THE BIRMINGHAM EGCENTRIC
ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR IN ADVANCE
WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL, PUBS.
BIRMINGHAM, FRIDAY APRIL 6.

You may be good and still not be happy, but you will have more peace of mind.

In Mississippi a man is accused of killing his wife with sardines. This sounds fishy.

A German subject has expressed the wish that the kaiser might have corns. Three months.

This is surely the age of miracles. Fifty doctors called in one day on a Philadelphia girl and she still lives.

Now that somebody has called Mr. Edgar Saltus the Bernard Shaw of America. Mr. Saltus seems to have a case.

"The advantages of wealth are trifling," says Mr. Carnegie; think of the disadvantages of poverty, Andrew.

President Quintana of the Argentine republic is dead, and Vice President Alcorta takes his place. Correct your almanacs.

Jerome K. Jerome says that America is oversupplied with humor. But is it really possible to have too much of so good a thing?

Manchuria will be wholly evacuated by the Japanese in a few days. The natural presumption is that the Russians have already gone.

Amelie Rives is mentioned in a libel suit brought by her former husband. Is it possible that Amelie is contemplating a new book?

Count Boni De Castellane is sick. To see a great fortune get away before all possibility of recovery would make a stronger man than Boni ill.

Just to show that it is not wholly lost to good impulse the New York assembly has passed a bill prohibiting the docking of horses' tails.

Consul Wood at Ceiba, Honduras, writes that there is a great demand for talking machines there. Now then, married men, all keep quiet.

Castro seems to be in tough luck. Every time he gets a first-class power buttonholed somebody of importance steps up and claims its attention.

From the action of the Russian voters who elected a pet dog to the douma it can only be inferred that the douma is not a popular hit in Russia.

The Pennsylvania woman who committed suicide because she found one gray hair in her head would have been more sensible if she had dyed instead of dying.

George Bernard Shaw is an advocate of spelling reform. He says he wants his English naked. Have the Boston reformers ever thought of it in this light?

J. G. Phelps Stokes thinks it spoils boys to tell them, "One day you may be President. Still, most of them would rather be Jim Jeffries than President, any way.

In Philadelphia a big black cat aroused the inmates of a burning house and saved all their lives. This is an instance of the cat coming back to some good purpose.

Count Boni de Castellane would probably be willing to relinquish all his claims to the children if he could be assured that pay day would come with its former regularity.

A Boston man was asked whether he honestly believed in woman suffrage. "Well," he said, thoughtfully, "I believe that most women are as well fitted as many men to vote."

Witte, the Russian premier, says Dournovo, minister of the interior, could have him hanged by merely requesting it. Merely Dournovo the job to some one, so to speak. Help!

Chicago is going to have a bank that will be kept open for business day and night, and it isn't a faro bank, either; for it is going to be closed on Sundays, Christmas and New Year's day.

A London doctor declares that the night air is free from microbes and beneficial to those who breathe it. Perhaps he is in the habit of staying out late and has used up all the other excuses.

In McCarthy's "If I Were King" occurs this sentence: "The processes of his mind moved easily along the lines of least resistance." How faithfully will that apply to nearly all human experience!

A former captain in the federal army recovered recently a copy of "Paradise Lost," which he had dropped on the field of Antietam more than forty years ago. It would be interesting to learn whether the person who has had it all these years succeeded in getting it read through.

Speaking of adding new stars to the flag, how many people know that when a new state is admitted to the union the star is not added to the flag until a year from the Fourth of July following the state's admission?

Senator Platt of New York says there is no reason why his friends should be alarmed at his physical feebleness. He has a brother more than 80 years old now who has been unable for twenty years to walk alone, but who is still able to keep anything from getting past.

A western philosopher declares that a woman likes a man best when she thinks she ought not to. That explains why her original instinct is so often confirmed by her opinion of him after she has landed him.

TAX LAW STANDS

SUPREME COURT SAYS ATKINSON LAW IS VALID.

THE GREAT TAX CASE DECISION IS AGAINST THE RAILROADS AND UNANIMOUS.

THE PRIMARY SCHOOL FUND IS SWELLED BY $8,000,000 OF UNPAID TAXES.

The United States supreme court today decided the Michigan tax cases in favor of the state. The decision was unanimous, and the state will receive about $8,000,000 of unpaid taxes, which money will go into the primary school fund. There were 27 of these cases altogether, all involving the validity of Act No. 172 of the Michigan legislature of 1901, commonly called the Atkinson law, which was passed under authority given by an amendment to the state constitution adopted in 1900. This law changed the method of taxing railroad and kindred corporations from the old system of exacting the payment of a certain per cent of their gross earnings to an ad valorem system, providing for the fixing of the tax value of the railroads on the average value at which other property in the state is assessed.

