THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC
ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR IN ADVANCE
WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL, PUBS.
BIRMINGHAM, FRIDAY, APRIL 7

STATE NEWS FIGHTING RESUMED LATE

If he happens to win, it is a shrewd investment. If he happens to lose, it is a reckless speculation.

Civilized humanity is coming rapidly to the conviction that Gen. Sherman undersated the case.

The statement is made that Russell Sage is recovering from a bad cold—as if there ever was a good one.

The whole Venezuelan army is reported to be in constant movement. He must have a nervous temperament.

When man has finally brought the elements under his sway the Ohio river will have been about the last to succumb.

We repug to report that the esteemed Philadelphia Public Ledger starts off an able editorial by saying "The imagination reluets."

The Washington Post says that Dr. Wiley is writing poetry on the food question. The poison squad seems to be in for a new test.

Fashion notes: Cultivating the "hour-glass figure" does not mean standing for hours at the glass to contemplate one's figure.

Statistician says the "telephone habit" is changing the American voice. Would give illustrations but, alas! they are "unfit for publication."

Mr. Marconi, who has been going to marry all kinds of people for years past, has actually married, and now the rest of us can be at peace.

Nearly $50,000,000 a year is said to be spent on golf. This can hardly include the amount spent on those cute little golf stockings, however.

Naval recruiting officers are insisting that only men with good teeth shall be taken as sailors. This does not promise well for the rations.

Our valued Hellenic contemporary, the Parthenon, invites contributions from volunteers. Write only on one side of the paper in correct Greek.

A Wilmington, Del., man was sentenced to five months in jail for swearing at his mother. Good! But why this slighting of the whipping post?

Perhaps the New York millinery firm that has just got a judgment of $1,050 against Mrs. Chadwick would be glad to settle now for $10.50 in cash.

Castro enjoys one advantage when threatened by naval powers. He can always save his own navy by moving it on a flatcar and shipping it inland.

A New York police justice has decided that a woman's tongue is a concealed weapon. It is a pity New York women can't use votes as a weapon.

A Reading, Pa., paper compliments Gov. Pennypacker by saying that he "rode like a Centaur." But let's see. Centaurs were not built for riding, were they?

Prof. Grigori Nickolaiewitch Potanin has been arrested by the Russian government on suspicion. His name is regarded as strong circumstantial evidence against him.

Society began with the monkey dinner, science followed with the dinosaurus tea, and now sport comes forward with the rhinoceros banquet. Finance dines regularly on lamb.

So far, the prayers of the Philadelphia people for Mayor Weaver apparently haven't accomplished much, but it's a good thing for the people of any city to get the praying habit.

Those waves that rolled over the Cedric may not have been a hundred feet high, but when a wave is coming at you there is no time to take an accurate geometric measurement.

In France women can wear trousers by paying $10 a year. Consequently, as a rule, they do not care to. Perhaps this is fortunate, considering the American habit of following French fashions.

The distinguished mortality is large in Monte Carlo this year. From a strictly scenic standpoint it is the most beautiful spot in the world in which to die. In other respects it is less attractive.

A man named Adams, who recently died, is referred to as "the inventor of chewing gum." Gum from the succulent spruce tree was no doubt chewed in the days of Adam and Eve—especially the latter.

The Watertown Standard solemnly declares: "The blackness of the kettle is in no way removed by reference to the somber hue of the pot." No, but when the pot goes into country what it says will not wash, unless it does.

New York is impressed with the horror of the latest tenement fire, in which a score of lives were lost. How many times it would have to be multiplied to equal the horror of the battle of Mukden, which is actually too great for the world to realize.

With singular avoidance of the ordinary course of things the Utica Observer says concerning charges against a public man: "It is sent as he has recovered his health." He should be made to meet his fate. Ordinarily those who have utterly lost their health are solemnly warned to meet their fate.

Perhaps that American girl who is touring Europe with a pet pig sitting beside her in her motor car" merely wants to show that she is not ashamed of the origin of her father's wealth.

THE STATE WENT REPUBLICAN BY LARGE PLURALITIES MONDAY.

