a poem about them, as somebody did about Mary's little lamb.

Some immense watersspouts have been seen in Nome, and it has been hailing blocks of ice in Colorado, but not a solitary sea-serpent has shown up at any of the seaside resorts this summer. The sea-serpent liar must be taking a vacation this year.

In these days of trading stamps and mark-down sales, it is a strong-minded woman who does not come home from a shopping tour with the idea that she has been finding money.

The British government has increased Poet Laureate Austin's pension. If this is the price of silence in the future we can understand the "raise."

A New York lady who weighs 367 pounds fell from a third-story window and escaped unhurt. Fortunately, at

Michigan Happenings

A Would-Be Train Wrecker.

The attempted wreck of Pere Marquette passenger trains near Northville has resulted in the arrest of John Haley, colored. Two attempts were made to wreck, one on Sunday, August 23, and the other on Wednesday, August 26, and both were attempted on the afternoon passenger train from Detroit at a curve one and a half miles from Northville. It is a spot where it would be impossible for an engineer to see obstructions until he was right on them, and at one side of the track is a very steep embankment, so that if a wreck occurred there would necessarily be great loss of life. Harry Hand, of Northville, claims to have seen the would-be train wrecker at work, and identified him. Additional evidence has been secured that the boy was seen near the place on both days mentioned on Sunday in his bare feet. Haley is also known as Dewson and as Edmonds. The arrest was made Sunday at the home of George Henry Edmonds, whose wife is an aunt of the accused. Since Hand told what he knew about the matter he and Farmer Benton have had trouble.

The Price Seems High.

The Kalamazoo board of education comes in for some criticism from some city citizens on account of the conditions attached to awarding the western Michigan normal school to Kalamazoo. It is pointed out that the board exceeded the authority conferred by the legislature in asking the city to give a bonus of $10,000, construct cement walks, provide sewer connections, maintain the training school for an indefinite period and pay half of the salaries of the teachers in that school. It is asserted that in four typewritten pages the board itself has made an unfavorable argument that Kalamazoo is the place that ought to get the school anyway, and why such if price should be imposed puzzles the residents. However, some who criticise the action of the board say that they will vote to issue bonds if this be necessary to bring the school there.

The Law is Weak.

The new law giving the railroad commissioner authority to supervise the operation of electric railways will go into effect September 17, along with the other laws enacted at the last legislative session, and the department officials are familiarizing themselves with the provisions of the new statute. The discovery has been made that the new law gives the railroad commissioner but little authority over the electric roads that he does not now possess. It is doubtful if, under the new law, he can limit the speed of electric cars, which are run at a dangerous speed on some of the roads. In other respects the law does not meet the expectations of those who favored state supervision of the roads.

Tampered With a Witness.

Prosecuting Attorney Cure, of Ionia, has ordered the arrest of Marsh Hamler, of Lyons, on a charge of tampering with the people's witness, Harry Crawford, in the shooting case against Winfield Buck, of Lyons, who tried to prevent Crawford from keeping company with his (Buck's) daughter. Crawford, the complaining witness, skipped out when Buck's case was called, and he was arrested at Edmore on a bench warrant. He says that two weeks ago Hamler slipped an envelope with three $5 bills into his hand and told him the best thing he could do was to skip out and then the Buck case would be dropped. He says he followed Hamler's advice.

Richmond Has a Mystery.

Agnes, the 12-year-old daughter of John Douglas, a laborer, of Richmond, had her throat cut while home alone with her father. Dr. McCarthy, who has charge of her, does not think she can live, and Justice Heath has summoned the sheriff at Mt. Clemens, on county seat, to investigate. John Douglas is about 45 years old. His wife was away sitting up with a sick neighbor. About 11 o'clock he went to the house of another neighbor, and announced that Agnes's throat was cut. He was very much excited and had great difficulty in explaining what had happened.

The Missing Pearce.

Expressman George Ogg, of Pontiac, states that he saw W. J. Pearce, the missing member of the Pontiac board of public works in Detroit Friday, August 21, three days after Pearce's supposed disappearance from the Wabash hotel. He states that Pearce was riding on a wagon with a younger man and that he wore a cap. Ogg did not know that Pearce was missing at that time, nor did he learn of the circumstances until yesterday.

Storm Causes Heavy Loss.