The opinion of the case, written by Justice Brewer, is less than 200 words long. The decision of the United States circuit court is upheld in every particular, the fixing of a new rate of taxation by the state tax commission is declared constitutional and there is not one crumb of comfort for the railroads left. Justice Brewer said that it was never the policy of federal courts to interfere with taxation fixed by a state, unless there was something obviously unconstitutional in the method employed. The court could find nothing of the kind in the Michigan case at issue. The decision of the lower court was therefore sustained.

The total taxes assessed under the ad valorem law and those actually paid under the old specific law are as follows:

	Assessed.	Paid.
1902	$2,266,162.06	$1,668,425.86
1903	3,556,149.42	1,865,97.886
1904	3,330,350.59	1,779,642.86
1905	3,527,059.61	*207,259.71

*Small percentage of railroads have paid so far.

The total taxes assessed in 1902-3-4-5 is $13,901,721.68, and the amount paid to date is $5,321,263.92, leaving a total unpaid of $8,580,457.74.

The railroad attorneys interested will hold a meeting as soon as a copy of the decision arrives, but as the decision of the United States court is unanimous there is no possibility that any motion for a rehearing will be made. The decision dissolves the injunction issued against the auditor general, who is now at liberty to proceed in such a way as is proper to collect the money. The superintendent of public instruction will apportion the money to the various primary school districts.

Governor Warner, when informed of the decision of the supreme court, was at his home at Farmington. He said: "Well, that's good. You can say the governor is more than pleased. From what I had learned from the attorney general I had great confidence that the state would win the case and in all my talks about the state I have expressed that confidence to the people. This certainly is a great victory for the people of Michigan."

The supreme court did not render a decision in the case of the Detroit Grand Haven & Milwaukee railroad because, being the state's appeal, it was regarded as absolutely separate from the cases brought on the appeal of the companies.

The D., G. H. & M. case involves the difference between $21,000, taxes for one year, which the company is willing to pay, and $59,000, which was the charge against it. The D., G. H. & M. insists that because of its charter it need pay but 1 per cent on its capital stock of $2,500,000. The state lost the case in its trial in the lower federal court.

Monday's Voting.

The final returns on Monday's referendum have not been computed in many counties, because of the intense interest in the municipal elections that were fought out in all the important towns and county seats. But the figures are simply a question of doubling or trebling the majority as the information on hand shows. Attorney General Bird has further dispelled all doubt by explaining that only a majority of the vote cast on that question was necessary to carry it, irrespective of the total vote cast in municipal elections in which the state as a state is not concerned.

The city of Detroit, out of a total vote of 28,000, gave a majority of nearly 15,000 for the convention. Grand Rapids voted 7,593 to 3,399 in favor of a convention. Saginaw voted 3,325 to 2,205 for a convention. Houghton city and county piled up another 4,000 majority. Not a city of any class in Michigan voted against a convention as far as can be learned.

Some women are a choice combination of fool and field.

The Empire Produce Co., one of the largest commission concerns in the state, has been sold to W. Vernon Booth, of Chicago. The company owns a cold storage and creamery plant at Port Huron, and has branch houses in various towns.

By a decision of the supreme court it is not libelous for a newspaper to denounce business men as a class. The case in point was where the Michigan Trading Stamp Co., of Flint, attempted to sue a paper for criticism of the trading stamp business. The paper filed a demurrer, and it has been sustained.

Lansing students have obtained keys to some of the school buildings, the board of education has learned; and various small articles have been missed. The latest act of the marauders was to smear the heating pipes of the main assembly room of the high school with limburger cheese.

Rev. Sidney N. Ussher, of New York, has accepted a call as dean to Coadjutor Bishop John N. McCormick at St. Mark's Episcopal church in Grand Rapids. He will commence his duties on April 8. Rev. Ussher has been rector of a church in Philadelphia, but has recently returned from a two years' trip around the world.

STATE NEWS BRIEFS.

New directory gives Kalamazoo population of 40,000.

William O. Connor, of Lansing, pared his corns. Blood poisoning set in and he died.

Kenneth Nottingham, of Adrian, aged 3, was fatally burned while playing with matches.