THE DEMOCRATS WON OUT ON LOCAL ISSUES IN A NUMBER OF PLACES.

THE GREAT RAILROAD TAX SUIT IS ON BEFORE THE U. S. COURT IN GRAND RAPIDS.

The State Election.

Expectations were made good by the result of the election, as far as the state at large was concerned, the Republican candidates for justice of the supreme court, regent of the university and state board of education being elected by majorities approaching the 90,000 mark. Justice Moore's lead seems to be almost 87,000. He loses about 2,000 in Marquette county because his name was printed "James B. Moore" on the ballot, instead of "Joseph B. Moore."

The good roads amendment seems to have carried by a safe margin.

While the Democrats were snowed under on the state ticket they got satisfaction by winning out on local issues in a number of localities. Jackson elected a Democratic mayor, treasurer and five aldermen. Greater Bay City in its first election chose a Democrat, G. Hine, for mayor. Grand Rapids defeated bonding propositions and the Republicans carried about everything in sight.

Thirty one of the forty circuit judges outside of Wayne county have been re-elected. Speaker Sheridan F. Master, the Republican candidate in the Kalamazoo circuit, was defeated by about 500. So was the Republican candidate in the Cadillac circuit. Geo. L. Yaple, Democrat, of the Mendon circuit, was re-elected for a third term. In Saginaw both parties nominated the same two candidates, Judge Snow, Democrat, and ex-Judge Gage, Republican.

A New Industry.

Securing timber for use in shipbuilding on the Atlantic coast is a comparatively new industry in the Lake Superior region. The business was introduced by an Auburn, Me., man who furnishes shipyards with braces for wooden vessels, known in the Maine yards as "knees." The stumps left by the cutting are taken from the ground and trimmed so that one large piece is left when the piece is squared and left L shaped and is ready for transportation. On arrival in Maine these braces, or "knees," are put through a planing mill and are ready for use. Each vessel uses from 400 to 600 of these braces, which are necessarily rather high in price, because of the work of getting them out and the cause of high freight rates. They cost about $325 to $450 per carload. The freight rate to Maine ranges from $110 to $140 a car, depending upon the location of the source of supply. None of the product is used on the lakes, where very few, if any, wooden vessels are now being built. Here the ships are all of steel construction. In North Atlantic shipyards, however, a considerable number of wooden schooners are constructed every year. Most of them are four or five-masted schooners, measuring probably 380 feet long and drawing from 26 to 28 feet of water.

The Great Railroad Suit.

The big taxation case brought by the railroads against the state to prevent the enforcement of the present tax law and which involves $1,500,000 annually, came on for hearing at 10 o'clock Tuesday morning in the United States circuit court, Grand Rapids, Judge Wanty presiding. For at least five days there will be a mighty legal battle between leading attorneys. The litigation is the most important in the history of the state. Michigan's right to tax railroads under the present method is the issue and this marks the legal test of the result of the late Hazen S. Pingree's long fight against the railroads. Practically all of the railroads of the state are involved. Twenty-seven of them appeared originally but it was stipulated that the case should be fought under the title of the Michigan Central vs. the State of Michigan, the decision in this to be binding upon all.

Mrs. Hackley Dying.

Christian Science has failed to save the life of Mrs. Charles H. Hackley, widow of the Muskegon philanthropist millionaire, and she is slowly dying of acute nephritis. Mrs. Hackley has steadily declined since the death of her husband and for three weeks has been unable to leave her room. A week ago friends had induced her to begin a Christian Science experiment. She desisted from all medicines and relied upon absent treatment given her by a "healer" at Battle Creek. Friday her condition became critical and the pain so severe that she abandoned the test and again sent for her physician.

Fell Overboard.

Edward Decker, Jr., managing director of the Decker properties, which consist of eight banks, two newspapers, several manufacturing concerns and railroad interests, mysteriously disappeared Saturday night while en route from Ludington to Manitowoc on Pere Marquette ferry No. 18, and it is supposed he was drowned. Soon after embarking he took a powder to relieve a sick headache and retired to his stateroom. It is supposed that he stepped to the boat's rail to obtain fresh air and, becoming faint, fell overboard. He was 34 years old.

