THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC
ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR IN ADVANCE
WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL, PUBS.
BIRMINGHAM, FRIDAY, MAY 17.

Engineer Goethals must be busy canal digging. In any event he isn't doing much talking.

Experience in the United States has shown that it is a great deal more dangerous to rob a train than it is to steal a railroad.

The sweet girl graduate is beginning now to think about her valedictory. The graduation costume was settled long ago.

An Evanston woman is such a persistent borrower of trouble that she is unhappy now because she never feels well in hot weather.

One reason why earthquakes are more destructive now than they were 100 years ago is that there are more big cities to shake down.

Fort Dodge girls are taking desperate risks when they become the wives of men who marry merely to avoid paying that bachelor tax.

The constitution of Oklahoma, if printed in book form, would be about the size of the average novel, but most people would rather read the novel.

"Does golf destroy friendship?" asks a correspondent of a London paper. We don't pretend to speak as an authority, but bridge does, some times.

Since humanitarian feelings forbid the wearing of dead birds and artificial flowers have been discovered to be germ bearers, the fruit garden effects are about all that women have left for their hats.

Emperor Francis Joseph has to wash the feet of 12 old men once a year in order to hold his job. It is safe to bet, though, that the feet have been scrubbed and sandpapered before he gets to them.

The nucleus of a Missouri millionaire's fortune was $50 loaned him by his wife. The trouble with most men is that when they borrow from their wives they are really getting money from themselves.

If all the Chinamen in this country who claim to be native born are truthful, every Chinese woman in the United States must have been the mother of 38 children. The heathen Chinee continues to be peculiar.

If England and Spain are becoming allies it's nothing new. That was quite the normal state of things in the time of Napoleon. The two countries have been good friends, at least outwardly, for a century and more.

An important percentage of England's great trade in cotton goods with India is made up of dhooties—which are ornamented aprons. Any paragrapher who wants to make a little jest about dhooties and duties is welcome to the opportunity.

The will of an Edinburg man who has left $25,000 to his servant, Pennel Munro, "in recognition of her unwearied attention" to himself and his family is evidence that there are exceptions to what has come to be regarded as a rule.

It has been asserted that there are 40 fortunes of more than $50,000,000 each in the Pittsburg district, based on coal and iron development. Whether this be correct or not, there are certainly a great many fortunes running from $5,000,000 and $10,000,000 on up to $100,000,000 each, and then there is Mr. Carnegie's, of $300,000,000 or $400,000,000.

Talk is not always cheap. A man in New York fined for being found in an opium den had to pay ten dollars extra for a single foreign muttered word, which would meant that he hoped the court would drop dead. Insulting the dignity of the law is a luxury which those who wish to indulge in must pay for, and even take a risk on the enjoyment.

The Chinese, who invented almost everything before anybody else heard of it, claim to be the original discoverers of the process of sugar making, and it is said that sugar was used in China as long ago as 3,000 years. This is misty, but the fact is well established that it was manufactured in China under the Tsin dynasty, 200 years at least before the Christian era began.

The prince of Wales possesses an expert knowledge of the various aeroplanes and their mechanism. His royal highness was always of a mechanical turn of mind, and in another sphere of life would probably have made a name as an inventor. He is remarkably clever with tools of every description, and has already imparted a good deal of his knowledge to his eldest sons.

Dr. Edward Everett Hale says he doesn't believe in long sermons. Perhaps some clergymen are a little too conscientious about giving good measure.

A gift of $300,000 has been offered to Yale if the university will raise $1,700,000 more. Somebody must think Yale has an almost insatiable craving for money.

Englishman complains that he couldn't get anything to eat in Canada, although, of course, it never struck him to go to Sandwich, Ont.

One of the Rockefeller girls has married a man worth $60,000,000. She will not suffer want if the Standard Oil company ever gets conscience-stricken and gives the money back.

Active volcanoes are not liable to have many visitors this year. The prosaic person out on his vacation doesn't care for a steady diet of cinders.

Germany is enjoying an era of exceptional prosperity. Like the United States, it has nothing to worry over except the fear that it will not last.