The wife of Judge Nelson Sharpe, of West Branch, is dead after an illness of several weeks of cancer of the stomach.

Much of the stock of the Beulah gold mine at Rutherfordton, N. C., is owned in Au Sable, so the news of a strike of a rich vein causes joy.

The grounds of the Oakland County Agricultural society were bid in at chancery sale by Joseph Nusbaumer, trustee for bondholders, which total $14,556.

"Black Hand" is suspected of starting another fire in Hart Monday morning which destroyed three business, places and endangered the business section of the town.

Charles H. McLeod, grandson of Queen Marinette, a great squaw sachem of the Menominee Indians, died Wednesday of pneumonia. He had lived to be over 100 years.

James Snyder, aged 55, a farmer in Seneca, was discovered by his son in the woodshed hacking away at his head with a sharp ax. Several bad cuts were inflicted and he is in bad shape.

Herman L. Pierson, one of Flint's prominent residents, died at the home of his sister in Rushville, Ind., Saturday while returning from North Carolina, whence he went in search of health.

Peter Higgins, of Jackson, sued the Peninsular Portland Cement Co. for $10,000 damages for the partial loss of a hand in the company's plant at Grant City. The jury has awarded him $1,000.

Seward L. Wheaton has begun suit for $6,000 against the Wagner Lake Ice & Coal Co. for the loss of his eyesight, which he lost with a piece of ice tongs while loading a car at Norvell.

Senator Alger decided that he would not go to the capitol Tuesday and, in fact, would take it easy at home for several days. He is in good fighting fairly well, but not particularly ambitious to be moving around.

Oscar M. Elliott, the Lansing grocer who recently paid a $500 fine for selling colored oleomargarine, has been informed by revenue officers at Detroit that he will have to pay $972, the revenue tax he is said to have evaded.

Delirious from pneumonia, Paul Marrin, well known clear cutting lumberjack of Grand Rapids, jumped from a second story of a private hospital and was found nearly dead from cold half an hour later. He died in a short time.

Benj. Burbank, of Clio, slept with a companion Friday night, but he didn't know it until he arose to dress in the morning. As he was dressing he attempted to awaken his companion, Charles F. Hinkley, aged 20, and made the discovery that the man was dead.

Albert Siabens and Mary Scheckler, of Reed City, were married on the sly by Justice L. C. Hewitt, but as they were boarding with an uncle of the bride, Benjamin, Mr. Scheckler, boiling with wrath and accompanied by two constables, seized the bride and dragged her to her home.

Mrs. Hartwick Johnson-Hartwick, the Detroit society woman confessed bigamist who has been confined in the Mason county jail for some weeks awaiting sentence, was allowed to attend the funeral of her 2-year-old daughter Golden at Lansing. The child died of bronchial trouble, contributed through lack of care, it is said.

At midnight Saturday the villages of Delray and Woodmere were wiped off the map and each, with a portion of the township of Springwells, became a part of the city of Detroit, which contains seven more square miles than before and the population will be from 17,000 to 20,000 more. The city will be richer by from $12,000,000 to $15,000,000.

Detroit has just experienced the coldest month of March since 1900, the mean temperature being 26 degrees above zero or 10 degrees colder than the corresponding month last year. The average temperature for the month in the past 35 years has been 32.9. The coldest day last month was the 23d, when the mercury dropped to 8 above, while on the 3d the thermometer climbed as high as 54.

A. Burton Freeman, of Durand, one of the indicted supervisors in Shiawassee county, claims his constitutional right to a speedy trial and has applied to the supreme court for a mandamus to compel the judge of that circuit to set aside the continuance of his case over the term in accordance with the request of the prosecuting attorney. The court has granted an order requiring the Shiawassee judge to show cause.

At a profit approaching nearly $2,000,000, Thomas Hume, of Muskegon, acting for himself and as one of the executors of the estate of Daniel Ball, Chas. H. Hackley, and George Heffernan, of the Michigan Trust Co., co-executor, have sold 36,000 acres of short-leaf pine lands in southern Mississippi belonging to the estate of Ball to the Edward Hines Lumber Co., of Chicago. The deal, which is undoubtedly the largest in value of Muskegon held property, was concluded during the past few days and for the purpose of acquiring more funds for paying legacies of the Hackley estate.

The business of Flint postoffice was over $41,000 the past year, making it now a first-class postoffice. Notwithstanding Postmaster Button's salary is $2,000.