The rain and hail storm on Saturday did great damage to the fruit crop in Berrien and Monroe counties. In Monroe ditches and creeks overflowed, doing much damage to the surrounding country. Entire fields were washed out near New Buffalo. It hailed with sufficient force to break all the glass on one side of a Pere Marquette train, greatly terrifying the passengers. No estimate can be made of the damage to crops.

Dr. C. Will Hamilton, a dentist, of Ithaca, dropped dead while working at his chair Saturday. The cause of death was apoplexy.

The invalid 15-year-old wife of Hector Carpenter, of Bay City, must be supported by her errant husband, decrees the family court.

The Coldwater street carnival attracted a lot of tough hoboes, and the second day the city and county jails were well filled.

Ludington commercial fishermen are disgusted with their poor catches and many of them have laid up their boats until fall.

Michigan will make a bean record this season. A conservative estimate places the production of beans at 4,500,000 bushels.

William Mixer, of Midland, got mixed up with a barbed wire fence and was badly bruised after being thrown down an embankment by a fractious horse.

The Flint grocers have been Morganizing on their own account, and have formed a no-trust trust. They have been badly bled by dead beats. Every man or woman who neglects to pay the bill for the table necessities and delicacies is blacklisted, and credit will be refused.

The Benz Suicide.

The theory generally accepted in regard to the tragic death of young William Benz at his home near Dexter last week is that while in an insane frenzy, produced probably by despondency, he committed suicide. When Mrs. Benz returned to her home after being away all day, she discovered pools of blood in the living room, and without investigating further called the neighbors. The body of the dead man was found in the woodshed. It was not lying on the ground, but was in a sort of stooping position and was supported by the left arm of the dead man, which hung over an old ash barrel. The right arm hung at his side and beneath it was found the bloody razor with which the gashes in the throat had been made. Benz had died freely and the razor was lying in a pool of blood. It is a most remarkable case, considering the fact that Benz, if he did the job himself, must have pounded his face with a hammer until he was unconscious, and then after regaining consciousness must have deliberately dragged himself into the house to produce the razor with which he completed the job by cutting his throat from ear to ear. But after a careful investigation of all the circumstances it would seem that that is just what he did.

Baldwin's Flight.

The examination of W. E. Baldwin, the Adrian cigar manufacturer charged with criminal assault upon Florence Spielman, which was set for Tuesday, was again adjourned. Counsel for the defense endeavored to waive examination but Prosecuting Attorney Joslin asked for one, according to his right. Baldwin's attorneys took the matter to the Circuit Court and Judge Chesley issued an order calling the lower court judge before him next Saturday morning to show cause why Baldwin should not be bound over without an examination.

Coroner Was Too Soon.

Jas. Clark, of Latonia, O., an employe of a dog and pony circus, which exhibited in Hillsdale Saturday, got in a scrap with some of the men and later on had an epileptic fit. Coroner J. H. Montague was notified that a man near the depot was dead and, he immediately had a jury summoned and had the remains placed in a rig and was moving on to the undertaking rooms. Before arriving there Clark partially recovered consciousness and was taken on to a hospital, where he is being cared for.

Austin Released.

George Austin, who was arrested on suspicion of having been a party to the murder of Alma Shook's baby in New Haven township last week, has been released. The testimony of Drs. Rance and Spencer, who performed the autopsy upon the child, is said to make it quite evident that the child died without having fully gained powers of respiration. A doctor could not be found for two hours after the babe was born. It was then dead.

Jury Says It Was Murder.

The coroner's jury, after listening to the testimony of 13 witnesses, decided in short order that Wm. Benz, Jr., of the young farmer who was found dead in his home two miles from Dexter with his throat cut and his skull slightly fractured, had been murdered by some person or persons unknown. There is, still, however, considerable sentiment that he committed suicide.

AROUND THE STATE.

Port Huron residents hold about $200,000 of bond of that city.

High prices are stimulating grape culture in southwestern Michigan.

A movement has been started to secure local prohibition in St. Joseph county.

Coons, once so rare in upper Michigan, are becoming plentiful in Alger county.

The State Business Men's association meets at Port Huron Sept. 16 and 17.

There are but 50 inmates in the Huron county house. The lowest number for years.

Lapeer is to have a new postoffice building and Harbor Beach is to have another bank.

A Lapeer man lies paralyzed as a result of a shock while operating a moving picture machine.

Free Will Baptists at Reading have begun a $7,500 church edifice. The old one has been in service 50 years.