MICHIGAN EVENTS NOTED

THE PALATIAL NEW STEAMER OF THE D. & C. LINE IS BURNED.

LOSS OF 700,000 DOLLARS.

Magnificent Craft Was Nearly Completed to Be Turned Over to the Owners.

Will Rebuild at Once.

Fire of mysterious origin completely destroyed everything but the steel hull and machinery of the D. & C. line's new $1,250,000 steamer City of Cleveland Monday morning. The loss is estimated at between $600,000 and $700,000. The boat was underwritten by the marine insurance companies for $700,000, and the loss is expected to prove one of the biggest on a single vessel in the history of the lake marine.

The two watchmen aboard had a narrow escape from being burned to death. Only their familiarity with the vessel and the location of the various hatchways saved them. One of the men, William Hall, had his face slightly scorched in getting away.

The magnificent craft was nearing completion at the Orleans street yards of the Detroit Shipbuilding Co., and was to have gone into commission on July 1. As she had not yet been delivered to the navigation company the loss falls on the shipbuilding concern, which is fully protected.

One of the watchmen discovered the blaze at 4:30 o'clock on the main deck on one of the paddle boxes and quickly turned in an alarm, but as the fire started amidships it spread in both directions with startling rapidity.

The fire will also be a severe blow to Frank E. Kirby, who designed the steamer. Mr. Kirby considered the boat his greatest achievement and watched her grow from the first plate to the dome as a father would watch his boy from his infancy to manhood.

Work on the new steamer was started at Wyandotte last fall and she was launched on January 5. She was then brought to Detroit to receive her machinery and upper works. The boat was 440 feet in length and 92 feet wide, the largest sidewheel steamer in the world.

In a dispatch from Cleveland D. C. McIntyre, general traffic manager of the Detroit & Cleveland Navigation Co., says:

"The burning of the new steamer will not in the least affect our regular service. We can take care of all business—both freight and passenger—with the boats now operating. It was the purpose of the company to principally run the new steamer in the daylight excursion service between Cleveland and Detroit."

Forest Fires Raging.

A forest fire is raging in Grant township. A southwest gale is driving it in a path fully a mile wide. A house on the John Brewer farm burned despite the efforts of farmers to save it. The Grant township church, one of the finest country churches in Grand Traverse county, was saved only by heroic efforts. On account of the gale it is impossible to control the fire. Farmers of the entire region are fighting for their homes. The damage already is heavy. The fire is now in the "choppings," which burn like tinder and sparks and burning brands flying high in the air make eternal vigilance necessary to save farm buildings. It is the worst fire of the kind in years.

Lost Their Homes.

Fifteen families, about 100 people, of Oak Mill, a suburb of Manistee, were turned out of their homes Monday night by a conflagration which started in the meat market of Max Niemarwicz. The property loss is about $15,000, with little insurance. The settlement was located on a blind out of range of the city fire department and a strong wind carried the flames from house to house. A bucket brigade and the engine from Buckley & Douglas' lumber mill prevented the flames from spreading further.

Brunswick Scorched.

The postoffice of the village of Brunswick, Genesee county, was destroyed by fire with the entire general store stock of E. T. Carbine. The loss is $6,000. The village has no fire protection and a strong wind was blowing, but a volunteer fire brigade saved many homes from being destroyed.

Girls Not Barred.

The house, by an almost unanimous vote, has rejected a resolution offered by Rep. H. F. Baker, of Cheboygan, that after this session no more women or girls be employed as legislative stenographers, typewriters and committee clerks.

Mrs. L. F. Harter, of Ashley, has received a letter containing a dollar from Chas. R. Maitland, of Scranton, Pa., to pay for a "hand-out" he gave him three years ago. Maitland begged for the meal at the back door and although in rags he claimed not to be a tramp, and said he would pay for the meal when better days came to him.

The Park house, Flint's first hotel, has been torn down, and from the lumber is contained five houses were built.

Leon McVeigh, a member of the M. N. G., was held up by three masked men while crossing a bridge in Ionia on his way home from drill, and relieved of $6.