The widow of Congressman M. H. Ford is given the title to her home in Grand Rapids which she had lost through Thomas J. McGarry who is now in long prison for complicity in the Grand Rapids water deal. McGarry was Ford's law partner and after the latter's death took charge of the estate. The home was mortgaged by McGarry to a bank without the widow's knowledge and the bank foreclosed.

Eastern parties who say they want to erect a plant to employ 1,600 men, have been looking for a 50-acre piece of land at Port Huron, and the fair grounds have been suggested. Another concern wants 400x400 feet of ground with a building 40x80, and offers $10,000 in common stock as payment.

Senator Chester I. Long (Kas.) Tuesday presented the amendment to the rate bill agreed upon last Saturday, in the White House, in which the court review feature is amplified to meet the contentions of the lawyer senators who have argued the bill unconstitutional without it.

THE NATION'S LAW MAKERS

ALL RECORDS BROKEN BY CONGRESS DURING THIS SESSION.

REVIEW OF THE WORK SHOWS ALL IMPORTANT MATTERS ARE STILL IN THE AIR.

THE REAL ACCOMPLISHMENT IS SMALL AND EARLY ADJOURNMENT AFAR.

Many Bills, Few Passed.

The fifty-ninth congress has broken all records in the matter of bills. The members have introduced more bills and have passed fewer of any great importance than any other congress in the history of the United States. Of course, the most important and biggest piece of legislation that has pended during this session is the railway rate problem. Every phase of the proposition has been discussed at great length in both the senate and the house, and still it remains unpassed and there is no understanding when a vote will be taken in the senate, and the question of an agreement between the house and senate conferees after the bill is passed by the senate is extremely problematical.

The statehood bill is up in the air. The only possible compromise is bound to be in favor of the senate. There is absolutely no possible chance of the senate agreeing in favor of Speaker Cannon's two-state bill unless the house consents to the adoption of the Foraker amendment granting referendum to Arizona and New Mexico.

The San Domingo treaty, the passage of which the administration has urged, is still tied up in the senate and the counting of noses does not indicate that it will receive the favorable consideration of the senate this session.

The expected insurance investigation did not materialize and the Panama canal question has not been settled. The new tariff revision bill has not met with the approval of any great number of members and no legislation along this line will be enacted.

Only one appropriation bill, the deficiency bill, has passed both houses. The Smoot case is still in the senate committee on privileges and elections. All of the testimony has been heard and arguments will be made next week. It will be some time before the committee will make a report to the senate.

The pure food bill has passed the senate and is now in the house committee.

The Philippine tariff bill passed the house, but was piigeonholed in the senate committee and there is not much chance for its resurrection.

The ship subsidy bill has passed the senate, but is being held up in the house committee and it is likely to remain indefinitely, unless some dicker is made between the senate and house managers.

There has been plenty of District of Columbia and local legislation, and the pension appropriation bill has passed the house. Also a number of claims have been considered and passed by the senate, which house have passed the consular reform bill.

That about tells the story of the fifty-ninth congress to date. There has been an abundance of interesting news and of heated arguments, but this congress is certainly short on results.

Speaker Cannon picked May 15 for adjournment, but it is quite probable that the members of congress will get away before a month later.

The Rate Bill Again.

Conservative Republican senators who have contended that the house railroad rate bill would be unconstitutional if passed without an amendment giving to common carriers their "day in court" have found in the decision of the supreme court in the Michigan railroad tax cases as positive affirmation of their position.

Justice Brewer on the Michigan case said: "From the nation no one of the three great departments, can assume to be given the functions of another, for the constitution distinctly grants to the president, congress and the judiciary separately, the executive, legislative and judicial powers of the nation. It may, therefore, be conceded that an attempted delegation by congress to the president or any subordinate officer or board of power to fix a rate of taxation or exercise other legislative function would be judged unconstitutional."

Supporters of the house bill are not disturbed by the Michigan case, contending that the opinion of Justice Brewer is dictum so far as it concerns pending legislation. Senator Dolliver declares unhesitatingly that the opinion is not applicable to the present case.

Two deaths have already occurred from lack of food in the inundated lowland district of Alabama.

Nora Bell Arnold Duncan, 17 years old, of Atlanta, Ga., frankly admitted she eloped with husbands and that she would take another if she could find the sort of a man she wanted.

George Avery, one of best known and wealthiest bachelor farmers in vicinity of Bellevue, is dead.

Eight boys arrested in Springfield, O., a few days ago, charged with riotous conduct, were fined $1 each. The boys laughed openly in court, and the citizens are indignant at what they call a farce.