It develops in the appraising of the estate of the late Charles H. Hackley that he was generous with his friends, as well as a philanthropist to his home city, as about a quarter of a million dollars worth of valueless paper in the shape of notes on which he loaned money form part of the estate. The appraisers have not yet finished their work, but have progressed far enough to find that the estate will not fall below $6,000,000. On $3,000,000 of this estate it is estimated that an inheritance tax will be paid to Michigan.

Statistics show that insanity is fast increasing in the upper peninsula.

John L. Bean is a candidate for constable in the Third ward of Marshall for the thirty-fourth time. He has been defeated but once.

E. K. Warren has donated over 100 acres of land for free parks in five townships of Berrien county. The land borders on Lake Michigan.

The United States government has leased 62 acres of land three miles from Monroe on which a target range for the regular army will be established.

The fine farm home of Wm. Roseberry burned in Matteson township, making the eighth farm fire in Branch county in the past two months. All of them were insured in the Farmers' Mutual Co.; loss $2600.

Ina Keene, aged 25 years, was severely burned at the home of her sister, five miles northeast of Lapeer, Monday. Her hair was burned off, her body badly scorched and she has probably lost her eyesight.

Six hundred miners at the Wolverine-Pine strike Monday, demanding an increase in pay of ten per cent. They were out only half an hour, when they were induced to go back to work pending a settlement of their claims.

Thomas A. Kirkpatrick, formerly of Alpena, who was reported dead last December, is still alive, his wife, whom he deserted, receiving a letter from him from Cape Nome, Alaska. He does not explain the false report of his death.

A 3-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Pluff, of Menominee, left alone in the house while her parents were while playing in the range fire with a stick. The little one's clothing was burned from its body and she lived but a short time.

The action has been commenced in Grand Rapids against the Michigan Central by J. Darwin Welch, administrator of the estate of William O. Sherman, for $25,000 damages for the death of Sherman, killed last November by a M. C. R. R. train.

The attorney-general of New York has been asked to allow the starting of proceedings to have the trustees and other directors of the Equitable Life Assurance society removed for misconduct toward the policy holders of the association.

The state military board has determined that it is necessary that every member of the Michigan National Guard should have an extra cotton service uniform during the state camp and the requisition will soon be made for the outfits.

William H. Hamilton, married in January to Miss Minnie Tassman, of Kalamazoo, is under arrest for his army, the warrant being sworn out by his father-in-law. Hamilton's first wife was Miss Margaret Graham Keir, of Hull, Out.

Anthony Slusnas was struck and instantly killed by a Michigan Central train crossing Beach street, Jackson Monday. He was with two companions, who did not notice his absence until after the train had passed, when they turned around to find his mangled remains.

The Bay Mills Land & Lumber Co., capital $25,000, main office at Negaunee, has been formed by the Cleveland-Cliffs Iron company to take over upwards of 100,000 acres of timber and agricultural lands recently purchased by the latter corporation from the Hall & Munson company.

While playing the 5-year-old daughter of Mrs. Flora Bailey, a Bay City widow was drowned in the cistern, while reaching down with a tin can to dip up water with which to mix mud pies. The body was not found until two hours afterward, the mother supposing the child was with her grandmother across the street.

The auditor general has refused to audit the bill of former Secretary of the State Board of Health Baker for the last half of March, on the ground that the bill making a change in the office took effect March 16, and that Dr. Baker ceased at that time to be an incumbent of the office, although he has taken charge of it since.

State Game Warden Chapman, in his monthly report to the secretary of state, says that wolves caused considerable destruction among deer in the upper peninsula during the winter, but not otherwise than in other winters. Well. During March 112 complaints of depredations of the law were investigated and forty-six prosecuted, with thirty-nine convictions resulting.

S. Baker and wife, so said to be Michiganders, while en route to Azuza, Cal., became crazed by the high altitude between Sidney and Cheyenne and through the novelty of being for the first time out of their state. Baker was arrested, after having terrorized the passengers with a revolver. Later both men and wife regained their normal condition at a Cheyenne hotel.

