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TODAY'S WEATHER:—Rain; brisk to high southerly winds.

PORTLAND, TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4.

A SEMI-CENTENNIAL.

The Oregonian celebrates today its first semi-centennial. The initial issue of the Weekly Oregonian appeared December 4, 1850, and it has in the intervening cycle developed into the daily paper as it is known today.

Never has the fact been overlooked by the management of the Oregonian that the strength of a newspaper is in its news, in the range, fullness, extent, variety and freshness of its matter, and in care and industry in presentation of the daily contents.

Very characteristic is the reference to the Civil Service Commission. This noble work the President would have gone on. The commission is hampered for want of funds—it should have plenty. The idea is, of course, to support and advance by all possible moral and financial aid the work of the commission, but to do so in a way that shall not interfere with appointing the spoils among the victors.

Nothing is more impressive in this message than the circumstantial rehearsal of the benefits of protection and enunciation of the sublime principles that underlie it—all eloquently conspicuous by absence. Who could have foreseen it in 1897?

Shipping Subsidy. The President is contented to renew his cautious recommendation for "aid to the merchant marine," and so very cautious that he quotes from his previous message "It is simply no time at all. This sort of thing was well enough in Fourth of July orations before May, 1898. But since we have traded our provincialism for world citizenship, we must measure by international standards. When the Republic is 100 years old, we may speak with some assurance concerning popular government."

Philippines. There is absolutely nothing new in the unconcealing long discussion of Philippine affairs. The subject was covered far better in the letter of acceptance.

Trants. It is a sound distinction the President makes between legitimate and injurious trans operations, and he has decidedly in the direction of Federal regulation.

Pacific Cable. Recommendation is made of a Pacific cable which shall touch on our own soil, and be a view which leaves out of the count entirely the project by way of Alaska, Siberia and Japan.

Rural Delivery and Hall of Records. The President favors extension of rural mail free delivery, and indorses the scheme for a hall of records.

Literary Construction. As a matter of literary construction, the message is the least faulty of all President McKinley's state papers. Some heavy hand is revealed in various passages of the presidential origin.

repeal of the wool tariff under the Wilson bill. Available wool supplies on hand in the United States on July 1 are estimated at 1,000,000 pounds, and to have been \$78,084,304 pounds, against 667,109,423 at the same date in 1899, 537,209,125 in 1898, and 502,568,428 in 1897. It is considered that present supplies are ample to meet the requirements of the mills prior to the movement of next year's clip. The United States Department of Agriculture estimates the number of sheep in the United States on April 1 last at 40,367,813, against 34,784,287 in 1897, since which time there has been a steady increase, confined almost entirely to the far Western States. In the states east of the Missouri River sheep raising for wool seems to be a declining industry, tariff or no tariff.

ASPECTS OF THE MESSAGE.

For the most part, the message is heavy, perfunctory and disappointing. Perhaps the most valuable part of it is the chapter on the Chinese imbroglio, and there its usefulness lies rather in its candid summing up of recent history than in any original thought the President has put into it. For the rest, it abounds in the commonplace and is loaded down with long extracts from previous state papers.

China.

Every one should read the portion of the message dealing with China. In this passage the President has gone over the difficulty there briefly and comprehensively, rendering special service in his discussion of the part borne by the United States. He shows the imperial sympathy with and respect for the attacks on foreigners, he assumes responsibility for the policy enunciated by Secretary Hay, he makes clear the high plane upon which that policy was conceived and carried out. Admirable as his discussion is from a historical or a diplomatic point of view, it will satisfy also the virile instinct of our people. He takes it for granted that the right to travel and do business in China, and that the natives have the right and privilege to hear about and accept "alien faiths," China has contravened these conceptions, and one important penalty earned and contemplated is the compulsory opening up of the empire to trade with the outside world. This, the President says, will help China as well as ourselves.

Money and Banking.

