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YESTERDAY'S WEATHER—Maximum temperature, 68; minimum, 55; fair.

TODAY'S WEATHER—Fair and warmer; northwesterly winds.

PORTLAND, TUESDAY, AUGUST, 20.

TRUSTS THEIR OWN ENEMY.

It is to be regretted that no proposal Mr. Morgan is likely to formulate, however liberal in the way of profit-sharing or amicable in its purposes, can expect acceptance from the Amalgamated Association. The insurmountable obstacle is pretty sure to be over the principle of unionism. The time-honored and still cherished idea of capital is that while it likes to be liberal and even generous with its own, and while in general terms it disclaims any deeply rooted objection to organization of labor, yet it must insist upon running its business to suit itself, including wage arrangements with its employes. Mr. Morgan is reasonably certain, whatever he concedes, not to concede that the unions shall exercise any authority or jurisdiction over the personnel of its forces and the rate of wages paid. Such a position has always commended itself to the impartial judgment of the American people; but it will hardly be acceptable to President Shaffer and his advisers. It contravenes the principles they are contending for, which are that the wage scales in force in union mills shall be signed also for nonunion mills, and that free opportunity be afforded their organizers to proselyte in the nonunion plants.

In San Francisco we have a slightly different manifestation of the same basic controversy. In each one of these two great contests trades-unionism is at stake, but its expression is not in each precisely the same. That is, in San Francisco the direct effort is to force trades-unionism on the community as a whole. The undertaking there is to compel recognition of unionism throughout a wide field of industries. It is specifically contended that unionized establishments must use materials and labor of union origin. This, obviously, is carrying the matter farther than it is carried in the steel strike. To require a business man to employ certain draymen and not to employ others, to use certain materials and not to use others, is an intrusion upon the recognized rights of individual prerogative, which has always been repugnant to the American spirit of fair play.

We have brought forward here two features of the present labor difficulties, for the purpose of inquiring why it is that these two contentions, hitherto unfavorably regarded by the American public, are viewed with indulgence now if not with approval; and we shall undertake to say that the thing is to be accounted for simply by the course which capital itself has taken. The corporations of the country are amazed and alarmed at the attitude of the public toward the steel strike. They cannot understand why popular sentiment, instead of standing by them as it has always done, views them with distrust, and half-way hopes for their defeat. They are slow to comprehend, evidently, that they themselves have abandoned the position of independent employership which once insured them sympathy as against the demands of a combination of striking laborers. It is unnecessary to enumerate the points of similarity between the union and the trust. They have been repeatedly set out in these columns. Their methods of eliminating competition and elevating weak members to the level of the strong, and disciplining those who decline to join them, are closely parallel. The trust elects a hired man to deal with its employes precisely as the union elects its hired man to deal with its employers. Under another name the trust has its walking delegate, and there would be as much reason in a workingman's refusal to deal with Schwab or Morgan as for the real owners of the Pittsburg mills, whoever they may be, to refuse to deal with Shaffer.

We say it is highly probable that the Amalgamated Association will decline Mr. Morgan's fairest proposal, short of recognition of trades-unionism and all it conceives vital to its permanence and comfort. Why will it do this? Because, to put it in the most unfavorable light, it is insane on the subject of combination. It fancies that in unionism and the full measure of unionism is only to be found safety for the workingman. Now the question is, Why is labor thus insane on the subject of combination? And the answer is that it has had its lesson from capital. Nobody has ever dreamed of the extent to which organization could go until we beheld the spectacle of these colossal combinations absorbing everything within the purview of their field of operations. What wonder is it that labor has caught the craze? What is more natural than that in sight of this monopoly of steel capital we should find organizers unswervingly bent upon a monopoly of steel labor? If Morgan stops and stays not till he has brought every steel plant into his union, who shall deter Shaffer from a resolve to bring every steelworker into his labor trust?

MENDING HIS FENCES.

Vice-President Roosevelt recently addressed the people of Colorado, and he is now announced to deliver the address before the annual meeting of the Veteran Vermont officers of the war for the Union, whose association meets at Burlington, Vt., September 5, 1901. The address will be followed by a banquet at which Vice-President Roosevelt will speak, and Senators Proctor and Dillingham. Vice-President Roosevelt clearly means to be a candidate for the Presidential succession in 1904, and he is determined to lose no chance to keep himself before the people. But he is not so strong, East or West, as he was when he was elected Governor of New York. His record as Governor of New York, in ability and practical worth, has been completely outdone and obscured by that of Governor Odell.