Charles Howind, of Jackson, who built the new federal building in Battle Creek, has been cited to appear in the U. S. court in Detroit, charged with working his men nine hours per day. There is a law making eight hours a day's work on all government buildings.

More than 5,500 volts of electricity passed through Edward Washburn, an employee of the Owosso & Corunna Electric Co., and he is recovering. He was found on the sidewalk unconscious, with his hands burned to the bone, more than 30 feet from where he received the shock.

Leslie Brown, of Flint, pleaded guilty to furnishing liquor to Franklin Perry, aged 16, and was sentenced to 65 days in the house of correction without the alternative.

Chris. Waltz, a Gladstone shoemaker, fearing he was going blind, committed suicide by cutting a vein in his wrist.

APPENDICITIS.

Representative Ward Operated On Sunday Afternoon.

Rep. Charles E. Ward underwent an operation for appendicitis at the Lansing City hospital Sunday afternoon. Dr. E. T. Abrams, of Dollar Bay, performed the operation, assisted by Dr. A. W. Seidmore, of Three Rivers, Dr. J. A. Barry, of Wexford (these physicians are members of the house), Dr. Goss, of Bancroft, and Dr. L. W. Toles, of Lansing.

The patient, who was induced to submit to the operation only when the case approached a desperate crisis, was on the operating table 90 minutes. The operation was one of considerable difficulty, but the other physicians expressed admiration of the performance of Dr. Abrams. The appendix, considerably inflamed and with serious adhesions, was removed.

The physicians reported that Mr. Ward's chances are very good for complete recovery.

One of Ward's physicians had mentioned the interest aroused in the Edith Presley tragedy. The doctor says he said:

"Ward, you owe it to your friends, as well as to yourself, to face the music. I tell you this without any idea as to whether you are justly or unjustly accused."

Ward's reply was: "I can and will explain everything as soon as I am able to get out."

Peverett Captured.

Albert E. Peverett, one of the celebrated Richland bank robbers, who escaped from the Ionia institution on July 7 last, was captured in Garrett, Ind., and brought back. Peverett was first sent to Jackson, then transferred to Marquette. He wouldn't work, and sawed his hand off. Peverett was then transferred to Ionia but returned as cured, then broke out a second time.

In the asylum they kept Peverett under close surveillance, not allowing him out of his ward. One night he and all were at dinner his cell door was mysteriously unlocked and he walked out. No one knows how Peverett's release came about, but they have been after him ever since. His sentence was fifteen years.

One of his associates in the Richland affair is Allison, who is still in Jackson prison, though an effort is being made to secure a pardon.

Another Great Electric Line.

The Mills-Moore syndicate, projectors of the Michigan United Railway, signed papers in New York Thursday which gives them possession of the Jackson Consolidated Traction Co., and makes the Michigan United supreme over the Michigan interurban and city lines, The Kalamazoo, Battle Creek and Lansing city lines, with an interurban line north to St. Johns and a line south to Jackson, under construction, also belong to the M. U. R. It is understood that the price paid by the Mills-Moore syndicate to Coler & Co. for the Jackson lines is $1,000,000. The M. U. R.'s capital is now $5,000,000, and with the lines now under construction and completed, will be second only to the Detroit United in miles.

The State Encampment.

After an inspection of the several available sites, the military board has decided to hold this year's annual encampment of the Michigan National Guard at Ludington. Brig.-Gen. McGurrin, Brig.-Gen. Kidd and Brig.-Gen. Hartsuff went to Ludington last week for the purpose of inspecting the site near that place, the South Haven and Saginaw locations having been visited previously. The troops will go to camp on Wednesday, August 14, and will return to their stations on Friday, August 23, giving eight full days in camp and parts of two others.

Girl's Hard Run.

Howard Berry, 2-year-old son of Edward Berry, of Coldwater, while left in the care of his sister, aged 8 years, climbed upon a chair and from there to a shelf and secured a bottle of carbolic acid, tipping the contents over himself. The child's arms, legs and feet were frightfully burned. Mrs. Berry was at the station to take the train to Quincy. The daughter ran a mile and a half to the depot, but was unable to make her mother understand as the train was in motion and she did not get off. Neighbors secured a physician and the child was made comfortable.