If this message had said that the Republicans in Congress are culpable for their failure to establish the gold standard beyond peril, it would not be written by William McKinley. He is too good a party man for that. So he contents himself by saying that it is the duty of Congress to put the gold standard beyond peril. He points out the beneficial effects of the new law in increasing banking facilities where they are most needed, and in augmenting the volume of bank currency. He very properly congratulates the country on the saving effected to the Treasury by the refunding operations. When he renews his recommendation for a "currency responsive to the varying needs of business at all seasons and in all sections," he looks straight in the eye of scientific banking reform. Of course, the only such currency is one not based on securities, but on the credit of banks as issuers by banks upon their own instance. It would be interesting to see this passage explained by our Republican greenback worshippers.

Civil Service.

Very characteristic is the reference to the Civil Service Commission. This noble work the President would have gone on. The commission is hampered for want of funds—it should have plenty. The idea is, of course, to support and advance by all possible moral and financial aid the work of the commission, but to do so in a way that shall not interfere with appointing the spoils among the victors. We must do everything possible for these reformers, consistent with reservation of appointments for the politicians. It recalls Thurston's idea of financial legislation—establish the gold standard thoroughly, but do it in such a way as to leave our silver men serene and undisturbed.

Somewhat Premature.

It is hypocritical to suggest that the citation of 124 years in the President's opening paragraph is inconsistent with a proper sense of perspective? In the history of civilization and forms of government, 124 years is simply no time at all. This sort of thing was well enough in Fourth of July orations before May, 1898. But since we have traded our provincialism for world citizenship, we must measure by international standards. When the Republic is 100 years old, we may speak with some assurance concerning popular government.

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but the only grammatical offense is the use, in two places, of "will" for "shall." This is doubtless a lapse.

COMMISSIONS FOR ENLISTED MEN.

An Army officer, in a communication published in another column, is disposed to defend General Corbin's proposal to reform the present conditions under which an enlisted man of the regular Army may secure a commission. This officer writes in a fair spirit, and we do not see that he really differs greatly in opinion from The Oregonian. The Oregonian conceded in its article that if two years' service was not sufficient to fit a man for an officer, the term of service could be enlarged. If the examination is not severe enough test, it could be made more arduous. The recommendation of our correspondent that soldiers of military aptitude ought to receive appointments to the Military Academy is a good one, but a good many soldiers of military aptitude would, we presume, be too old to enter West Point.

Our correspondent points out the fact that men who have been dismissed from West Point have enlisted in the regular Army and obtained a commission before their class was graduated. A man dismissed from West Point must presumably have been dropped for moral delinquency or some gross breach of discipline. If the offense was a serious one, it ought to be a matter of record, and to be a bar to a commission in the Army. The reputation of the enlisted man who was a candidate for a commission ought to be part of his qualifications for promotion, since he is expected to be not only an officer, but a gentleman, and his conduct to be very difficult for a man who had been dropped from West Point for moral delinquency or gross breach of discipline to secure a commission by promotion from the ranks of the regular Army. The facts concerning his dismissal from West Point ought to form part of his record as a man of sound military character. Of course, dismissal from West Point is not conclusive evidence of a man's unfitness for an honorable and efficient military career, for in our Civil War some men who had been dropped from West Point for various reasons rose to high military distinction. Among these were General John M. Corse, who fought the battle of Altonna, General L. A. Armstrong, who fell leading Fickett's charge at Gettysburg; Colonel Charles H. Tompkins, of the retired list, who was dropped out of West Point at the end of two years, then served five years in the regular cavalry, before he obtained a commission as Second Lieutenant, and commanded a regiment of volunteer cavalry with credit during Pope's campaign.

Nevertheless, the nature of his delinquency at West Point should be included in the record of a dismissed or dropped cadet, who as an enlisted man applies for a commission. If it was a serious delinquency, he ought not to be appointed. If it was a breach of discipline, that was due to boozing, which the mature soldier and our grown up, it ought not to be quoted against him. But the whole question of reform, it seems to us, is easy of settlement, without practically putting up the bars against men of military aptitude obtaining commissions in the regular Army. Make the examinations a severe test of the candidate's fitness as a man of high military intelligence and practical skill to hold a commission, and insist on high personal character, so that the regular Army shall not become an asylum for such vulgar ruffians as General Egan. Of course, there is much taught the cadet at West Point that is not necessary to test an enlisted man's fitness for a commission. The test should be limited to the enlisted man's knowledge of military tactics, artillery, infantry and cavalry, his knowledge of how to care for his men on the march, in camp or garrison, his knowledge of Army papers and accounts, his reputation for executive ability and self-restraint in leadership, his reputation for integrity, truthfulness and honor.