"Don't worry about me," says Senator Platt, of New York, when friendly pity him about his very shaky legs. "I have a brother up in New York state who has had legs like these for 20 years and he's over 80 and doing business every day."

Benjamin Franklin's statue, now being erected at Paris, may be unveiled by President Roosevelt touching a button in the White House. As Franklin was the original discoverer of electricity, it is thought proper that the statue be unveiled by electricity.

The United States court of appeals has decided in favor of the railroads in the case of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad vs. M. K. Bitterman and other New Orleans ticket brokers, holding that the railroads are entitled to compensation for functions covering all future issues of non-transferable tickets.

DARING CRIMES.

The name of Frank Castor, alias Conrad, alias Connors, will go down in the criminal history of Columbus, O., in connection with two of its most daring crimes—attempted burglary and the murder of Detective Daniel E. Davis at the home of Horace L. Chapman on June 7 last, and the subsequent attempt at jail delivery in an effort to accomplish Castor's release. For the murder of Detective Davis, Castor may give up his life in the electric chair.

Castor is a native of Flint, Mich., and is 26 years of age. His parents, who still reside in that city, visited him at the penitentiary recently and, although they were deeply affected, Castor maintained that same dull indifference that has characterized his conduct throughout.

In 1901 Castor was caught in an attempt at burglary in Michigan and in the pistol duel which followed he fired five times at Detective Fisher. For this crime he was sentenced to prison for five years, but soon escaped his escape. He then came to Ohio and operated extensively at this state and Pennsylvania—but never in Columbus up to the time of the murder of Detective Davis.

He is also charged with having killed Detective Patrick Higgins at Erie, Pa., in 1903. Higgins was a bicycle man and caught Castor as he was coming out of a house. The two exchanged shots and several bullets took effect in Higgins' body. Castor is also suspected of having killed a detective at Altoona, Pa.

Canton, O., was the rendezvous for Castor and his gang for several years.

Slaughter Was Necessary.

Maj. Hugh L. Scott, governor of Sulu archipelago, although not present at the time of the extermination of the band of Moros on Mount Dajo, is of the opinion that the killing was necessary. In an interview in Washington, where he is now, he stated that the men and women were outlaws, who, in defiance of orders from the American government on the island, took refuge in the crater of the volcano and fortified it, the mountain fastnesses and descended on peaceable natives and murdered and pillaged.

"What else could the government do?" asked the major. "The fact that they persisted in remaining in such a place showed that they intended to resist the authorities.

"The top of the mountain had too fine a front for a siege. Besides, the ravages of disease would have been terrible, lying for months in such a country. The outlaws had a water supply, with crops and provisions that would last for two years.

"Much to be regretted is the killing of women and children. But civilities sometimes are lost in and the men forced to do the killing regret it more than those who, thousands of miles away, sit in criticism."

Terror Hampton.

Warden James Russell, of the Marquette prison, who has caused the arrest of Daniel E. Hampton on a charge of criminal libel, says of Hampton's prison record:

"While Hampton was yet an inmate of the prison, he made repeated threats for an attempt to take the reins of control. The board declined at first, for the reason that he had been before it so many times on ill-tempered charges that its members did not care to open the door for repetition. I prevailed on the board to comply with his request, and the man was visited in his cell. When the door was thrown open, Hampton rushed out of his cell, taking the warden's word for everything and accused it of being unfair and prejudiced; said legislative committees were being deceived and that the members of the legislature are being bayseeds and ignoramuses. Hampton was not interrupted, and when he finished his tirade I instructed the prison physician to make examination regarding the man's physical condition and sent him out to be strapped. The board of control was furnished with the best of evidence, showing that the man was in a condition to make such a tirade, they drew the bear and two captive cubs into town. When a crowd had gathered around to admire the show Mrs. Bear suddenly came to life, stood up on her hind paws and hugged all the populace. Some of the populace climbed trees. Lundy got his gun again, and killed the brute once more, this time 'killing her dead.'"

BITS OF NEWS.

Joe Transig, of Bennington, Kas., has been confined to one week in bed for drunkenness.

The Ohio senate passed the Aiken house bill increasing the saloon tax from $250 to $1,000, amid unprecedented scenes of disorder.

President Palma, of Cuba, sent a state coach to the wharf to receive Mrs. Roosevelt and children and conduct them to the palace.

John Phillips, a large wealthy farmer of Providence, R. I., during life drew up a will which would cut off his heirs who should become addicted to any evil habits. Recently he died and the clause overruled. The estate is estimated at $150,000.