Hundreds of fish are being caught with the bare hands by Kalamazoo urchins. During the night the fish swim up Portage creek and when the waste from the paper mill is turned into the stream the lime suffocates the fish. Some die at once, but others swim down the creek and are easily picked up in a stunned condition by the boys who are waiting for them every morning.

Principal Bison, of the Muskegon Business College, is in a state of nervous collapse and suffering with typhoid fever. He is at Hackley hospital in delirium, constantly talking to his students and imploring them to practice a little touch. It is said that he complained a week ago that the noise of the typewriters worried him; and it is believed the noise has brought on a form of insanity.

For the seventh time within three years the grocery store of John Schaberg, of Saugatuck, was burglarized Tuesday night. The thieves do not want money, as they only take cigars and open cans of sardines, with which they smear the showcases, which looks as though they have a grudge against the proprietor. The store has been burglarized two dozen times since it was purchased by Schaberg.

Henry Crook, 65 years old, is dead at a Menominee hospital as the result of a fall down a flight of stairs in a hotel at Powers. The old man was retiring when he slipped and fell the entire length of the stairs.

James Volgin, of Ewing, is the champion wolf slayer of the state. He killed 11 wolves in one day, which brought him a bounty of $286. He found a place where wolves congregated in large numbers, and scattered suet covered with strychnine. The next day he found a number lying dead and ran into a pack of 25 chasing a deer. He blazed into the pack, killing a number, and when he came to gather up his spoil found he had 13.

M. J. Smith, of Monroe, will be clerk in the dairy and food commission department and E. S. Frank, of Oakland, will be janitor of the same department after April 1.

A renewal of fighton is expected shortly. The concentration of the Russian army is complete and its advance lines south of the station of Sipinghai 74 miles north of Tie Pass.

The Japanese are screening their movements well by means of cavalry, and it is difficult to locate the bulk of their army. A heavy movement seems to be in progress on the Russian flanks. The railroad station L Changtufu, 40 to 50 miles above Tie Pass, is occupied by Japanese artillery, but so far as ascertainable, it does not cover a large body of troops.

A two-wheeled cart of the Russo-Chinese bank, containing more than $500,000, which was lost during the recent fight at Mukden, has been found, but the cash chest of the ninth regiment of artillery, which was also lost is still undiscovered.

The authorities continue to find evidence of Terrorist activity in St. Petersburg and in spite of the precautions of the police another tragedy may occur at any moment. The fighting organization is known to have on its condemned list thirty persons, headed by Grand Duke Alexis and Governor General Trepoff, but the police, although they have arrested several persons with bombs in their possession and have taken many suspects into custody, have been completely baffled in their efforts to discover the invisible hand which is directing the campaign of the Terrorists.

The peace commissioners in regard to the proximity of peace are confirmed, it is asserted, by information from an unimpeachable source, showing that Russia and Japan have selected President Roosevelt as mediator, that negotiations are already in progress, and that the suspension of hostilities shortly may be expected.

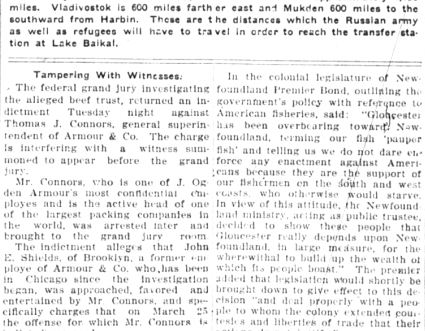
Some reports that the czar's stand on the peace or war question is still vacillating. One of the latest rumors is that he is completely cowed by the conclusions with Togo first, if he wins the attack will be much improved for Russia. If he loses it will be no worse.

Business is paralyzed and a general lack of confidence is shown. A majority of the female population is leaving Harbin. It is believed that the Japanese are preparing a bold turning movement, probably to the eastward, and the Russian cavalry is operating widely in order to avoid a repetition of the surprise at Mukden. Snow has fallen and the roads are softening into mud and are in wretched condition.

