THE BIRMINGHAM ECCENTRIC
ONE DOLLAR PER YEAR IN ADVANCE
WHITEHEAD & MITCHELL, PUBS.
BIRMINGHAM, FRIDAY, JAN. 14.

Keep off treacherous thin ice!

Is the real big stick a sugar stick?

It is time to call in the openwork shirt waits.

It is also chilly for those who lack shelter, food and fire.

Would the use of stovaine make one indifferent to the cold weather?

In making its students study the University of Chicago is setting a noble precedent.

In running a school or in curing disease the fresh air is immeasurably better than hot air.

Washington should have pure milk—not that it makes much difference to the congressmen.

The trustworthy goosebone indicates an erratic winter. But are not all our winters erratic?

Brazil and Sweden have signed an arbitration treaty. Now all they need is something to arbitrate.

It is a pity that the white plague continues to stalk abroad when there is so much fresh air at large.

The world certainly is growing better. The number of people who write it "Xmas" is gradually decreasing.

Having led the world in a tour around the globe, our navy is now proposing to lead in development at home.

As the new Chinese minister to this country cannot speak a word of English how in the world is he going to ask questions?

The idea of putting in meters to measure telephone talk is good, but will it be possible to devise meters that will stand the strain?

Twice nothing is nothing, but that rule does not apply when it comes to figuring on the temperature that is twice as cold as zero.

Cornell university says there are to be no more babies after 2059 A. D., and dealers in baby goods will have to make hay while the stork flies.

Philadelphia scientists say that the missing link has been discovered in the cultured chimpanzee. As an alternative we suggest the giver of monkey dinners.

Kermit Roosevelt recently killed two bongoes. We don't know just what a bongo is, but the probabilities are that it is just as fierce a man-eater as the yamyam.

An Ohio authority says that drunkenness is an evidence of insanity. It is quite generally agreed now that it is a disease, but we still continue to treat it legally as a crime.

The Yale alumnus, who offers a reward of $100,000 to the person who discovers an adequate remedy for tuberculosis, evidently does not accept the theory that fresh air is a sure cure.

There is no doubt that when King Gustave lays down the shipwright's knife or the shoemaker's awl and resumes the regal scepter, he will do so with an intimate knowledge of industrial conditions which he could not have obtained in any other way.

And now they're claiming in the east that it is impossible to raise turkeys on account of a disease called blackhead, and that the disease is spread by the English sparrow. Funny, if the sparrow spreads it, that it is not common in the west—the sparrow is.

A Yale graduate has offered a prize of $100,000 for a cure of consumption. The reward may stimulate effort, but in justice to those who make it their life profession to investigate disease it must be said that the ultimate good to humanity has proved the greatest spur to scientific discoveries.

The king of Sweden is getting practical lessons in hard work by going about in disguise doing odd stunts in the way of coal heaving and other labor. Like the good Haroun-al-Raschid, the king wants to know, so he goes about to get information at first hand. And there is no doubt that he will accumulate a stock of knowledge rather unusual in the experience of a reigning sovereign.

Mexico stands squarely by the United States in that Zelaya business, says Troy Times. Our sister republic is entirely aware of the trouble-making character of the man who is trying to run Nicaragua on the dictator plan and has a full share of annoyance from the conditions in that neighboring country. Mexico has learned what peace, order and material development mean and has no sympathy with the Zelayan style of cantankerousness.

The enthusiast who proposes an automobile boulevard all the way from the Atlantic to the Pacific coasts, with road houses every five miles, carelessly omitted to specify a hospital inserted exactly between road houses.

A punishment to fit the crime was that inflicted on a grocer in a Pennsylvania town who was compelled to eat eggs alleged by a customer to be bad. It is safe to say that in future eggs in that town will be sold only in a state of pristine and unimpeachable purity.

One of the rules for avoiding colds given by a competent medical man is to take plenty of rest, but not to overdo it. Is a man or his wife to judge of the amount of rest the man needs?

A medical sharp estimates that if the transmission of disease by flies could be stopped the world would gain 170,000,000 years of human life and effect a saving of $20,000,000,000. What enterprising promoter will first launch an Amalgamated Fly Extermination Company, limited, and get a grip on these

COMMERCE LAW AND THE TRUSTS TREATED BY TAFT

PRESIDENT HANDLES TWO IMPORTANT TOPICS IN HIS SPECIAL MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

WANTS NEW COURT CREATED

Tribunal Would Hear Cases Arising Under the Interstate Law—Chief Executive Also Urges Federal Incorporation Statute to Suppress Abuses and Not to Destroy Legitimate Combinations of Capital.