Beyond this it would be neither just nor necessary to go. It would not be fair to test his fitness by the qualifications of a West Point graduate, who is expected to be a military engineer as well as a master of battle tactics. General Corbin himself entered the regular Army as a Second Lieutenant of the Seventeenth Infantry, and served a year of service in the volunteers that was not a severe test of his soldiership. He passed into the regular Army without any examination or service as an enlisted man, such as candidates confront today, but he is so secure today in his position that he is not friendly to promotions from the ranks. The real abuse to be guarded against is not promotions from the enlisted men of the Army who have served two years, but political appointments from civil life of men who have never seen any service in the regular Army, and whose examination is nominal compared with that to which the enlisted man is subjected for promotion.

EMPEROR WILLIAM STUBS KRUGER.

Emperor William naturally does not wish to receive Paul Kruger. Why should he? Emperor William is the grandson of Queen Victoria, and Germany are at present on terms of warm public friendship. It was natural that France, the hereditary enemy of England, should take advantage of the technical omission of the British Government to announce officially to the French Cabinet the annexation of the Boer Republics, and permit a hoodlum holiday welcome of Kruger. The French President was careful to receive Kruger as a private citizen, but the French Chamber passed a resolution of sympathy for a man who is not half as worthy of respect as the Arab chief, Abdel Kader, whom the French crushed in Algeria many years ago and banished to Syria. Emperor William knows that Great Britain is his natural ally in Europe in case of trouble, for Great Britain has a long purse and a great navy. France appears to have forgotten these facts and gone out of her way to throw mud at Great Britain by bidding welcome to Kruger, who is nothing but a cunning old Boer, who stole himself rich through civil corruption and extortion from the foreigners who at his invitation invested their capital in the development of the gold mines which the Boers were too poor and too ignorant to utilize. Before this date Paul Kruger and all his associates were poor men; in a few years they became so rich that they built residences costing \$200,000. Not only did Kruger and his associates grow rich, but they extorted methods of taxation and revenue, but it was notorious that the so-called Supreme Court was a farcical tribunal, for behind it stood Paul Kruger, ready to reverse any of its decisions for a bribe. Kruger was nothing but a corrupt old tyrant, with whom his ignorant people were infatuated through their worship of him as an old-time fighter against the Zulus and a systematic perpetrator of race hate of the British.

Kruger undertook to rush the British out of Natal, and he possessed a good master of natural Boer tactics, like Dewet or Botha, he might have transiently succeeded; but under poor, old, broken-down Joubert, he failed, and today Kruger is nothing but an infirm old fugitive, posing as President of the Transvaal Republic, which has no existence outside of perhaps 10,000 Boer hordes enacting guerrilla warfare. Of what possible consequence is this ignorant old Boer to Emperor William? Kruger shot Zulus in his youth, and shot lions when he was not hunting Zulus. He is crafty, avaricious and ignorant. He is of about as much consequence as old sitting Bull, who gave up so much trouble at the death of the refractory Sioux, who was shot to death by the Indian police. To a mob of Frenchmen, crazy with stupid jealousy and hate of England, Kruger is a welcome excuse for jeering at Great Britain, but to Emperor William Kruger is of no more public interest or consequence than would be the warlike of the Taqui Indian, if he should lead a horde of 50,000 savages about Europe seeking for applause and intervention.