Contradictory reports are being received from Chinese fugitives, most of which indicate that there is a constant movement of Japanese east, as if with the intention of effecting a turning movement at Kirin to cover the beginning of an attack on Vladivostok. Chinese report that the construction of a railway from Sinminitn to Mukden has begun.

The people of Vladivostok are in a panic as a result of the Russian defeat at Mukden. Everybody who has been able to leave the city has done so and it is expected that the Japanese will attack the city as soon as the spring weather sets in. The spirit among the soldiers, the latter says, is good and work to strengthen the fortifications is going on incessantly. There are plenty of provisions and ammunition in the city and both officers and men are determined to surpass even the heroes of Port Arthur and feel confident of being able to repulse the Japanese. Mines have been placed in hundreds of places outside the fortifications and should the Japanese arrives ever nearer their losses will be tremendous.

DISTANCES ON THE TRANS-SIBERIAN RAILWAY IN THE FAR EAST.



(As according to late dispatches Harbin and Vladivostok are about to becomes the scenes of conflict between the Russian and Japanese military forces noncombatants are leaving those places. The map shows the railway as far as Lake Baikal, distant from Harbin approximately 1,100 miles. Vladivostok is 600 miles farther east and Mukden 600 miles to the southward from Harbin. These are the distances which the Russian army as well as refugees will have to travel in order to reach the transfer station at Lake Baikal.

Tampering With Witnesses.

The federal grand jury investigating the alleged beef trust, returned an indictment Tuesday night against Thomas J. Connors, general superintendent of Armour & Co. The charge is interfering with a witness summoned to appear before the grand jury.

Mr. Connors, who is one of J. Ogden Armour's most confidential employes and is the active head of one of the largest packing companies in the world, was summoned under a subpoena brought to the grand jury room.

The indictment alleges that John E. Shields, of Brooklyn, a former employe of Armour & Co. who has been in Chicago since the investigation began, was approached, favored and entertained by Mr. Connors, and specifically charges that on March 25 the offense for which Mr. Connors is indicted occurred.

The Canal Chairman.

Theodore P. Shonts, president of the Toledo, St. Louis & Western railroad, has accepted the chairmanship of the new Isthmian canal commission. He will be given the largest powers to carry on the canal work, and he and Chief Engineer Wallace and Judge Mageon will constitute the executive committee. Secretary Morton says: "Shonts is a man of great energy and capacity. He is thoroughly competent, and will deliver the goods." He is a civil engineer, a fine executive, an accountant, and a thorough business man, and understands all phases of railroading from personal experience. His friends say he is a "$100,000 man," and will now give up railroading and make the canal his life work. He is wealthy, and has homes in Chicago and Toledo.

Next Special Session.

Senators who called on President Roosevelt Thursday to consult with him as to the probable time of the reassembling of congress, were informed that it is likely that a special session will be called for October 16. This will enable members of congress going on the Philippine trip to return in time for the session.

Killed By Lightning.

Mrs. Nelson Fowles, aged 20, of Sebewa, was instantly killed by lightning Wednesday night. During the storm she started home from a neighbor's, and when in the middle of the street two bolts flashed, one shattering a tree by her side, the other entered her left temple and left her body at her right foot, burning off her clothing and charring her body.

Her husband had come home during her absence and he and several neighbors saw her killed. Mrs. Fowles was a Muskegon girl and was married a year ago.

Because he preferred farm work to city schooling, Merle O'Brien, aged 14, of Lincoln, Neb., shot himself, saying as he fell, probably mortally wounded: "I don't want to go to school; I prefer the farm." The boy's father moved to the city from a farm to educate his children.

Although he had resided in this country five years, and had taken out his first citizenship papers, Joseph Vitonis has been debarred from the country by the immigration authorities upon returning from a six-months' visit to Europe. He is said to be insane.