Washington, Jan. 7.—Needed legislation concerning the interstate commerce law and the control of trusts formed the subject of President Taft's special message to congress. The president calls attention to the partial failure of the present commerce law to get results because of the frequent appeals from its decisions to federal courts and the slowness of the supreme court in deciding these cases. The message says:

"It would not be proper to attempt to deprive any corporation of the right to the review by a court of any order or decree which, if undisturbed, would rob it of a reasonable return upon its investment or would subject it to burdens which would unjustly discriminate against it and in favor of other carriers similarly situated. What is, however, of supreme importance is that the decision of such questions shall be as speedy as the nature of the circumstances will admit, and that a uniformity of decision be secured so as to bring about an effective, systematic and scientific enforcement of the commerce law, rather than conflicting decisions and uncertainty of final result.

Recommends "Court of Commerce."

"For this purpose I recommend the establishment of a court of the United States composed of five judges designated for such purpose from among the circuit judges of the United States, to be known as the 'United States court of commerce,' which court shall be clothed with exclusive original jurisdiction over the following classes of cases:

"(1) All cases for the enforcement, otherwise than by adjudication and collection, of a forfeiture or penalty, or by infliction of criminal punishment, of any order of the interstate commerce commission other than for the payment of money.

"(2) All cases brought to enjoin, set aside, annul or suspend any order or requirement of the interstate commerce commission.

"(3) All such cases as under section 3 of the act of February 19, 1903, known as the 'Elkins act,' are authorized to be maintained in a circuit court of the United States.

"(4) All such mandamus proceedings as under the provisions of section 20 or section 23 of the interstate commerce law are authorized to be maintained in a circuit court of the United States.

"Reasons precisely analogous to those which induced the congress to create the court of customs appeals by the provisions in the tariff act of August 5, 1909, may be urged in support of the creation of the commerce court.

"In order to provide a sufficient number of judges to enable this court to be constituted it will be necessary to authorize the appointment of five additional circuit judges, who, for the purposes of appointment, might be distributed to those circuits where there is at the present time the largest volume of business such as the second, third, fourth, seventh and eighth circuits. The act should empower the chief justice at any time when the business of the court of commerce does not require the services of all the judges to reassign the judges designated to that court to the circuits to which they respectively belong; and it should also provide for payment to such judges while sitting by assignment in the court of commerce of such additional amount as is necessary to bring their annual compensation up to $10,000.

Only Second to Supreme Court.

"The regular sessions of such court should be held at the capitol, but it should be empowered to hold sessions in different parts of the United States if found desirable; and its orders and judgments should be made final, subject only to review by the supreme court of the United States, with the provision that the operation of the decree appealed from shall not be stayed unless the supreme court shall so order. The commerce court should be empowered in its discretion to restrain or suspend the operation of an order of the interstate commerce commission under review pending the final hearing and determination of the proceeding, but no such restraining order should be made except upon notice and after hearing, unless in cases where irreparable damage would otherwise ensue to the petitioner. A judge of that court might be empowered to allow a stay of the commission's order for a period of not more than 60 days, but pending application to the court of its order or injunction, then only where his order shall contain a specific finding based upon evidence submitted to the judge making the order and identified by reference thereto that such irreparable damage would result to the petitioner, specifying the nature of the damage.

"Under the existing law the interstate commerce commission itself initiates and defends litigation in the courts for the enforcement, or in the defense of its orders and decrees, and for this purpose it employs attorneys, who, while subject to the control of the attorney general, act upon the initiative and under the instructions of the commission. This blending of administrative, legislative and judicial functions tends, in my opinion, to impair the efficiency of the commission by clothing it with partisan characteristics and robbing it of the impartial judicial attitude it should occupy in passing upon questions submitted to it. In my opinion all litigation affecting the government should be under the direct control of the department of justice; and I therefore recommend that all proceedings affecting orders and decrees of the interstate commerce commission be brought by or against the United States eo nomine, and be placed in charge of an assistant attorney general acting under the direction of the attorney general."

Would Permit Agreements.

Coming to the subject of railroad pools and traffic agreements, the president says:

"The Republican platform of 1908 expressed the belief that the interstate commerce law should be further amended so as to give the railroads the right to make any public traffic agreements subject to the approval of the commission, but maintaining always the principle of competition between naturally competing lines, and avoiding the common control of such lines by any means whatsoever.