What is supposed to be a lynx has appeared along the Dansville creek and is feasting off neighboring hen roosts.

Lapeer's list of veterans of the German army, George Eicher, Chas. Frahn and John Meyers, all of Lansing, are dead.

Eaton county fair managers offer a prize for "the meanest woman in the county," but there have been no entries.

Coldwater records show that a majority of divorce suits are between parties married after 30 years of age.

Andrew Hosmer, who died at Romulus, is mourned by 11 children and 25 grandchildren. Five of the children are doctors.

Emma Wademan, a Prescott squaw, has celebrated her one hundred and tenth birthday. Her sight and hearing are unimpaired.

The Rex Hoop Stave & Heading mill, which has been located in North Adams for several years, is soon to be moved, on account of the scarcity of elm timber. This will be a severe loss to the Hillsdale county village.

Since March 1 Berrien county has given to about 75 men and thousands of dollars paid for timber and labor.

When a Berrien Springs hen hatched out a bantam chicken she deserted it after a few weeks in disgust and soon hatched out a batch of big chicks. But she died shortly after and the tiny bantam adopted the big brood, scratching for them and endeavoring to huddle them under her diminutive wings at night.

County School Commissioner H. S. Elliott is authority for the statement that there is a shortage of school-teachers in Oakland county. The commissioner has a list of six or seven districts which have been unable to secure teachers. School should open in a few days, and the directors of the districts without teachers are in a quandry as to what course to pursue.

The body of Leon G. Gearhart, a Grass Lake painter, aged 39, was found between the two Michigan Central tracks in that section men thursday night. The skull was crushed. Whether his death was accidental is not known. He was unmarried.

Because a Coldwater woman pulled the hair of a girl who she thought flirted with her husband, she was fined $4 and costs.

A drunken man carrying a watermelon addressed a negress on the street at Escanaba, with the result that the watermelon and the man's head were badly smashed.

While Lapeer farmers' wives were helping in the hay field, a baseball game in town was holding the attention of the men.

Edward Chevrier, jumped from a moving A. S. & N. W. train near Glennie Saturday morning and sustained injuries which shortly after resulted in his death.

Thomas Gilmore, a retired farmer living in Traverse City, committed suicide Sunday by shooting himself. He was 70 years old, and his mind had been unbalanced.

Because he painted his horses and cows a bright orange hue, Thomas Mooney, a well-known farmer of Cheboygan, has been sent to the Traverse City insane asylum.

"A flower pot and a little grass would prevent many a divorce," says a Lansing lifeline, evidently meaning that more grass wives would make fewer grass widows.

Fgederick, the 15-year-old son of Sylvester Walker, of Tompkins, is dead from the kick of a horse. He had lain unconscious since Saturday, the time of the injury.

The official records show that last week there fell in various parts of Michigan from 3-14 to 3-12 inches of rain. This is more than one-tenth of the normal supply for a year.

Owen Bowen, 16, and Geo. Adams, 30, were electrocuted by catching hold of a live wire, which had been blown down by a storm, on the farm of John Galey, near Flint, Friday.

Mrs. Sophia Kisbin, of Kisbin was held up in Coldwater early Saturday morning at the point of a revolver by some unknown man relieved of $5 in money and a gold watch.

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ITEMS OF INTEREST FROM MANY STATES

Important News Gathered from Abroad for the Benefit of Our Readers.

THE OHIO DEMOCRACY.

Tom Johnson in Possession; He Controls Everything in Sight.

The Democratic State convention, in session in Columbus, Ohio, was controlled by Tom L. Johnson completely. On all the questions involving control of the convention or committees, Johnson came off victorious and controlled the situation so firmly that one speaker termed him "more of a boss than Mark Hanna."

The resolutions avow allegiance to the last national platform; condemn colonialism and imperialism; denounce trusts and trust-fostering tariffs; repudiate government by injunction, and oppose financial monopoly, "together with every other legalized monopoly and legalized privilege."

This paragraph is the only reference to national issues. The people are asked to determine whether all state interests are to be sacrificed for the reelection of Hanna as senator. Other paragraphs most important are those:

"By our system of taxation Cincinnati, unwise and unjust provisions for the regulation of street railroads Republican managers have rendered competition more difficult and street car monopoly more secure. By reserving to the governor the power to appoint municipal officers in certain cases, they have dangerously concentrated their meagre concessions of home rule with temptation to corruption. By refusing to the state government in the local affairs of cities and villages.