Wants to Stay.

Stella Mix, who left her home near Nashville, Mich., last November, and whose invalid mother expresses concern over her whereabouts, has been located in Detroit. The girl is with friends in the city and is anxious to return to her old home. Miss Mix sent her father a letter, informing him as to her welfare and stating that she is desirous of remaining in the city.

BRIEFS.

Mrs. Zoe Potvin, aged 82, an old resident of Alpena, who fell on a sidewalk when returning from church, sustaining concussion of the brain, is dead. She did not regain conscious ness. One son survives.

Snow fell in many places in Michigan Friday. Reports came from cities that are situated in the lower tier of counties and from those that are hundreds of miles farther north. A big drop in the temperature was registered Thursday night and it is feared fruit trees have been affected. The snow did not last long enough in any place to make any appreciable showing.

When the Battle Creek police nabbed Jack Oscilo, a tramp, they found $23 in bills tucked in his shoes which he had taken from the pockets of Myer Yanklowitz, a fellow "butcher." Oscilo's excuse was that his father had but one foot and that Yanklowitz's dad had two.

Dubie D. Dustin went to his home in Portage township to care for his sister who was dangerously ill. He took pneumonia and died in five days. The sister, Mrs. H. Huff, whose illness brought him home, also died, and another sister died several weeks ago. The mother is now in a critical condition.

Congressman-elect Gerritt J. Diekema will hold on to his $5,000 job on the Spanish war claims commission for some time, as there is some work to be finished. Walter Wallace, who is to be shut out from drawing his $7,500 a year as representative, There will be a great rush among Michigan for Mr. Diekema's job when he resigns.

The board of education of Rapid River, Delta county, has voted for the erection of a new school house. The building will be of brick and stone and will cost $15,000 to $20,000. It will be ready for occupancy at the opening of the fall term. It is expected.

NEWS FROM HOME AND ABROAD

THE GREAT PLURRY IN WHEAT MADE MILLIONAIRES AND BEGGARS.

COREY'S WEDDING ROYAL

Things Unusual That Have Happened During the Past Few Days and Have a Passing Interest.

Millions in Wheat.

The enormous dealings in wheat caused by the shortage in the coming crops of the world have sent prices up by leaps and bounds. A few days ago wheat was around 85 to 88 cents. The following figures give some idea of what wheat is doing now and what is has done in the past:

Highest prices Monday: December, $1.03; September, $1.00½; July, 97c; May, 94¾c.

Advance to date in September option, 26¾c; in July, 22c.

Highest in 1904 (black rust scare).$1.22
Highest 1898 (Leiter May deal) .. 1.85
Highest in 1888 (Hutchinson deal) 2.00
Highest on record, 1867 ..... 2.85
Estimated trade Monday ..100,000,000
Loss in winter wheat crop..100,000,000
Big Winters Wheat Crop generally
Profits on available supply holdings 25,000,000
Losses by leading bears ... $500,000

Dollar wheat, with millions made and millions lost, was the situation that confronted the markets of the world at the opening. Speculative factors in the market declare the price has been made by a prospective shortage of at least 100,000,000 bushels in the crop for America alone, due to bad weather and crop conditions.

Experts estimate the European shortage at from 400,000,000 to 500,000,000 bushels, all of which, if true, would run the world's shortage to from 100,000,000 to 500,000,000 bushels.

On the other hand those who have been most closely in touch with the great movement instituted over a year ago to control the output of the wheat producers of the country declare that dollar wheat today, is the result of their campaign. It was the consensus of opinion that the high price will be maintained.

The Corey Wedding.