"In view of the complete control over rate-making, and other practices of interstate carriers established by the acts of congress, and as recommended in this communication, I see no reason why agreements between carriers subject to the act, specifying the classifications of freight and the rates, fares and charges for transportation of passengers and freight which they may agree to establish, should not be permitted, provided, copies of such agreements be promptly filed with the commission, but subject to all the provisions of the interstate commerce act, and subject to the right of any parties to such agreement to cancel it as to all or any of the agreed rates, fares, charges, or classifications by 30 days' notice in writing to the other parties and to the commission."

Other Amendments Urged.

In accord with other declarations of the Republican platform of 1908, the president further recommends that the interstate commerce law be amended so as to provide, that no railroad company subject to the commerce act shall, directly or indirectly, acquire any interests of any kind in capital stock, or purchase or lease any railroad, or any other corporation which competes with it respecting business to which the interstate commerce act applies; that a law be enacted providing "that no railroad corporation subject to the interstate commerce act shall hereafter for any purpose connected with or relating to any part of its business governed by said act, issue any capital stock without previous or simultaneous payment to it of not less than the par value of such stock, or any bonds or other obligations (except notes maturing not more than one year from the date of their issue), without the previous or simultaneous payment to such corporation of not less than the par value of such bonds, or other obligations, or, if issued at less than their par value, then not without such payment of the reasonable market value of such bonds or obligations as ascertained by the interstate commerce commission; and that no property, service, or other thing than money, shall be taken in payment to such carrier corporation, of the par or other required price of such stock, bond or other obligation, except the fair value of such property, services or other thing ascertained by the commission."

Would Prevent Wrong Practices.

The president continues:

"I believe these suggested modifications in and amendments to the interstate commerce act would make it a complete and effective measure for securing reasonableness of rates and fairness of practices in the operation of interstate railroad lines, without undue preference to any individual or class over any others.

"By my direction the attorney general has drafted a bill to carry out these recommendations, which will be furnished upon request to the appropriate committee whenever it may be desired.

"In addition to the foregoing amendments of the interstate commerce law, the interstate commerce commission should be given the power, after a hearing, to determine upon the uniform construction of these appliances—such as sill steps, ladders, roof hand holds, running boards and hand brakes on freight cars engaged in interstate commerce—used by the trainmen in the operation of trains, the defects and lack of uniformity in which are apt to produce accidents and injuries to railway trainmen. The wonderful reforms effected in the number of switchmen and trainmen injured by coupling accidents, due to the enforced introduction of safety couplers, is a demonstration of what can be done if railroads are compelled to adopt proper safety appliances.

"The question has arisen in the operations of the interstate commerce employers' liability act, as to whether suit can be brought against the employer company in any place other than that of its home office. The right to bring the suit under this act should be as easy of enforcement as the right of a private person not in the company's employ to sue on an ordinary claim, and process in each suit should be sufficiently served if upon the station agent of the company upon whom service is authorized is made, to bond the company in ordinary actions arising under state laws. Bills for both the foregoing purposes have been considered by the house of representatives and have been passed, and are now before the interstate commerce committee of the senate. I earnestly urge that they be enacted into law."

Control of the Trusts.

The second part of the message is devoted to the control of trusts. After a lengthy discussion of trusts, good and bad, and the success of prosecutions under the Sherman anti-trust act, Mr. Taft says:

"It is the duty and purpose of the executive to direct an investigation by the department of justice, through the grand jury or otherwise, into the history, organization, and purposes of all the industrial companies with respect to which there is any reasonable ground for suspicion that they have been organized for a purpose, and are conducting business on a plan which is in violation of the anti-trust law. The work is a heavy one, but it is not beyond the power of the department of justice, if sufficient funds are furnished, to carry on the investigations and to pay the counsel engaged in the work. But such an investigation and possible prosecution of corporations whose prosperity or destruction affects the comfort not only of stockholders but millions of wage earners, employes, and associated tradesmen must necessarily tend to disturb the confidence of the business community, to dry up the now flowing sources of capital from its places of hoarding, and produce a halt in our present prosperity that will cause suffering and strained circumstances among the innocent many for faults of the guilty few. The question which I wish in this message to bring clearly to the consideration and decision of the congress whether to avoid business danger something cannot be done by which these business combinations may be offered a means, without great financial disturbance, of changing the character, organization and extent of their business into one within the lines of the law under federal control and supervision, securing compliance with the anti-trust statutes.

For Government Control.