In the colonial legislature of Newfoundland Premier Bond, outlining the government's policy with reforgnce to American fisheries, said: "Gloucester has been overbearing toward Newfoundland, terming our fish 'pauper fish' and telling us we do not dare enforce any enactment against Americans because they are the support of our fishermen on the south and west coasts, who otherwise would starve. In view of this attitude, the Newfoundland ministry, acting as public trustee, decided to show these people that Gloucester really depends on Newfoundland, in large measure, for the wherewithal to build up the wealth of which its people boast." The premier added that legislation would shortly be brought down to give effect to this decision "and deal properly with a people to whom the colony extended courtesies and liberties of trade that their actions do not justify."

The city of Louisville has been indicted by a federal grand jury for holding four negroes under peonage conditions.

The second Cuban congress is now in session. President Palma's message to the legislature, and shows the treasury surplus to be $11,000,000.

Figures show that of the country's total naval forces of 30,066, the desertions are 10.7 per cent. Only 7.97 per cent of the seamen desert, but the percentage is large in the engine room and messmen classes.

In the Marshall Fielding manslaughter case at Des Moines a new trial is asked because the prosecutor quoted the commandment "Thou shalt not kill," to the jury. The defense claims it prejudiced the jurors.

John McClintock, a so-called "Angel Dancer," at the "Lord's Farm" near Park Ridge, N. J., where he was known as "John the Baptist," committed suicide by shooting himself with a rifle, using his toe to pull the trigger.

It is said by those close to the family that "Lord" Isaac Sayer has finally retired from the financial world and that his New York office will see him no more. He is recuperating from a serious illness in his country home.

Mrs. Sarah Jane Bearing, Bangor, Me., is only 30 years old, yet she is a daughter aged 16, who is the mother of a new girl baby, making Sarah Jane a grandmother.

Thirty-five thousand eight hundred dollars has been awarded by a Lima, O., jury to Joseph Hicks, a lineman, who had both arms burned off by a live wire of the Lima Light Co.

T. A. Ledbetter has dug up a pot containing nearly $2,000 in gold coin, twenty miles north of Mt. Pleasant, Tex. The coin is all United States money except one or two Spanish or Mexican pieces. Several trees near the place had Indian marks on them.

Ned Kishman, alias "Texas Kid," alias "Brake Rod," alias "Cinders," alias "Globe Trotting Ned," is now in Chicago, his old home. He has been incarcerated in 1,400 prisons while traveling 223,485 miles in nearly every country on the globe, paying no fares on boats or trains and no hotel or other bills. Kishman has a fortune of $50,000 and tramps for sheer love of wandering.

Less than twenty-four hours after his marriage to Miss Minerva Pugsley, Ernest W. Dubbert, of Ottumwa, Ia., unaccountably killed himself with carbolic acid, dying in the arms of his bride.

A GREAT SCHEME TO USE INSURANCE MILLIONS WAS FRUSTRATED.

SERIOUS DISASTER AT ZEIGLER BY AN EXPLOSION IN LEITER'S MINE.

DR. GLADDEN'S REFERENCE TO GIFTS FROM MULTI-MILLIONAIRES IS CUTTING.

Thirty-five Were Killed.

The death list at Zeigler, Ill., as the result of the mine explosion Monday, now reaches sixteen, and is expected to run to thirty-five. Fourteen miners have already been taken from the mine. All were dead but two and these have since died. The dead include State Mine Inspector William Akinson, of Murphysboro, and Mine Inspector John Graham, of Zeigler.

The bodies of dead have all been located, but the work of rescue is very hazardous. Monday night State Mine Inspector Akinson and Zeigler Mine Inspector Graham went down into the mine and were brought out dead, stifled by the foul air and smoke. Former State Mine Inspector Evan Evans finally succeeded in making a tour of the gallery, but was brought out almost dead. He has given out the statement that the explosion was not caused by gas, but was a powder explosion. This has given rise to the rumor that the mine was intentionally destroyed by enemies of Joseph Leiter, the owner of the property.

A Great Trust.