William Ellis Corey, president of the United States Steel Corporation, and Mrs. Corey, whose wedding occurred at the Hotel Gotham, New York, at 1:3 Tuesday morning, left the hotel half an hour later for Hoboken, where they boarded the steamer Kaiser Wilhelm II, and later in the day sailed from the United States on their honeymoon. The wedding is said to have cost $5,000, and the banquet was one of the most sumptuous ever served in the city. These figures are given showing what it cost the millionaire to get a divorce that he might marry Mabelle Gilman the actress:

Mrs. Corey, prior to divorce	$3,000,000
His mother for championing his cause	250,000
Money invested for his son ...	1,750,000
Real estate in New York, deeded to Miss Gilman.....	500,000
Chateau in France	1,000,000
Fifth avenue mansion	120,000
Diamond pendant owned by Marie Antoinette	50,000
Jewels, gifts to bride.....	200,000
Chartering yacht for honeymoon	35,000
Minister's sumptuous fee ..	5,000
Total	$6,920,000

"Buffalo Bill" Is Wary.

About a month ago Col. William F. Cody ("Buffalo Bill") was called to Denver and offered first $10,000 and later $25,000 if he would tell Howard Gould's agents all he knew of the early life of Gould's wife. The story has just become known through some of his old comrades in whom he confided.

Col. Cody knew Mrs. Gould when she was Kathryn Clemmons and traveled with his show, though she was not a part of it. The agents asked him if he ever heard anything about Kathryn Clemmons and "Big Hawley" fleecing a Frenchman in Italy out of a large sum of money. The veteran scout's answer was:

"You'll have to see my lawyers. You see," he added, "I have a claim for $60,000 against Mrs. Howard Gould for money due me for her stage education and for financing her productions before her marriage."

This is alleged to be not the only attempt Howard Gould has made in the west to get inside information about the early life of the woman he married. At present he has detectives in California searching the records and trying to find out all they can about her.

War Breaks Out Again.

War is again breaking out in Honduras, according to travelers arriving from the interior. The fighting this time is between the same armies which took part in the conquest just completed, but with a new alignment of parties. The quarrel is over who shall be president. Nicaraguans, as well as Hondurans comprise the present belligerents. This time, however, the Nicaraguans, instead of fighting as conquerors, are marching under the guise of peacemakers, their object being to support with arms one of the presidential aspirants.

The application of the resolution to the Ward-Presley case will be obvious.

Superintendent Aaron F. Wood, of the Mt. Pleasant city schools, has been elected as superintendent of the Prescott, Arizona, schools, at a $2,000, salary.

Nearly one-half of the million celery plants set out in the Ryerson creek, Muskegon river, Bear lake and Mona lake flats were killed by Friday night's extreme frost. The young plants suffered the most by the frost and conservative estimates place the damage at $25,000.

Miss Catherine C. Diebel, of Saginaw, W. S., won the annual contest of the Peninsular Oratorical league with an oration on "Robert E. Lee." George A. Cram, of Pontiac high school, was second and Stanley Mills, of Ann Arbor, third.

Under the direction of County Road Commissioner George Haggerson, $25,000 will be expended by Menominee county in building roads and bridges in Menominee county during the coming summer. Several miles of macadam road are contemplated for which the county expects to get the state county of $1,500 per mile.

Pettibone's Career.

George A. Pettibone, indicted with Moyer and Haywood, of the Western Federation of Miners, for complicity in the assassination of ex-Gov. Steunenberg, of Idaho, was a convict in the Detroit house of correction during five months in 1892-3.

Pettibone is said at the house of correction to have been a quiet, orderly prisoner, who left no particular impress on the minds of keepers. His stay was cut short by a reversal of his conviction.

Pettibone was a leader of the miners who rioted at Coeur D'Alene, Idaho, during 1892. A federal injunction had been secured restraining the miners from interfering with the non-union workmen.

An armed mob over which Pettibone was one of the leaders attacked one of the mines where strike breakers were working and about 1,000 shots were exchanged. Then the strikers began to run short of ammunition. Pettibone and some others, it was charged, made a detour to the powder shed, broke it open and took 200 pounds of dynamite up the hillside to the top of a 500-foot chute leading into the besieged mine building.

The dynamite was given a push, the 200 pounds slid faster and faster until, at the bottom, there was an awful crash and the whole mine blew up. Pettibone at the top of the chute, was badly hurt. It was close afterward that Pettibone was arrested, tried and convicted along with several others.

Returning Shriners Killed.