"Generally, in the industrial combinations called 'trusts,' the principal business is the sale of goods in many states and in foreign markets; in other words, the interstate and foreign business far exceeds the business done in any one state. This fact will justify the federal government in granting a federal charter to such a combination to make and sell in interstate and foreign commerce the products of useful manufacture under such limitations as will secure a compliance with the anti-trust law. It is possible so to frame a statute that while it offers protection to a federal company against harmful, vexatious and unnecessary invasion by the states, it shall subject it to reasonable taxation and control by the states, with respect to its purely local business.

"Many people conducting great businesses have cherished a hope and a belief that in some way or other a line may be drawn between 'good trusts' and 'bad trusts,' and that it is possible by amendment to the anti-trust law to make a distinction under which good combinations may be permitted to organize, suppress competition, control prices, and do it all legally if only they do not abuse the power by taking too great profit out of the business. They point with force to certain notorious trusts as having grown into power through criminal methods by the use of illegal rebates and plain cheating, and by various acts utterly violative of business honesty or morality, and urge the establishment of some legal line of separation by which 'criminal trusts' of this kind can be punished, and they, on the other hand, be permitted under the law to carry on their business. Now, the public, and especially the business public, ought to rid themselves of the idea that such a distinction is practicable or can be introduced into the statute.

"In considering violations of the anti-trust law we ought, of course, not to forget that that law makes unlawful, methods of carrying on business which before its passage were regarded as evidence of business sagacity and success, and that they were denounced in this act not because of their intrinsic immorality, but because of the dangerous results toward which they tended, the concentration of industrial power in the hands of the few, leading to oppression and injustice. In dealing, therefore, with many of the men who have used the methods condemned by the statute for the purpose of maintaining a profitable business, we may well facilitate a change by them in the method of doing business, and enable them to bring it back into the zone of lawfulness, without losing to the country the economy of management by which, in our domestic trade the cost of production has been materially lessened, and in competition with foreign manufacturers our foreign trade has been greatly increased.

Asks National Corporation Law.

"I therefore recommend the enactment by congress of a general law providing for the formation of corporations to engage in trade and commerce among the states and with foreign nations, protecting them from undue interference by the states and regulating their activities so as to prevent the recurrence, under national auspices, of those abuses which have arisen under state control. Such a law should provide for the issue of stock of such corporations to an amount equal only to the cash paid in on the stock; and if the stock be issued for property, then at a fair valuation ascertained under approval and supervision of federal authority after a full and complete disclosure of all the facts pertaining to the value of such property and the interest therein of the persons to whom it is proposed to issue stock in payment of such property. It should subject the real and personal property only of such corporations to the same taxation as imposed by the states within which it may be situated upon other similar property located therein, and it should require such corporations to file full and complete reports of their operations with the department of commerce and labor at regular intervals. Corporations organized under this act should be prohibited from acquiring and holding stock in other corporations (except for special reasons upon approval by the proper federal authority), thus avoiding the creation, under national auspices, of the holding company with subordinate corporations in different states which has been such an effective agency in the creation of the great trusts and monopolies.

State Laws Conflict.

"If the prohibition of the anti-trust act against combinations in restraint of trade is to be effectively enforced, it is essential that the national government shall provide for the creation of national corporations to carry on a legitimate business throughout the United States. The conflicting laws of the different states of the union with respect to foreign corporations make it difficult, if not impossible, for one corporation to comply with their requirements so as to carry on business in a number of different states.

"To the suggestion that this proposal of federal incorporation for industrial combinations is intended to furnish them a refuge in which to continue industrial business under federal protection. It should be said that the measure contemplated does not repeal the Sherman anti-trust law and is not to be framed so as to permit the doing of the wrongs which it is the purpose of that law to prevent, but only to foster a continuance and advance of the highest industrial efficiency without permitting industrial abuses.

"Such a national incorporation law will be opposed, first, by those who believe that trusts should be completely broken up and their property destroyed. It will be opposed, second, by those who doubt the constitutionality of such federal incorporation and even if it is valid, object to it as too great federal centralization. It will be opposed, third, by those who will insist that a mere voluntary incorporation like this will not attract to its assistance the worst of the offenders against the anti-trust statute and who will therefore propose instead of it a system of compulsory licenses for all federal corporations engaged in interstate business.

"Let us consider these objections in their order. The government is now trying to dissolve some of these combinations and it is not the intention of the government to desist in the least degree in its effort to end those combinations which are to-day monopolizing the commerce of this country; that where it appears that the acquisition and concentration of property go to the extent of creating a monopoly of substantially and directly restraining interstate commerce, it is not the intention of the government to permit this monopoly to exist under federal incorporation or to transfer to the protecting wing of the federal government of a state corporation now violating the Sherman act. But it is not, and should not be, the policy of the government to prevent reasonable concentration of capital which is necessary to the economic development of manufacture, trade and commerce.