A resolution in behalf of ex-President Kruger has been introduced in Congress by Representative Fitzgerald, an Irish Democrat of Massachusetts. Mr. Fitzgerald would not be an Irish man if he ever lost a chance to twist the tail of the British lion. It is not likely that this resolution will secure a passage, for discreet men will see that it is nothing but an act of gratuitous discourtesy to a friendly power. Such resolutions always secure the support of Irish politicians, and when they get to the floor they are usually killed with just contempt by Great Britain. The English people distinguish between the public opinion of the American people and the Anglophobia of imported Democratic politicians, just as they distinguished between the invasion of Canada by Arnold and Montgomery and the invasion of Canada by the French, and they would not be so stupid as to support a resolution which would put in prison by a United States court as a violator of our neutrality laws. It was a Democratic statesman, United States Senator Bayard, who once expressed his disgust that a simple extradition treaty between the United States and Great Britain was difficult of ratification because under the Irish dynamite of the day it would be necessary to have friendly terms with a coalition government. Mr. John E. Fitzgerald and Mr. Patrick Collins were both conspicuous in denouncing Mr. Phelps as an Anglophobe, just as he had previously denounced Mr. Lowell, just as he subsequently denounced Mr. Bayard as an "aristocrat." The Kruger resolution was of course, to be expected from Mr. John E. Fitzgerald, who cannot forgive England for making both Ireland and South Africa inhospitable countries. Had Kruger succeeded in overrunning Natal and Cape Colony, it would, of course, have been "a great day for Ireland," and so we suppose if there should be another "great day for Ireland," that would be another "great day for Ireland," and we should have a resolution of sympathy offered for his Nana Sahib.

The Chicago divorce industry, once so thriving, has, it seems, been transferred to New York, or perhaps only a branch of this business has been established in the latter city, that has been the original plant. However this may be, a regular system of fraudulent divorce has been established in the metropolis, and operated in the most unblushing fashion by a gang of swindlers for many months. It appears that the same people were permitted to come into court with case after case, and to receive judgments in their favor, and to testify to alleged facts which the slightest scrutiny would have detected to be false. These divorce brokers were at last detected by the merest accident through the presence on two occasions of a stenographer, who happened to take enough interest in the proceedings to notice that the witnesses on both cases were the same. Inquiry shows that the courts had for a long time granted every application on the bare statement of the applicant, without taking the slightest trouble to inquire into the truth or falsity of his story. So slack a judiciary can only be accounted for upon the basis of a sleeping or seared public conscience, further evidence of which is to be seen in the plain statements and shocking developments which accompany the present crusade against vice in the great city. The virus of debased political conditions has not only permeated the body politic, but as the seepage from an overcharged or faultily constructed sewer it has reached the social fabric, contaminating it. It may be added that the wretched courts, striving in some degree to atone for the mischief that their sordid state permitted, and all applications for divorce, for the present, at least, will be critically scanned and the applicants made to show good and statutory cause before the plea is allowed.

If the report that Lord Roberts is to be made a Duke and that Parliament will be added to that name, £100,000 support the title is confirmed, he will be the first English soldier who has been made a Duke for purely military services since General Sir Arthur Wellesley was made a Duke for his great military exploits in Spain from 1808 to 1814. The Duke of Wellington had fought and captured successively Bowdoon, Massena and Marmont at the Douro, Talavera, Fuentes d'Onoro and Salamanca, a succession of brilliant English victories equaled only by Marlborough's triumphs at Blenheim, Ramillies, Oudenarde and Malplaquet. The only great English Generals whose military exploits made them Dukes were Marlborough and Wellington, only two great military leaders of the century. It is not likely that Lord Roberts will obtain the distinction of a

Dukedom, for, while he is a very able and brilliant soldier, and has rendered great service to his country, it will not be like the English Government to award him such exceptional honors as a Dukedom. The distance between the performances of Wellington and that of Lord Roberts is great enough to forbid it. It would look like a lack of sense of military proportion to award as high dignity to Lord Roberts for his military services as was given Wellington for beating Napoleon's veterans commanded by his ablest marshals.

The horrible fate of the youth, Perry Kincaid, who was killed near Comstock, Douglas County, Sunday morning, while attempting to "beat his way south" on the Southern Pacific train, is one that every man or boy dares who seeks to appropriate the brakeman's own train in beating the railroad company out of his fare. The details of such a death are shocking enough when read at a distance from the scene of the tragedy. When witnessed and followed up for a mile or more, as in this case, by a brother of the mangled victim, they are horrible past belief. The hope, even though a fatal one, that the train would stop, warning the boys who attempt in this hazardous way to get something for nothing, justifies the spreading of the shocking details of the occurrence before the public.