James Hazen Hyde threatens now to know the Equitable Life Assurance Co. into the hands of a receiver, and wind up its business. Owning and controlling a majority of the stock, he has the power to do this if he pleases, and the threat is very disquieting to the faithful. It is generally asserted now that the secret of the row over the Equitable company lies in the ambitions of two opposing groups of financiers to control the $100,000,000 in assets and funds of the company for the purpose of furthering their own speculative schemes. The war on Hyde is said to be only an incident of a bitter struggle. It is also alleged that a plan was afoot to merge all the small life insurance companies into three or four large ones, to rivet these large ones in a "community of interest" virtually a trust—and thus to place in the hands of the half dozen controlling spirits billions in money for whatever uses they desired to apply it—making them the money monarchs of America.

The fight in the Equitable company and publicity has thwarted this gigantic and daring speculative scheme at least for the present.

Gifts From Millionaires.

Rev. Dr. Washington Gladden, moderator of the general council of Congregational churches, preaching at the First Congregational church, Columbus, O., upon "The Christian of Today," said: "Some of the most gigantic robbers that the world has ever known, men who have accumulated hundreds of millions by wicked methods, are by some persons praised and flattered for their liberal gifts to churches and colleges and missions. Such an estimate does not represent the Christianity of today.

"The state is regarded as truly a divine institution as the church is, and the governor, the mayor, the superintendent of police, the member of the legislature, or the city council, or the school board is just as much a minister and servant of God as I am."

Off to the Wilds.

President Roosevelt has cleared up his routine work, and it is evident that he thinks the emergency calendar is also well out of the way, as he started in his seventy-mile hunting trip Monday morning. He is accompanied by a party of men, among others on the hunting expeditions, Sherman Bell, adjutant-general of Colorado; Phil Stewart, of Colorado springs, one of the leaders of the rough riders. His last most important act was the reorganization of the Isthmian canal commission. The matters on which he will probably keep an eye during his absence are: The status in San Domingo, the Bowen-Castro feud in Venezuela, the expected invitation that the United States be the mediator between Russia and Japan, the ruffle between the United States and Haiti, and the American interest in the open door in Morocco, at which door Kaiser Wilhelm is also lookin' askance.

William Sommers, 18 years old, a driver for the Grand Rapids Brass Co., met with a rare and peculiar accident, and had a narrow escape from instant death Tuesday. The horse he was driving gave a sudden lurch forward and Sommers's head was thrown back suddenly, the violent jerk dislocating the skull from the spine at the first vertebra. Sommers was rushed to a hospital where a physician succeeded in setting it back. His head was placed in a cast, and physicians think he will recover if inflammation does not set in. Local physicians say this kind of an accident is the rarest kind known and one that requires one of the most critical operations known. If while setting the neck, the physicians had moved the head to such a way that the bones had pressed against the spinal cord, instant death would have resulted.

Immigration to this country through the port of New York for March, reached unprecedented figures, the total arrivals numbering 97,900 as compared with 47,877 for the same month last year.

Joseph Elster, aged 70, flagman of the Hecla & Torch Lake railroad, was warning pedestrians of the approach of a train when he was struck by another train and instantly killed.

Every convict in Western penitentiary, Pennsylvania, is said to be armed with a knife obtained from outside prison walls by surreptitious means. Bribery of guards is suspected and bloodshed expected.

Two Russian students at the Missouri state university made a request to be assigned different seats, as they had been given places on the same bench with four Japanese. The request was granted.

An unknown man leaped over the rail of the Wabash street bridge, St. Paul, into the Mississippi river, 100 feet below, and drowned in full view of a crowd.

THE STRAIN OF WORK.

Best of Backs Give Out Under the Burden of Daily Toil.

Lieutenant George G. Warren, of No. 3 Chemical, Washington, D. C., says: "It's an honest fact that Doan's Kidney Pills did me a great lot of good, and if it were not true I would not recommend them. It was the strain of lifting that brought on kidney trouble and weakened my back, but since using Doan's Kidney Pills I have lifted 600 pounds and felt no bad effects. I have not felt the trouble come back since, although I had suffered for five or six years, and other remedies had not helped me at all."

For sale by all dealers. Price 50 cents. Foster-Milburn Co., Buffalo, N.Y.