May Doubt Constitutionality.

"Second—There are those who doubt the constitutionality of such federal incorporation. The regulation of interstate and foreign commerce is certainly conferred in the fullest measure upon congress, and if for the purpose of securing in the most thorough manner that kind of regulation, congress shall insist that it may provide and authorize agencies to carry on that commerce, it would seem to be within its power, this has been distinctly affirmed with respect to railroad companies doing an interstate business and interstate bridges. The power of incorporation has been exercised by congress and upheld by the supreme court in this regard. Why, then, with respect to any other form of interstate commerce like the sale of goods across state boundaries and into foreign countries, may the same power not be asserted? Indeed, it is the very fact that they carry on interstate commerce that makes these great industrial concerns subject to federal prosecution and control. How far as incidental to the carrying on of that commerce it may be within the power of the federal government to authorize the manufacturer of goods, is perhaps more open to discussion, though a recent decision of the supreme court would seem to answer that question in the affirmative.

"The third objection, that the worst offenders will not accept federal incorporation, is easily answered. The decrees of injunction recently adopted in prosecutions under the anti-trust law are so thorough and sweeping that the corporations affected by them have but three courses before them:

"First, they must resolve themselves into their component parts in the different states, with a consequent loss to themselves of capital and effective organization and to the country of concentrated energy and enterprise; or second, in defiance of the law and under some secret trust they must attempt to continue their business in violation of the federal statute, and thus incur the penalties of contempt and bring on an inevitable criminal prosecution of the individuals named in the decree and their associates; or

"Third, they must reorganize and accept in good faith the federal charter I suggest a federal compulsory license law, urged as a substitute for a federal incorporation law, is unnecessary except to reach that kind of corporation which, by virtue of the considerations already advanced, will take advantage voluntarily of an incorporation law, while the other state corporations doing an interstate business do not need the supervision or the regulation of federal license and would only be unnecessarily burdened thereby."

A Child's Development.

The development of a child's character should not be left to the mother alone. It needs the directing influence of the mother, the strengthening influence of the father. Often a child's nature, possibilities and growth are unknown and unwatched by his father. It is something he does not understand, because he does not study it.

Norway to Have Exposition.

Early historic times in Norway are to be illustrated at an exposition to be held at Bergen next summer.

Try It.

If you don't believe it, just suggest to the first man you meet that he would have made a fine comedian if he had gone on the stage and see him swell up with pride and tell you about the first amateur performance he ever appeared in.—St. Louis Star.

A Good Idea.

"What do you suppose that umbrella manufacturer selected as the motto of his business?"

"What?"

"'Put up or shut up.'"

Diplomacy.

"Fanny, your father has been walking around out there for two hours. Is he opposed to my being in here with you?" asked the young suitor. "Tee, hee," giggled the maiden, "of course not. This is the night I bet him you would propose and he's waiting to see whether he wins or loses."

Woman and Time.

A woman thinks clocks were made for the purpose of enabling her to tell just how much she is going to be late.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Brilliant Idea.

Gyer—I have a plan for speeding an aeroplane through the air at the rate of three miles a minute.

Myer—How are you going to do it?

Gyer—Use a gas meter for the motor.

The Reason.

"Ah, well, wealth does not bring happiness!"

"Then why not give your wealth to me?"

"I think too much of you to want you to be unhappy."

Truth as a Prisoner of War.

Macaulay seeks truth, not as she should be sought, devoutly, tentatively, with the air of one touching the hem of a sacred garment, but clutching her by the hair of the head and dragging her after him in a kind of boisterous triumph, a prisoner of war, and not a goddess.—John Morley.

Philosopher's Pessimism.

A woman is the most inconsistent compound of obstinacy and self-sacrifice that I am acquainted with.—Richter.

New Zealand Coal Mines.

Coal is obtained in many parts of New Zealand, but the chief mines are in the Westport district, in South Nelson; the Grey district, in Westland; in Otago and Auckland. The best coals occur in the two former, the Westport mines producing a quality scarcely equaled throughout the world.

Let Your Light Shine.

Nor knowest thou what argument thy life to thy neighbor's creed hath lent. Therefore, keep your good manners on all the time.

TWO MEN SHOT AT YPSILANTI

THREE BURGLARS FROM DETROIT SLAY ONE RAILROAD MAN, BADLY WOUND ANOTHER.