No, Portland is not built exactly upon the basis a Crook correspondent would tempt us to believe. This city does not owe its existence to agricultural Oregon. But a very potent reason for its existence is its location. Oregon does not trade and ship its products here for sake of sweet charity. Portland does producers some service when it offers a market and an outlet for their commodities. To be sure, they have a state pride in the Northwest metropolis, but their main interest is business. And when a gentleman declares Multnomah County has no right to complain of state appropriations from which it gets no benefits, because the districts that do profit by them are back of Portland's prosperity, he is simply off in his theories of grafts and of economics. A local appropriation or bounty may be defensible, but on other grounds than this.

Circumstances over which he has no control have induced ex-President Kruger to forego his intended visit to Berlin. The Kaiser, it appears, has notified the pugnacious old Boer that he would be too busy to receive him. He will lie him, therefore, direct to Holland upon quitting France, where Queen Wilhelmina will receive him with such demonstrations of friendliness and sympathy as her Ministers will permit. "Having encouraged a useless guerrilla warfare, and having disregarded Germany's advice when he might still have followed it," William feels justified in snubbing the old man by refusing to give audiences to his erstwhile ally. King Edward, on the other hand, naturally feels much disheartened, as the Emperor's attitude is an indication that he considers the interests of Germany identical with those of England, and thinks that to follow after France is not a part of his official or political programme.

Secretary Long asks for only two first-class battleships, two second-class armored cruisers, six light-draught gunboats, some smaller craft for river service, and a repair-ship, transport, training ships and coilers. The Secretary's moderation is due to the fact that the department now has fifty-three vessels under construction, and these call for large expenditures. The total naval estimates for the ensuing year being fixed at \$37,000,000, which beats the record in our navy for one year in time of peace.

The appointment bill introduced yesterday gives Washington another Representative. The increase is just, and Washington should have it. Oregon needs another, but she must first get more people.

Frenchmen who impeach the Kaiser for not admiring the cowardice of Kruger probably think Sedan the greatest glory of France. But the Germans are fighters.

This swearing in of Filipinos seems to be a trifle overdue. Wasn't it planned so as to be in time for the president's message? Or election, perhaps?

Two thousand bolomen have taken the oath of allegiance to the United States. The Filipinos are getting to be more liberty-loving every minute.

If Kruger is wiser than Bryan, he knows without a second battle that crowds which howl for him are not necessarily with him.

Disreputable and Contemptible.

Chicago Inter Ocean. Full returns of the November election from all the states give McKinley 5,238,514 votes, and Bryan 3,969,793; McKinley's plurality, 1,268,721. In 1896, McKinley received 7,307,304 votes, and Bryan 6,535,680; McKinley's plurality, 771,624. McKinley's vote was larger by 13,200 than four years ago, and Bryan's smaller by 1,226,888. McKinley's plurality was larger by 303,494. The prohibition vote has been reported officially from 30 states, including Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania, but omitting New York. In the 30 states Woolley, prohibition candidate for President, received 137,890 votes. Bidwell received 264,572 votes in 1896. Pink, 248,997 in 1898, and Levering and Bentley 144,663 in 1898. There is a falling off in the prohibition vote in Connecticut as compared with 1896. In Florida, Georgia, a loss of 16,600 in Ohio, a gain of 2000 in Pennsylvania, and a loss of 8000 in Wisconsin. This is not a good showing for the candidates who expected to poll 500,000 votes. It is the people's answer, however, to appeals made through disreputable and contemptible methods.

Truth to Ideals.

Indianapolis News. Democracy has frequently suffered much at the hands of its self-appointed prophets. For the credulous are too often taken at their own value, and the philosophy is judged by those who pretend to stand for it. What we have to do in this country is not to follow any man, but to be true to our ideals. And least of all should we follow those guides who, whether consciously or unconsciously, cast discredit on a great principle either by misinterpreting or misapplying it. It is to the credit of the American people that they have rarely been deceived by those who proclaimed a false ideal under the old name. They have been, in the main, true to their inner instincts, and have not often failed to treat with serious attention the great questions which they have been compelled to deal.