Two Wise Reflections.

If it be my lot to crawl, I will crawl contentedly; if to fly, I will fly with alacrity; but as long as I can possibly avoid it I will never be unhappy. If with a pleasant wife, three children and many friends who think me well I cannot be happy. I am a very silly, foolish, fellow and, what the most—me is of very little consequence.—From a Letter by Sydney Smith.

Indifference may not wreck the man's life at any one turn, but it will destroy him with a kind of dry rot in the long run. To keep your mind alive and active is to be duty and faithfulness; not to be able to make it up at all is to be watery and supine.—From Bliss Carman's "Friendship of Art."

EFFECTS OF PROSPERITY.

In the six years of the country's greatest prosperity, from 1897 to 1903, average prices of breadstuffs advanced 62 per cent., meats 23.1 per cent. dairy and garden products 50.1 per cent. and clothing 11. All these were products of the farmer and stockman who profited more than any other class of the community by these advances. The miner benefited 42.1 per cent by that advance in the average price of metals. The only decrease, in the average prices of commodities in that period was in railway freight rates which decreased from .738 per ton-mile in 1897 to .763 in 1903, a loss of 3.4 per cent. The report of the Interstate Commerce Commission shows that the average increase in the pay of railroad employes in the period was a trifle above $5 per cent.

Value of Time.

There is nothing so valuable to the man who is going to carve out his own fortunes (and the fortune that is not carved out by oneself is not worth having) as time. Minutes, hours, days; they are things the value of which man cannot compute. They mean everything to young men. They are tides that come and go and leave him a wreck or carry him along with them to success. They can spell ruin just as well as they can spell hope; they will see a man fall just as readily as they will see him rise. One hour may mean an era of mental advancement and development to the man who spends it profitably; it may mean simply sixty minutes of time passed in shooting pool or billiards. You take your choice and reap accordingly.—Chicago Tribune.

Women's Trousers at Hyderabad.

The first time I was introduced into the harem of the prime minister of Hyderabad, in the Deccan, I was surprised to find the Begum and her ladies dressed in tight-fitting trousers made of rich damask silks. It being the fashion to have these trousers as close-fitting as possible, they actually sewn on, and are taken off and changed about once a fortnight.—London Daily Mail.

If You Would Sleep Well.

Form a habit of throwing off, before going to bed at night, all the cares and anxieties of the day; everything which can possibly cause mental wear and tear or deprive you of rest.

Quicksand.

Quicksand is sand readily moved; generally it is a mixture of sand and water. Tunnels have been pushed through quicksand by first freezing the mass of quicksand.

CHILDREN AFFECTED.

By Mother's Food and Drink.

Many babies have been launched into life with constitutions weakened by disease taken in with their mother's milk. Many mothers have to be careful as to the food they use while nursing their babes. The experience of a Kansas City mother is a case in point:

"I was a great coffee drinker from a child, and thought it could not eat a meal without it. But I found at last it was doing me harm. For years I had been troubled with dizziness, spots before my eyes and pain in my heart, to which was added two years ago, a chronic sour stomach. The baby was born 7 months ago, and almost from the beginning, it, too, suffered from sour stomach. She was taking it from me!

"In my distress I consulted a friend of mine whose experience than mine, and she told me that her baby's coffee did not make good milk, I have since ascertained that it really dries up the milk.

"So, I quit coffee, and tried tea and at last cocoa. But they did not agree with me. Then I turned to Postum. Coffee with the happiest results. It proved to be the very thing I needed. It not only agreed perfectly with baby and myself, but it increased the flow of my milk. My husband then quit coffee and used Postum, quickly got well of the dyspepsia with which he had been troubled. I no longer suffer from the dizziness, blind spells, pain in my heart or sour stomach. Postum has cured them.

"Now we all drink Postum from my husband to my seven months' old baby. It has proved to be the best hot drink we have ever used. We would not give up Postum for the best coffee we ever drank. Name given by Postum Co., Battle Creek, Mich.

There's a reason.

Get the little book "The Road to Wellville" in each pkg.