The laying of the cable between Guam and Japan has been commenced.

One team hauled 16 tons of bark in one load from Grand Lake to Alpena, distance of 22 miles.

Rev. James Cool, pastor of the Bedford Congregational church, New York, has made an innovation by converting billboards in his vicinity with flaming posters telling about his church.

Lieut. Schmidt, who was shot at Orchakoff on March 19 for his leadership of the mutiny in the Black sea fleet, transferred, just before his execution, his whole fortune, amounting to $150,000, to the revolutionaries.

The large statue of Benjamin J. Gibson McIlvain & Co., of Philadelphia, was destroyed by fire, entailing a loss estimated at $200,000.

A gift of $665,000 will accrue to Booker T. Washington's Tuskegee institute by the will of the late Andrew T. Dolger, a retired New York merchant.

"Coin" Harvey, whose name was familiar in the first Bryan campaign, has given up writing books on finance and is now running a summer resort in the Ozark mountains. He bought an old hotel there and has dammed a creek to manufacture a lake. They say he is actually getting rich on the gold basis.

THE STRIKE SITUATION

GENERAL STRIKE ORDER HAS NOT YET BEEN ISSUED.

A PEACEFUL TRUCE, THEN JOHN MITCHELL MAY GIVE LIFE TO A GREAT STRUGGLE.

WOULD THE MINES BE WORKED BY THE GOVERNMENT? THAT IS ONE RUMOR NOW.

Quiet Before the Storm.

No general strike order was issued by the national executive board of the union mine workers of America as a result of Saturday's meeting of that body. The meeting was held to complete arrangements to carry out the policy committed to the board during the national convention of the union which closed Friday afternoon. This was made effective by authorizing the district and sub-district officers to sign contracts wherever the operators signify willingness to pay the 1903 scale. Officially the operators do not recognize the question of work ordered by John Mitchell.

But the moment Mitchell leaves the conference with operators and reports they cannot agree, the spirit of conflict will spring to life. All plans on both sides are based on this possibility in view. In that event what will happen? John Mitchell and his associates will leave New York for Wilkes-barre.

Then the companies will begin active operations to save their mines from flooding or filling with dangerous gases. Two plans have been arranged to be used according to locality. One is to run non-union men to work under guard, and the other is to notify towns to save the property or it will be abandoned.

According to a report from Washington, if the coal strike becomes acute, President Roosevelt may seize and operate the mines with the aid of the United States army. He is said to have compelled settlement of the strike of four years ago by a threat to do this very thing, defying threats of impeachment made by Baer and other coal barons.

Interest in the anthracite end of the coal strike in New York when the joint sub-committee of operators and miners will reassemble in another effort to find a basis of settlement for the disputes in the hard coal fields, and it is made more interesting by the statement that the operators may take the opportunity to finally break with Mitchell and declare for the open shop.

So far as the operators are concerned, they do not appear to be in understanding satisfactory to Mitchell and his men. "No proposals to make" is the operators' stand. They will simply listen to what Mitchell's committee may have to offer in the shape of their former demands, and then it is believed that they will again offer to renew for another three years the recognition given by the union. No one expects that Mitchell will think for a moment of accepting a renewal of the old wage contract.

The present strike is to be seized upon by the operators as an opportune time for a final effort to break up union control in the anthracite fields. Several of the operators are enthusiastically in favor of establishing the open shop in their collieries at any cost and have gone on record as favoring the open shop policy in order to insure an open shop victory the operators will offer an increase in wages to such men as they desire, but upon the specific understanding that they go to work as individuals and not as members of the United Mine Workers of America.

The operators assure the public there is no reason for any inconvenience in the strike, as they have 10 washeries running and will secure an even distribution of the coal on hand.

Settle the Strike.

Prospects are considered good for an agreement between the miners and operators of the Michigan district. No unusual scenes marked the shutting down of the mines, the men simply bringing out their tools. President John Harris, on returning from Indianapolis, called a convention of Michigan miners in Saginaw. A scale will be formulated and as soon there after as possible a joint conference between operators and miners will be held to effect an agreement if possible. In the meantime pumpmen, engineers and firemen, necessary to prevent destruction of mining property, have been ordered to remain at work.

President Harris said: "The settlement or agreement is made, and I see no reason now why it should not be, must, of course, be on the basis of 1903, as decided at Indianapolis."