COMMISSIONS FOR ENLISTED MEN

PORT CANBY, Nov. 30.—(To the Editor.)—"To shut the door of promotion upon every man of natural military aptitude would be a mistake," so ends your editorial. It is too true. It is seldom that Army officers speak their sentiments in a newspaper, but your editorial, "Corbin's Curious Suggestion," so roused me to defend the true meaning and intent of General Corbin's proposal as an Army officer in general that I cannot refrain a few words in your paper.

No officer of the Army today who is justly well advised advocates that commissions should be barred all enlisted men. The point is, and the gist of General Corbin's suggestion is, that their terms of commission should be extended. Two years is too short a time to determine a man's military proficiency for a commission in the Army. West Point takes four years. Annapolis at six years; why should enlisted men be permitted to enter the Army when their training is far inferior to that of our military college in the short service of two years?

There are many exceptions to the rule. Generals Miles, Brooke, Colonels Liscum, Coldwell, and many others. As a rule, however, from all this, has it ever been considered that with even four years' service in the Army, will the enlisted men, entered to the examination that Army boards give them, be equal to the tasks for which graduates of our National training school are fitted?

REVISION OF THE TARIFF.

Work for Its Friends, if They Will Only Attend to It.

The Pioneer Press cordially second the motion made by the Director of the Tariff Commission, that the duties of the duties which lay before the Republican party. The tariff should be revised by its friends. The duties which by reason of the development of our industries have become superfluous should be removed or reduced, and thus eliminated from controversy before we enter another campaign. The tariff has done its work so well in promoting the development of some of our leading industries that they have far outgrown the need of protection. For example, we are now producing steel rails and most other steel and wire products at lower cost and selling them abroad at lower prices than our chief competitors. Great Britain, or any nation in the world, The London Iron and Coal Trades Review, in speaking of the remarkable fall in the domestic prices of American wire and steel, says: "The rapid and large reduction should cause serious alarm in this country, as, indeed, it has done. When British prices of today are compared with the prices quoted in 1898, the difference is startling. The British manufacturers can do any business at all. Here are a few items based on present prices. Great United Difference. British. State. Price. Price. Foundry iron... 2 10 0 2 0 1 10 0 Steel... 2 10 0 2 0 1 10 0 Sheet piling... 8 0 0 8 0 0 0 0 Ship plates... 10 0 0 10 0 0 0 0 The tariff is at present, American manufacturers can undersell us on the basis of quoted prices by at least 20c per ton in every one of the items enumerated above, and these represent the bulk of the ordinary trade. The manufacturers of the United States are thus enabled to control the steel and iron markets of the world. Our exports of steel rails alone amount during the first nine months of this year to 2,824,000 tons, and this is but the beginning of a movement which will soon attain immense proportions. Under these circumstances, the existing duty of seven-twentieths of a cent a pound on protection purposes, and, of course, yields no revenue. Protecting his domestic work in position our iron and steel industries beyond any further need of protection. There are many other manufactured articles which are now produced at a cost which enables the American manufacturer to compete successfully with the foreign producer. In all these cases the duty should be removed. If it cannot be taken off entirely, it can be largely reduced. It should be taken off entirely in every case where it has ceased to be of any protection or revenue value, and serves no other purpose than to permit caste-like combinations to raise the price of the product beyond its legitimate need. It is in great need of intelligent and judicious revision, and, as Mr. Roberts say, it should be done by the friends, not the enemies, of protection. If it is done by its friends they may be perfectly certain that it will be done by its enemies. The tariff question commanded little attention during the campaign from which the country has just emerged. It was crowded off the stage by other and more vital issues. But conditions have changed so marvelously since the present tariff was enacted, that it is owing to the enormous stimulus given to our industrial development by our protective policy, that it now presents many vulnerable points—many points which in fact, if indubitable. The tariff has progressed so wonderfully in the last few years that it has left the tariff behind. No more important work lies before the Republican party than to get out about the immediate revision of the tariff, with a view to adjust it to the changed conditions of our industrial progress.

The Life Insurance War Tax.