ROBBERS ARE ARRESTED

Michigan Central Baggageman Killed; Companion Dying in Detroit Hospital—Boy Burglars Are Reform School Graduates.

THE VICTIMS.

Henry C. Miner, 55, baggageman, Ypsilanti, killed by one of the burglars.

Morgan Emmett, 48, ticket agent, Chelsea, mortally wounded and dying in the Detroit Sanitarium.

THE PERPETRATORS.

Charles Harrington, 18, 221 Grand River avenue, Detroit, suspected of having killed Miner.

Robert McCormick, 26, 261 Locust street, Detroit; thought to have shot Emmett.

Charles Billings, 20, 14 Bryant street, Detroit; held in connection with the robbery.

Beginning with a gun fight in a jewelry store which was being robbed, and followed by another revolver battle in the Michigan Central depot, then followed by a hot chase across country after two perpetrators of these acts, Ypsilanti enrolls on its criminal annals one of the most spectacular episodes that has occurred of recent years. The tragic summary of events is one railroad man shot to death, another dying, and two desperadoes wounded.

Carl Billings, Robert McCormick and Henry Harrington, whom they call "Winky," obviously so nicknamed because of the markedly peculiar action of his eyelids, came to Ypsilanti in company on a Michigan Central train which left Detroit at 9:15 o'clock, Billings asked at the D. U. R. waiting room when the next car would leave. He was told, "At 11:15 p. m."

The next development came when Night Watchman Cady entered the alley in the rear of Switzer Bros.' jewelry store and heard a man running out of the other end of the alley ahead of him. A moment later he discovered that the store had been entered through a back window.

Cady surmised that the man in the alley was merely a guard and crawled through the window into the store. As he did so the figure of a man rose over the counter at the front of the store. The officer fired and rushed forward, but two men slipped through the plate glass window, which had been broken.

Cady followed to the street and blew his whistle for assistance. Officer William Mowrey and Chief of Police Gage responded. Mowrey and Cady pursued the two men, McCormick and Harrington, toward the river, while Gage started after the man who had run from the alley, Billings.

At the river bridge the two men turned and one of them, supposed to have been McCormick, opened fire with an automatic revolver. The officers returned the fire and the men ran and made their escape.

Gage discovered Billings' overcoat, which he had thrown away as he left the alley. He followed to the Michigan Central station, where he captured Billings.

Gage warned Baggageman Minor at the depot to keep watch for the other robbers and returned to town with his prisoner. It was 5:15 o'clock when Minor phoned that two men answering the description were in the depot.

"I warned Minor to look out for the guns and keep watch of the men, but it could not have been ten seconds after I hung up the receiver before the telephone operator called me and said she had heard shots at the depot and was unable to get an answer to her calling," said Gage. "When I got to the depot five minutes afterward Minor lay on the floor of the baggage-room dead, and Emmett was apparently dying, with blood streaming from a ragged wound in his chest.

"Emmett was able to tell me something of the fight. When Minor left the phone he decided with Emmett to try to capture the robbers, both of whom seemed to be merely boys. They did capture them without difficulty, and marched them to the baggage room, but without first removing the guns from them.

"As they entered the baggage room McCormick suddenly broke away and fired a shot from the deadly automatic gun. 'Both Minor and I had guns and we began to fire, but the others were too fast for us. A dozen shots were fired. I saw Minor slip to the floor, and almost the same instant I went down, too. The men ran from the depot.'"

Billings was arrested at 1:30, while young Harrington went to the home of L. H. Pattee with his wounded wrist after the shooting and told a story of having fallen from a coal car and hurt his wrist. Non-suspecting, Pattee bandaged it up and Harrington took a D. U. R. car. When Pattee heard of the shooting he notified the officers and Harrington was overtaken on an Ypsilanti-bound car and arrested. He was faint from loss of blood. McCormick refuses to talk.

All theories in the Miner murder case were upset Saturday afternoon, and Charles Harrington's confession implicating Robert McCormick as Miner's slayer set at naught by the discovery that the bullet in the baggageman's throat is a 38-caliber lead-nosed missle. McCormick carried an automatic revolver with a 32-caliber steel casing. This bit of evidence points to Harrington as the slayer of Miner, instead of McCormick as the former charges.

Miner's funeral was held at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

An effort is being made by financiers of New York city, according to reports received from the grape regions of western New York, to consolidate all of the champagne and wine-making establishments in the United States. J. Pierpont Morgan, it is said, is at the head of the proposed combination.