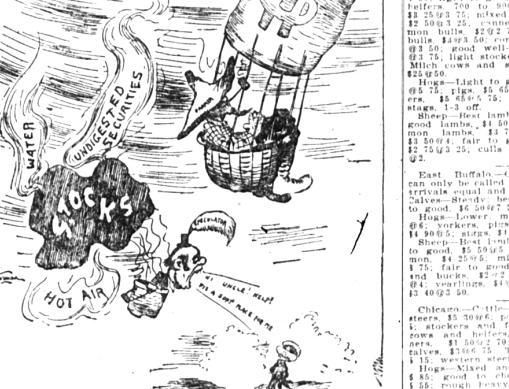
"The corrupt union which the Republican managers of Ohio have formed, unlike the trust and the rest of the people have made with privileged corporations, is further shown by the recent history of Ohio taxation. The Republican legislature has rejected even the simplest remedies.

"The present laws for assessing the property of all public service corporations should be changed so as to compel the assessment of those properties at not less than their salable value as going concerns, and to prevent their evasion of just taxation."

The platform also favors home rule for counties and cities, assessing boards, the constitutional amendments for classification of property for taxation and single liability of stockholders, laws for public reports of corporations and auditing of the same, abolishing the fee system in county offices, and a uniform rate of two cents per mile on steam railways.

On Wednesday the entire Johnson program was carried out and every nomination on the state ticket, including Tom L. Johnson for governor, was made by acclamation.

IT PAYS TO RIDE IN A SUBSTANTIAL BALLOON.



The body of Frederick Olmsteed, the famous landscape artist, was cremated at Boston.

L. A. Planving, a negro educator, principal of the Pointe Coupee Industrial college for negroes near New Roads, La., was killed from ambush Sunday night near Oscar, La.

The letter carriers are holding their fourteenth annual national convention in Syracuse, N. Y. Reports show the organization to be in a prosperous condition.

Harry F. Keevil, son of a well known St. Louis merchant, murdered his bride, Mrs. Annie Schnarr Keevil, whom he secretly married a month ago, then killed himself.

W. S. Allen, the defaulting treasurer of the Preachers' Aid Society of the Methodist church of Boston, is reported to have been seen in the city of Mexico.

Geo. F. Baer, president of the Reading railroad, is home from Europe, but says he is not sufficiently in touch with the coal situation to know whether any of the Reading company's collieries will be closed down this fall.

A lyncher goes to jail at Danville, Ill., for assisting in the slaying and burning of James Metcalfe, a negro, in July. The prisoner is Winfield Baker, a former Kentuckian, whose sentence is 4 to 14 years.

A rise of 16 feet in a few hours of the Big Blue river deluged Marysville, Kas., and homes being surrounded, 75 people rescued in boats and one man drowned.

Miss Jennie Feltman was pulled into the surf at Far Rockaway Beach, L. I., by her companions. From the shock she lost sight, speech and hearing, and died two days later.

Her babe was half-witted and Mrs. Albert Williams, of Brainerd, Minn., was confined by John Barrig in dress.

The little body was found in the river and Barrig, Mrs. Williams and George Dill are under arrest charged with murder.

Senator Hanna Ill.

Senator M. A. Hanna, who has but recently returned from a several weeks' vacation, was taken so ill at his office in Cleveland Tuesday as to require the services of a physician. The physician stated after an examination that Mr. Hanna was suffering from stomach trouble and advised his immediate relaxation of business and retirement to his home. The senator will not be able to be active a part in the state campaign which begins in a few days, as he had anticipated.

A good government league has been organized in Tawas.

An attempt to hold up the westbound flyer of the Great Northern near Malta, Mont., Friday night was frustrated by the efforts of the engineer. The plot is attributed to Harvey Logan, alias "Kid" Curry, who escaped from the county jail at Knoxville, Tenn., last June.

Miller Hardy, a young man who was enticed away from his home in Newburg, N. Y., by gypsies, when a lad, has left the band, of which he was about to be made chief, to wed Miss Lena Jaffee, of St. Paul, who visited the camp to have her fortune told.