Twenty-one passengers were killed and 22 injured severely and eight or ten slightly hurt in a wreck Saturday afternoon on the Southern Pacific, the Southern Pacific, five miles south of Surf. The train was a special loaded with Shriners who were on the way from Los Angeles to their homes in the east. The train consisted of six coaches. Past Imperial Potentate of the Mystic Shrine Alvah P. Clayton received a telegram from Imperial Treasurer W. H. Brown, of Buffalo, who was on the train that followed the wrecked section of No. 21. Mr. Brown stated that the dead Shriners were members of Al Koran temple of Cleveland, Ismalia temple of Buffalo, and Rajah temple of Reading, Pa. The message says that some of the dead are known to be trainmen. The numbers given are 21 dead and about as many seriously injured.

In Eruption.

Enormous clouds of gray ashes appeared this afternoon from the sea, darkened the sky and fell on the town. Considerable apprehension was felt when it was realized that the clouds were ashes and cinders from Mount Etna and Stromboli. A similar phenomenon was noticed along the southern coast and caused panics in several places. The latest reports declare the situation is more terrifying. A few weeks ago Stromboli was covered with rich vegetation; now the island is stricken and desolate, everything having been destroyed by the fire or buried under ashes. Every boat at the island has been pressed into service by the inhabitants to aid in their escape from the danger.

Spain's Crown Prince.

The Queen of Spain has given birth to a boy at 12:45 p. m. Friday. The whole city went wild with enthusiasm when it was announced that the first-born of the king and queen was a boy, and dense crowds surged around the palace for hours shouting and wildly waving hands and handkerchiefs and hats, and in every way displaying intense loyalty to the royal family, and the keenest satisfaction that the royal mother had given them a man-child to inherit his father's throne in the fullness of time.

Beat All Records.

The Octopus, a new submarine boat, beat all records off Newport, R. I. While running at full speed on the surface, propelled with gasoline engines, she was given the signal that the enemy was in sight. The engines were stopped and the craft propelled by storage batteries. Diving rudders were adjusted, 37 tons of water were taken into her tanks and in four minutes she was submerged. When running awash at 10 knots she dived and was submerged in 22 seconds.

Twenty-four Days' Storm.

For 24 days a snow storm has raged in the northern Wyoming mountains, and snow is seven feet deep on the level. Since April 15 the sun has not shone, and the storm has not ceased a moment. The temperature has been between zero and 10 degrees below during the time. It is the most remarkable storm that ever visited the Wyoming mountains.

Soon Parted.

Mrs. Bessie Johnson-Mariani, daughter of Mayor Tom L. Johnson, of Cleveland, and her Italian husband, Frederico Mariani, who were married in Cleveland 40 days ago, are living apart. This is the story which comes from New York city, where the couple have been since their marriage, and where they intended to remain some months prior to a trip abroad.

Mt. Pleasant Fire.

The opera house block in Mt. Pleasant was seriously damaged by fire which started in the Temple theater, where moving pictures are being exhibited. The total loss by fire and water is about $10,000. Dayton's dry goods, millinery, Wellington & Son, law offices; Dr. Baskerville's office and Hall's barber shop suffered most severely. The Isabella county state bank was not badly damaged.

George Eatlow, aged 32, of Coldwater, was sentenced to the Detroit house of correction for raising a disturbance at his home. He threatened his wife's life with a revolver, and then gave her a severe whipping, burned up her clothing, and came near setting the house on fire.

The mail boat Alert, which plies Gull lake, has been ordered into service, to begin June 14. This is one of the first inland lake routes established in the state, with a convenient mail service. The boat plies the entire shore of the lake, stopping at every landing twice each day.

The Michigan Central will put in a 12-mile branch in Montmorency county, to reach the hardwood timber supply for the new mill to be erected in Bay City. The supply will keep the mill busy for thirty years.

Mme. Elsie Heyraud, of Battle Creek, wife of a French farmer, has received a diploma of honor from the Grand Concours de la Mutualite of Paris, for a volume of poems she submitted. There were 5,000 contestants.

Wyman L. Dunham, of McBain, will construct a bank building at Dighton, which will be opened in about 90 days. The building will be equipped with all the modern bank facilities.