That milk at the increased price of 9 cents a quart will enable the large milk companies to pay dividends three times as high as the big ones of recent years is the assertion of counsel for the state in the milk investigation in New York.

MICHIGAN BREVITIES.

The members of the boards of the state asylums will hold a meeting in Kalamazoo Jan. 20.

The Arenac county supervisors are in session at the county seat, at Standish. The business on hand will require two weeks' attention.

A special committee of the common council of Flint has recommended the installation of a 7,000,000-gallon water pump, to cost $15,000.

The officers and business men of Owosso are trying to get a place to confine the young boys who are being caught daily stealing goods. The juvenile law will not allow them to be sent to jail.

Several bean picking establishments of Saginaw, employing 100 girls, have been closed because of a scarcity of material, caused, the dealers say, by the railroad strike in the west and northwest. Many beans ordered from Duluth are held up.

Navigation to the port of Menominee was declared officially closed New Year's day, but since that time two Ann Arbor car ferries have worked their way through several inches of solid blue ice to local docks and have discharged cargoes of coal.

A most emphatic denial of the report that the Lake Superior corporation, with its big plant in the Canadian Soo, is to be included in a proposed merger with the steel industry of Canada was made by General Manager W. C. Franz, of Sault Ste. Marie.

Atty.-Gen. Bird has announced that all land used as homesteads by soldiers and sailors who served in the federal army during the civil war, to a value not exceeding $1,200, will be exempt from taxes. Widows of soldiers and sailors will be given the same privilege.

The Manistee Navigation Co. has started suit in the circuit court against the Louis Sands Lumber Co. for $45,000, alleging breach of contract. The suit is over the raising of sunken and deadhead logs on the Manistee river and their conversion without proper accounting.

Since the new law, which requires substantial end platforms and steps on all cabooses and way cars, went into effect, the state railway commission has been busy looking for offenders. Any road which fails to comply with the measure is subject to a fine of not less than $100 and not more than $500.

Northeastern Michigan has at last completed its organization. Twelve counties join hands in boosting their territory. An effort will be made by the bureau to bring thousands of families into this territory. General farming, fruit growing, clover raising and tree culture are the principals advocated by the bureau.

Sheriff Parkhurst, of Flint, will be allowed $1,744.50 for boarding those arrested for violating the liquor law in the past nine months. Over half of this period has been during the local option law enforcement. The books of the supervisors show that the bills of a previous sheriff amounted to $3,251.60 for four years, and in this time the county was wet.

The Caro and Blissfield sugar companies have offered to pay the expenses of a man the state may choose for a trip to Germany to investigate the methods of disposing of the refuse from the factories there, without killing the fish in rivers and other streams. The companies have had considerable trouble in Michigan and they are evidently as anxious to remedy the matter as is the state.

"Grand Traverse farmers have paid as high as $2 per day and board and lodging for ordinary farm laborers, and this amount has been paid to boys, and even women and girls, when the latter were strong enough to go into the fields to harvest the potato crop," said a prominent Traverse City produce dealer, in discussing the high price of foodstuffs. "This certainly has a bearing on the high cost of living."

The board of supervisors is in a jangle over the payment of the bills amounting to between $12,000 and $15,000, which were sent in for services and supplies during the recent smallpox epidemic at Flint. While some of the supervisors claim that physicians have put in bills for six calls per week on some of the patients, which they declare were unnecessary, others say that the bills are correct and should be paid.

Following the police raids of last week on places where gambling was found to be going on in Benton Harbor, four warrants were served on the proprietor of the Plaster pool room and the Lion saloon. Selling liquor in a pool room, keeping saloon open on a holiday and gambling are the charges brought on evidence secured by Mayor Seitz. The latter has announced that he will be a candidate for re-election in the spring, ready to abide by the decision of the people on his strict law enforcement platform.

The board of supervisors of Jackson county is puzzled over the question of what to do with a bequest of $1,800 left the county in the will of William Wooley, a recluse who died a few weeks ago. Many of the members favor turning the money over to two great-nieces of Wooley, but as the will has been probated and the cash paid over, this cannot be done according to law. The money may be used to establish a contagious disease ward in the county hospital and for the purchase of sanitary drinking fountains.

According to a Bay City authority the D. & C. Navigation Co. will abandon the route between Detroit and Saginaw, which has been covered by the steamer State of New York. The reason given is that the war department has refused to improve the Lake Huron harbors at which the boat touched, and these, because of their shallowness and rock bottoms, are dangerous.