Beautiful Ben-Macdhui, the 600-acre summer home of John Alexander Dowie at White lake, is to be sacrificed to help out the depleted finances of Zion.

Convinced that reciprocity treaties with Great Britain for the establishment of closer trade relations between the United States and Canada are out of the question at this time, Secretary Root has determined to abandon the tariff question for the present.

Report has reached San Francisco that the boycott against American products over the Canadian line is out, and that there is a prospect of an early and full resumption of business.

A policy which will prevent the export of energy developed at Niagara Falls to an extent to drive Canadian industries, has been announced by Minister of Public Works Hyman in the Canadian house.

The Ohio River & Western railway roadhouse at Zanesville, O., was completely demolished by a landslide of 250,000 tons of ice and debris. Two locomotives were carried into the gulley below.

Toledo citizens are planning to give the delegates of the National Council of Women, who will arrive on April 1, a royal welcome, and an extended program has been arranged.

John D. Rockefeller apparently has forgotten his promise to Harry Evans, the 14-year-old boy he took from a beer garden in Cleveland where he earned a living by singing. Rockefeller, the boy says, promised to give him a musical education so as to keep him in the church. He has not heard from the millionaire for several months and has been obliged to return to the saloons to earn a living.

FARMERS ORGANIZE.

The Michigan union of the American Society of Equity will be organized and officers elected at a meeting to be held in Owosso on April 27 and 28. This is an organization of farmers which has for its object the securing of profitable prices for crops by controlling the markets. In other words the idea is to form a "farmers' trust."

The society is only 3 years old, but has members in 2,724 counties, out of a total of about 2,800 in the country suitable for agriculture, and at 26,271 postoffices out of a total of 69,121 in the country. It is proposed to now organize every state solidly and separate the country with local unions.

The prospectus says: "The farmers grant to merchants and others the right to manage their own business and make their own prices, at the same time they are determined to attend to their own business so their prices will be as high in proportion as on tiny goods they buy from others.

"They propose to check the destructive prices which have set in toward to the prices set by this society in its last annual convention, as follows. Wheat, No. 2 red, $1; corn, No. 2, 50 cents; oats, No. 2, 38 cents; barley, good malting, 65 cents; hogs, per cwt, $6 to $6.50; cattle, per cwt, $5 to $6; potatoes, per bushel, 65 cents; all on the basis of Chicago markets. The farm price being freight off and a fair allowance to the handler.

"This society contends that the farmers should have these prices and presents an array of figures, supported by argument.

"If marketing conditions supplies held back—it is claimed there is no question about the demand paying the price. That time set, the strike to begin is March 1, after which date it is recommended that not a bushel, pound, bale or ton of farm produce shall be sold for less than the prices agreed upon."

Shops Closed.

By the closing down of the greater part of the Illinois Central shops in Jonia more than 100 men are thrown out of employment. Men in the machine shop, the blacksmith and tin shops and the boiler works were laid off indefinitely. The car shop and the car repairing department will be continued in operation. The reason given for the shutdown by railroad officials is that the general business of the road will suffer materially from the coal strike.

THE MARKETS.

Detroit—Cattle—Extra dressed steers and heifers, $6@6.25; steers and heifers, 1,000 to 1,200, $5.75@6; steers and heifers, 800 to 1,000, $4.25@4.50; 500 to 700, $3@3.25; cows, $3@4.25; 300 to 700, $2@3.25; good fat cows, $3.50; common cows, $2@2.25; canners, $1@1.75; choice heavy bulls, $4; fair to good bologna, $3@3.25; stock yearlings, $3@3.25; choice feeding steers, 800 to 1,000, $4@4.25; fair to good feeders, $4@4.25; stockers, $3.25; fair feeding steers, 800 to 1,000, $3.25@3.50; choice stockers, 500 to 700, $3@3.50; fair stockers, 500 to 700, $2.75@3; stock heifers, $2.50@3; milkers, large, $35@45; medium sizes, $30@35; common milkers, $18@25.

Veal calves—Market steady and $1 per hundred higher; best, $6@6.25; others, $3.50@5; milch cows and springers steady.

Sheep and lambs—Market lambs 15@25c lower; best lambs, $6.50@6.75; fair to good lambs, $6@6.50; light to common lambs, $5.50@6; spring lambs, $8@9; yearlings, $5@5.50; other sheep, $4.50@5; culls and common, $2.50@3.50.

Hogs—Market 5@10c higher; $6.75 Thursday. Range of prices: Light to good butchers, $6.45; pigs, $6.40@6.50; roughs, $6.25; stags, $4@5.