From the State Capital

Information and Gossip Furnished by Special Correspondent at Lansing.

Lansing.—That it is going to be a difficult matter to frame a railroad commission bill satisfactory to all the interests concerned, was shown when the joint railroad committees held a hearing on the merits of the substitute measure that was drafted to supercede the bill presented by the Manufacturers' association. Hal Smith, of Detroit, who drafted the original bill, took the view that the substitute is too radical to invite general support, and he questioned the wisdom of several of the amendments. He also pointed out that the original bill met the demands of the shippers and was also satisfactory to most of the railroads. A. M. Todd, of Kalamazoo, talked in favor of the substitution, but he also wanted a number of provisions added for the further protection of shippers. The attorneys for the Michigan Central and Pere Marquette railroads were not present and there was a general demand from all the counsel that they be given further time, in which to study the provisions of the substitute so that they may be better prepared to discuss it. This was finally granted and the hearing adjourned until next Tuesday. The provisions of the substitute that are particularly objectionable to the railroads relate to authority vested in the commission. The first practically gives the commission authority over the operation of trains and gives them authority over steam and electric terminals to the extent that the commission may compel the Michigan Central to permit the Pere Marquette to use its terminals. The substitute also leaves the question of reciprocal demurrage, which the railroad committee of the senate disposed after several hearings earlier in the session, to the commission. Against this the railroads use the arguments that they would be at the mercy of the commission and they would prefer some fixed regulations. This is one of the matters that the interstate commerce commission is trying to fathom. The substitute also leaves the commission to restrict the issuance of stock and bonds, which is distasteful to the railroads.

Governor Will Veto Bill.

By a vote of 56 to 25 the house passed the exemption of credits bill. Perhaps more work has been done in the interests of this measure than any other that has come up this session, but the final determination is a long way off. The bill now goes to the senate and in the event of its passage Gov. Warner will interpose his veto. He is convinced that the bill will give no measure of relief to the borrowers of money, especially in that it will not reduce the rate of interest. The governor is strongly impressed with the stand taken by Gov. Davidson, who is working for the repeal of the exemption law in Wisconsin for the reason that it has proven a failure after being tried for four years. The debate on the proposition took up nearly three hours, opposition to the repeal being led by Representatives Waters, Newkirk and Benton. The last named contended that it would take $48,000,000 from the tax rolls, a sum equal to the assessed valuation of 25 counties in the state. Representative Newkirk declared that while the rich money lenders in his section had urged him to support the measure not one request had come from the farmers or from men who are small borrowers. He took the position that the object sought is wrong in principle and should not be permitted.

Primary School Money.

It has been decided that the apportionment of primary school money to be made will be at the rate of one dollar per capita, the total apportionment for the state being $749,326. Of this sum Wayne county will receive $110,127 and Kent $39,000. Although the state has a large amount of primary school money on hand, it was not in the state treasury on April 1, and is, therefore, not available under the law until next November.

To Entertain Soldiers.

Capt. Durst, of Company E, is preparing to provide some sort of entertainment for the state troops who will come to Lansing May 31, on the occasion of the visit of President Roosevelt. Just what form the amusement will take has not been definitely decided upon.

Wayne Member Criticised.

The house defeated a resolution offered by Representative Lord providing for morning sessions. Representative Hudson handed out the data that if the Wayne members would not skip out on Thursdays more progress would be made.

Don't Want Commission.

A delegation of stationary engineers from Detroit were here to protest against the proposed bill creating a state board for examining and licensing stationary engineers. Detroit has a local licensing board, as have several other big cities, and objects to being compelled to support a state commission. The proposed bill provides that each engineer should pay an annual license of $3, which would practically result in forcing the engineers of Wayne county to support the commission.

War on Bucket Shops.

The Chicago board of trade has evidently started out on a campaign to exterminate bucket shops. One of its employes appeared before the house committee on state affairs in support of the Fouch bill. Archie Ellair, of Detroit; Conner Smith and former Speaker Ed Adams, of Grand Rapids, who are supposed to represent "Deacon" Ellis, appeared in opposition to the measure. The committee is expected to reach a decision in a few days.