West Side Y. M. C. A., Saginaw, to which the late Arthur Hill left $25,000, will be revived, as over 100 members attended a meeting Thursday night and made plans for the new life of the organization.

The coroner's jury which investigated the Pere Marquette wreck of Dec. 29, near Traverse City, when a logging train collided with a snowplow and caused the death of two men, failed to place the blame for the accident, simply finding that the men died as the result of injuries received in a wreck.

F. C. Moll, of Blumfield township, in Saginaw county, claims to be the oldest justice of the peace in Michigan. He has served in the same township 25 consecutive years and Wednesday he celebrated the occasion with an oyster supper, to which he invited the voters of the township.

"QUANTITY, QUALITY AND PRICE"

THE THREE ESSENTIALS THAT ARE GIVING WESTERN CANADA Greater Impulse Than Ever This Year.

The reports from the grain fields of Central Canada, (which comprises the Provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta) are to hand. The year 1909 has not only kept pace with previous years in proving that this portion of the Continent is capable of producing a splendid yield of all the smaller grains, but it has thoroughly outstripped previous seasons. There is quantity, quality and price and from all parts of an area of about 320,000 square miles there comes the strong refrain of contentment and satisfaction. In the distribution of the conditions causing it no district has been overlooked.

Various estimates of the total yield of wheat for the country have been made, but it is not the vast total that influences the general reader so much as what has been done individually. The grand total—say 120 million bushels—may have its effect on the grain price of the world; it may be interesting to know that in the world's markets the wheat crop of Canada has suddenly broken upon the trading boards, and with the Argentine, and with Russia and India, is now a factor in the making of prices. If so today, what will be its affect five or ten years from now, when, instead of there being seven million acres under crop with a total yield of 125 or 130 million bushels, there will be from 27 to 30 million acres in wheat with a yield of from 325 to 600 million bushels. When it is considered that the largest yield in the United States but slightly exceeded 700 million bushels, the greatness of these figures may be understood. Well, such is a safe forecast, for Canada has the land and it has the soil. Even today the Province of Saskatchewan, one of the three great wheat growing provinces of Canada, with 400,000 acres under wheat, produces nearly 90 million bushels, or upwards of one-tenth of the greatest yield of the United States. And Saskatchewan is yet only in the beginning of its development. As Lord Grey recently pointed out in speaking on this very subject, this year's crop does not represent one-tenth of the soil, equally fertile that is yet to be brought under the plough.

Individually, reports are to hand of yields of twenty-five, thirty, and thirty-five bushels to the acre. Scores of yields are reported of forty and some as high as sixty bushels. The farmer, who takes care of his soil, who gets his seed-bed ready early, is certain of a splendid crop.

The news of the magnificent crop yield throughout the Canadian West will be pleasing to the friends of the thousands of Americans who are residents in that country and who are vastly instrumental in the assistance they are rendering to let the world know its capabilities.

NERVE.

Fuzzy Frank—Lady, kin I have a drink o' water?

Lady—Certainly; there's the tumbler and there's the pump.

Fuzzy Frank (insinuatingly)—An' now if you will please work de handle for a few minutes?

A BURNING ERUPTION FROM HEAD TO FEET

"Four years ago I suffered severely with a terrible eczema, being a mass of sores from head to feet and for six weeks confined to my bed. During that time I suffered continual torture from itching and burning. After being given up by my doctor I was advised to try Cuticura Remedies. After the first bath with Cuticura Soap and application of Cuticura Ointment I enjoyed the first good sleep during my entire illness. I also used Cuticura Resolvent and the treatment was continued for about three weeks. At the end of that time I was able to be about the house, entirely cured, and have felt no ill effects since. I would advise any person suffering from any form of skin trouble to try the Cuticura Remedies as I know what they did for me. Mrs. Edward Nenning, 1112 Salina St., Watertown, N. Y., Apr. 11, 1909."

Lightning Change.

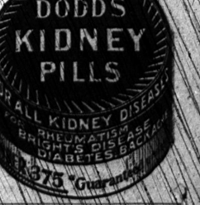
"Maria, who is the spider-legged gawk that comes to see Bessie two or three times a week?"

"Why, don't you know, John? That's young Mr. Welloph, the junior partner in the firm of Spotcash & Co."

"Well, confound her, why doesn't she give him a little more encouragement?"

TO CURE A COLD IN ONE DAY
Take LAXATIVE BROMO Quinine Tablets. Druggists refund money if it fails to cure. E. W. GROVE'S signature is on each box. 25c.

There comes a moment in every man's life when he regrets his inability to kick himself.



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