John Barrigy, a Manhattan bricklayer, has 11 children, and landlords either refused to rent to him, or raised him out soon after he took up a residence. His troubles reached the members of his union, and they are working on Saturday afternoons and Sundays to furnish the Bajer free house he had long been saving for, putting up a two-story and basement house, than which, it is said, there is no better job in the city of New York.

With the last day of the month the summer of 1903 in New York passed into history as the coldest recorded by the weather bureau.

Three Courses Open.

In a discussion of the Panama canal deadlock between President Roosevelt and Secretary of State Hay, three courses the administration could pursue were taken up. The first is to ignore Columbia and proceed to construct the canal under the treaty with New Granada in 1846, to fight Colombia if she objects, and create an independent government of Panama out of the present state of Panama. This would give the United States what is expected to be a short and inexpensive war, but would insure a permanent settlement of the question of the sovereignty of a canal zone across the Isthmus of Panama.

The second course is that the president shall act in accordance with the provisions of the Spooner law, and, having failed to make a treaty successfully with Colombia, turn to the Nicaragua route.

The third course is to delay this great work by something like pumphires to make Colombia see the light and resume negotiations for another treaty.

Cost of Celebrating.

Reviewing the annual tragedy of the Fourth of July as celebrated in the states north of Dixie the Journal of the American Medical association finds that the total number of fatal or mutilated cases of death or severe injury due to the Fourth of July, 1903, was 4,488. Of these 415 deaths were due to tetanus; 60 resulted from the use of fireworks or explosives not causing lockjaw; 10 persons were made blind, 75 lost one eye each, 54 lost hands, arms or legs, 174 lost one or more fingers, and 3,700 had other severe injuries. These figures represent only the cases where full authentication was possible and are not believed to present one-half of the real number of Fourth of July accidents in the United States.

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Senator Marcus Hanna is much improved in health.

Powers to Hang.

The third trial of ex-Secretary of State Caleb Powers for complicity in the murder of Gov. William Goebel, of Kentucky, in January, 1900, closed Saturday with the extreme penalty of hanging for the distinguished prisoner, who has been in the penitentiary for three years on life sentence. Powers has been convicted twice before, this being the third trial in which the jury brought in a verdict of guilty against him. On his previous trials, he escaped with a sentence of life imprisonment, as the evidence was not sufficiently strong against him to lead the jury to inflicting the extreme penalty. All three of the trials were held at Georgetown and in each of them he had the assistance of the most able lawyers who could be procured. The last trial was distinguished by the fact that Powers, contrary to the jury in his own behalf and in a long review of the case showed himself to be a very competent attorney, while his eloquence in pleading for his life astounded those who had watched him carefully in the past trials of the case.

A Ruthless Battery.

The once beautiful city of Kruschevig, Emperin Turkey, is a heap of ruins. The women and children are homeless, exposed to the weather and famine. The town is rendered uninhabitable by the odor of corpses which are being eaten by dogs and pigs. The Turkish authorities refusing to allow them to be removed on the pretext that an inquest will be held. The Turkish soldiers encamped, guided by Turkish villagers from the neighborhood, attacked the houses of the Greek notables and ordered the inmates searched and stripped. They seized the women and children and ravished the women, those who resisted being immediately killed. A Greek priest who sought to protect his daughter was killed. The girl's earrings were torn out and her hand was chopped off to secure a bracelet.

The Kids Were Found.

Frank Linnerman, aged 17, and Elmer Lewis, 14 years old, ran away from Chicago a week ago and came to St. Joseph to get married. The county clerk refused to give them a license, so having no money they turned to beg. Every door was closed and food taken from orchards, and at night slept in an old abandoned schooner. Saturday night officers gathered them in. Linnerman is now taken her back to Chicago, and as for Frank, he is in jail, moaning about the terrible times that may be done to him, for Elmira is under sentence of death.

Three Killed.

Three persons were killed and a number injured in a wreck on the Pere Marquette railroad near Northville, Mich., Sunday morning. The dead are: Engineer Elmer Smith, Grand Rapids; Fireman Frank Hall, Grand Rapids; Mrs. Mary Hall, Grand Rapids. The wreck was caused by a broken rail. The engine and baggage car left the track and rolled down a steep embankment. Engineer Smith was caught in the cab and scalded to death. Fireman Hall was thrown clear of the wreck and was killed by the fall. Mrs. Hall was in the baggage car and was killed by the fall. Mrs. Hall was in the baggage car and was killed by the fall. Mrs. Hall was in the baggage car