Ward-Presley Story Disproved.

The story about Representative Ward, whose name has been prominently mentioned in connection with the death of Miss Presley, waiting for Miss Presley at the Grand Trunk station at Detroit, on Gratiot avenue, is a fairy tale so far as Miss Presley is concerned, unless Ward expected her to take the late afternoon train. As a matter of fact she left on the Pere Marquette evening train which leaves here at 7:10 p. m., her brother Frank put her aboard and State Highway Commissioner Earle conversed with her from Plymouth to Detroit. He occupied the day coach but she was in the parlor car. Knowing she was on the train he looked her up. On nearing the station he went back to get his grip, but on getting off at the depot, he could not find her. Miss Presley must have hurried out to avoid him and went directly to the Wayne hotel, where she registered under the name of Hall. Stories are now afloat to the effect that several persons knew of Miss Presley's condition for several weeks back. A Lansing business man told a member of the legislature that he was apprised of the matter a month ago, but now says that he cannot remember who told him.

Library Bond Issue.

At a night session of the house and senate Senator Bland introduced a bill to enable the city of Detroit to issue $750,000 library bonds with a referendum attached. The delegation has already decided against raising the bonded limit.

In the house the new military bill with the state armories provision was passed without discussion. When it goes to the senate some twenty amendments will be made to the bill and the question of making promotions by seniority will be settled. Unless these proposed amendments are satisfactory to the military, officials the bill will not be reported out by the committee.

No Pension for Teachers.

Representative Miller had the house pass a bill changing the Detroit teachers' retirement act so that the pension can be increased from $250 to $400 and prescribing how the funds may be invested.

At the request of H. Corlett Smith, of Detroit, Representative Standart introduced a bill permitting the consolidation of electric light, gas and power companies in Shiawassee county, but it is not known what specific purpose the bill is intended to subserve.

St. Johns now has nine saloons and Representative Norton wants to prevent any increase except on a ratio of one to each 500 additional population.

Poor Helped by City.

During the year ending April 30, 898 indigent persons were aided from the city poor fund to the extent of $1,629.20, according to the annual report of City Director of the Poor Foster, filed with the city clerk. The amount expended is $283.20 less than that of the previous year. Strange as it may seem the expenditures were greatest in February, the shortest month of the year. The largest item of expense is $530.76 for fuel, and the next is $520.70 for food. The other items follow: Board, $66; clothing, $37.42; house rent, $208; nursing, $198; burials, $32.25; transportation, $24.16; car fare, stamps, school books, washings and office supplies, $11.91.

Keep Out of Game.

An echo of the last campaign, when things were being heard about Gov. Warner and the farm he got from the Widow Jersey in Ogemaw county, sounded in the senate when Senator Huntley Russell introduced a bill "to permit the sale of any land held by the state in trust or otherwise to any state officer, member of the state board, employe or clerk in any state department or office, or any other person receiving compensation from the state, during their term of office or employment." This means that no officer or employe of the state shall be permitted to buy tax lands.

New Local Option Bill.

Representative Hudson has introduced a modified local option bill which provides for residential districts throughout the state in which saloons cannot be located except on a vote of the electors of said districts.

Governor Signs Bill.

Gov. Warner signed the Saginaw fish bill. This closes the Saginaw river to net fishing after next May.

Bill for Horse Doctors.

Representative Morrice's bill providing for a department of veterinary medicine at M. A. C. passed the house. There was not a sufficient number of members present to give it immediate effect and the measure was laid on the table until next week. The bill provides that the state board of agriculture may provide a course in veterinary surgery and issue degrees of doctor of veterinary science upon the completion of the course. No provision is made for an appropriation for the maintenance of the department.

Railroad Business Good.

March was a good month for the railroads, their earnings in Michigan for the month being $4,837,074.79, according to a statement issued by the state railroad department. In March, 1906, the railroads earned $4,447,627.16, the increase over the corresponding month one year ago being $389,447.63. For the three months ending March 31 the railroads earned $13,510,223.68, an increase of $952,603.61 over the corresponding period of 1906. The increase was 7.5 per cent