Chicago—Cattle—Market steady; beeves, $4@6.75; cows and heifers, $1.40@5.10; stockers and feeders, $2.75@4.80; Texans, $3@4.25.

Hogs—Market strong to 5c higher; mixed and butchers, $6.25@6.47½; good to prime, $6.40@6.47½; rough, $6.25@6.30; light, $6.25@6.52½; pigs, $5.75@6.30; bulk of sales, $6.35@6.45.

Sheep—Market steady to strong; sheep, $3.75@6.15; lambs, $4.50@6.60.

East Buffalo—Best export steers $5.15@5.30; best 1,300-lb shipping steers, $5@5.25; best heifers, $4.75@5; medium heifers, $3.50@4; best cows, $4.50@4.75; good yearling steers, $5@5.25; common stock steers, $3.25@3.50; export calves, $4@4.50; bologna bulls, $3.50@3.75; light stock bulls, $2.75@3.25. The cow market today was dull and dragged that last period; best cows, $5@5.40; few fancy, $5@5.50; fair to good, $3@4; common, $2@3.50.

Hogs—Mixed mediums and heavies, $6.75@6.80; few select at $6.85; pigs, $6.70@6.75; roughs, $6@6.25.

Sheep—Top lambs, $6.90@7; culls, $5.25@6.50; best ewes, $5.25@5.50; culls and common, $2@4.75; wethers, $6@6.30; yearlings, $6.25@6.50; best calves, $7@7.50; medium to good, $6@7; heavy, $3.50@4.50.

Grain, Etc.

Chicago—Cash quotations: No. 2 spring wheat, 76c; No. 3, 73@72c; No. 2 red, 82½@83½c; No. 2 corn, 42½@43½c; No. 2 yellow, 44@44½c; No. 3 mixed, 39½c; No. 2 white, 42½c; No. 3 white, 36½@37½c; No. 2 rye, 59½c; choice feeding barley, 37½@38½c; fair to choice malting, 43@50c; No. 1 flaxseed, $1.12; prime to choice timothy, $1.12; prime timothy seed, $2.17½; clover, contract grade, $13.

Detroit—Wheat—Cash No. 2 red, 85¾c; sales, 2,000 bu at 85¾c, 5,000 bu at 83¾c, 2,000 bu at 83¾c, 5,000 bu at 83¾c, July, 10,000 bu at 80½c, 2,000 bu at 80¾c, 7,000 bu at 80½c, 12,000 bu at 80¼c, 10,000 bu at 80¾c, 1,000 bu at 80¼c, 2,000 bu at 81½c; No. 3 white, 83½c.

Corn—Cash No. 3, 47c; No. 2 yellow, 5 cars at 48c.

Oats—Cash No. 3 white, 32½c.

Rye—Cash No. 2, 65c asked.

Beans—March, $1.50; May, 1 car at $1.52.

AMUSEMENTS IN DETROIT
Week Ending April 7, 1906.

TEMPLE THEATRE AND WONDERLAND—Afternoons, 10c; evenings, 10, 20c. Week 10, 20c. Leon Morris' Great Animal Circus.

LAFAYETTE THEATRE—Prices 10-25-35-50c. Week 2nd, Sat. and Saturday.
"The Lady of Lyons."

WEST'S—Prices 10-20-30c. Matinee, 10-15-25c. "Black Patti's Troubadours."

LYCEUM—Prices 25c, 50c. Matinee, 25c. Week 2nd, Sat. "David Harum."

William Rockefeller and his guests have left San Remo hurriedly for Havre, France, where Mr. Rockefeller will embark for America, upon the urgent solicitation of his brother, John D., whose health is not encouraging.

To settle the question of whether eggs of a particular breed of fowl could be distinguished from ordinary ones, an accommodating hen, a game bird, that was accompanied by a rooster, decided the argument by laying an egg in the presence of his honor in a Danville, Ill., court, Tuesday morning.

You will never know what a woman is unless you suffer very much.

Frederick Holbrook, of Vermont, who recently passed his 95d birthday, is the only one of the famous "war governors" now surviving. He stood with Governors Curtin, of Pennsylvania, and Andrew, of Massachusetts, as one of the stanchest supporters of the Lincoln administration when it most needed support. Among the institutions for which the nation is indebted to Mr. Holbrook's initiative were the military hospital established at Fairfield, Ohio, during the civil war, where from 1,500 to 2,000 soldiers were cared for at once.