St. Paul Pioneer Press. From July 1, 1898, to October 1, 1899, the amount of \$2,800,761,383, on which there was collected by the Government a stamp war tax of 80 cents for every \$100, amounting to \$22,406,090. Although this tax was nominally paid by the insurance companies, it was in fact paid by the policy-holders, for it was either deducted from the proceeds in the case of the mutual companies, or added to their premiums by the other companies. This is an enormous tax on the frugal and provident, and it is imposed on life insurance, the rate of taxation was 25 cents for \$1000 or less; 50 cents on policies between \$1000 and \$500; and \$1 on policies over \$500. This was an intolerable fraction of the present tax. The whole amount collected in 1894 on life insurance was less than \$30,000. It was \$1,523,225 last year. This amount is but a small figure in the revenues of the Government, but it is a very heavy burden to the policy-holders who are compelled to pay it, and every consideration of sound public policy calls for its repeal.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

The Kaiser seems to be a dutiful grandson, after all.

Among sad words put these in, too: "Full three months more of Pettigrew."

Kentucky's Governor does not drink, but he permits the fact to be known only outside the state.

A preacher says there is the devil in mice; but, the small boy says: "Get thee within me, Satan."

The Kansas City Journal very properly begins its football reports with a list of the dead and the injured.

The recent cyclone in Guam shows how rapidly our new possessions are acquiring American institutions.

The shortage in the Delaware peach crop may be responsible for the prevailing dearth of chorus girls in New York.

Nebraska is safely Republican for years to come. Cannot Bryan be induced to take up his residence in Texas a few years?

Tod Sloan refuses to talk for publication. He has not only to turn prizefighter to become one of the wonders of the world.

A burglar fell out of a second-story window in Philadelphia a few days ago, but it was not recorded that any honest men got their dues.

The man who made the freak election bet will soon look like an intellectual giant. Men will be making New Year's resolutions before long.

Bryan burst his cements just in time to fill the American soldier with thankfulness that the army ration is no longer served by the undertaker.

In the underground burrow of Pompeii, they say, an explorer was digging away. When an old joke he found, which is going around. With the minstrel-show stars of today.

Perhaps Bryan is not such a false prophet after all. He predicted calamity in the event of Republican success, and now Congress is in session.

Oh, the concert of the powers. Lacked the proper verse and alic. Till Conductor Uncle Sammed. West himself clear down to C. Ever since that time the music has been all way up in G.

Kruger and the Kaiser.

The wild huzzas of frantic Kruger still rang through all the air. The echo of the booming guns reverberated in the air. When Great Com Paul across the line from Germany appeared. And, bowing low before the French, spoke: "Farewell, fond, friendly, fraternal French; your courtesy profuse is graven deeply on my heart; your eloquent abuse of that fell tyrant, John H. Bull, oppressor of the free, I hardly need to tell you here, has made a hit with me. No longer may I tarry here, for yonder in Berlin the Kaiser waits impatiently until that I blow it. So speaking, Kruger took the phone, called up the A. D. T. And in a week or two appeared a modern Mercury. Who, when Paul's message he received, asked, "Where does that go all?" And, with the wicked word "verdammt!" he cast the message down. For what he read therein was this: "Freud Wilhelm, I, Emperor of France, will presently send down your way, to pay a friendly call. So, in the language of your land, Freud Wilhelm, home! he said. The Kaiser asked his pen and wrote, "Neh, loh bin nicht ein Bauer."

When this chill throw-down reached Com Paul, a look of sad surprise welled up within the liquid depths of his expressive eyes.

"What low-bred man is this?" he said, "to treat brave Kruger thus? The weak-kneed, fair-haired, fat-brained dot, the craven, coward, scoundrel. Now, by my faith, if old John Bull has got him so afraid, I will have him never would have made."

So, turning on his massive heel, bold Kruger journeyed on. And a train for Amsterdam that went by way of Bonn.

While Kaiser Wilhelm smiled a smile, and said: "Freud Wilhelm, home! he said. And all the nations of the earth may see how smooth I am."

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHS.

Mistress—Did you tell the lady I was out? Servant—Yes, ma'am. Mistress—Did she have any doubts about it? Servant—No, ma'am; she said she knew you wasn't—Titi-Biti.

Tell—Keep trash on your side. Remember all I have shall have their part in the lake that burneth with fire and brimstone. Wilton—Oh, it must have all been parcelled