It is exceedingly doubtful whether Roosevelt could secure a delegation from New York to the National Convention against Secretary of War Root or Governor Odell. He has lost ground with the New York "independents," and he was buried alive when he accepted the nomination to the Vice-Presidency with McKinley. He cannot mingle in the Senate debates; he is the Quaker gun in the Senate battery. His political influence on the course of Congressional legislation is trivial. As a potential political figure at Washington, he is a pigmy compared with the Speaker of the House or the present Secretary of War. His virtues are genuine, but they are not of the sort that attract powerful politicians who set up the delegations in the great states at the East and the West. His defects of mind and temper, which are palpable, are serious enough to make thoughtful men, who believe in his personal integrity, doubt his judgment.

In war time, or close on the heels of a war, Roosevelt might make a successful fight for the Presidential nomination, but in time of peace he has too much virtue for the professional politicians who insist on plasticity in a President; and he has not self-control, executive prudence and statesmanlike quality enough to satisfy those Republicans who are not professional politicians, but upright men of affairs, progressive reformers within the party. It looks as if Roosevelt had lost his chance, if he really ever had a chance, of the Presidential nomination. He is too good a man to be trusted by the politicians, and he is not strong enough man to be really trusted by the progressive reformers.

STRIKE IN A ROYAL KITCHEN.

On the hypothesis that misery loves company it may be assumed that some thousands of American women will be interested in the announcement lately cabled of a strike in the royal kitchen at Madrid. The magnitude of this disturbance is told in the announcement that the principal chef and five cooks threw down their spoons, forks and knives, removed their aprons and caps and walked out, presumably after the manner of irate individuals of this class, slamming the door of the royal kitchen behind them. Whether the strike was for shorter hours, higher wages, the privilege to attend Sunday bull fights involving the necessity of dining out on that day by the young King and the Queen mother, or through sympathy with strikers on the outside, the public is not informed. Details of the affair are wanting, but the fact of the strike stands out boldly, flashing defiance in the face of hungry royalty.

Nor is the news as unimportant as it at first appears to be. It means that his youthful majesty, King Alfonso XIII, is confronted by a problem that has driven sleep from the eyes and slumber from the eyelids of myriads of women experienced in kitchen lore; that he is confronted by conditions that have made life burdensome to thousands of housekeepers in all civilized lands; that unless he humbly capitulates, and that at once, he will go on a diet of overdone meat and eggs, underdone vegetables, scorched liver and bacon, muddy coffee, sour bread and soggy cake, threatening dyspepsia and the peace of his being generally. With these grave probabilities confronting him, it might be wise for Alfonso to send delegates to confer with his disgruntled chef and aids, offering, if necessary, to conclude terms of peace and avert threatened disaster, a mortgage on the throne as security to his note duly signed and stamped with the royal seal of Spain promising to yield all points of difference if his erstwhile servitors will but return to his kitchen and be lords thereof from this time henceforth. Discretion is the better part of valor, as the King will learn if he foolishly attempts to dictate to his knights of the kitchen.

THE JERSEY CITY ILLUSTRATION.

The National Civil Service Reform League last week issued a report touching the violations of the civil service act in the Jersey City postoffice. In this report it is shown by the admissions of the accused and the testimony of many letter-carriers that Assistant Postmaster Wooley is chairman of the local county and city Republican committee; that this committee, with Wooley's name upon its letter-heads, did solicit campaign contributions from the letter-cariers, and to those who failed to contribute or contributed small amounts other letters were sent marked "second notice," "third notice," etc.; that a box was put up in the interior of the postoffice informing the carriers that it was for their interests to contribute to the Republican campaign fund, and that $10 was about the right figure. Carriers who failed to contribute were made to feel the displeasure of the postmaster in various ways.

These facts were placed before the Postmaster-General and the President last April. The Civil Service Commission also submitted the case to the Attorney-General, asking for the removal of Wooley from office because of his willful violation of the civil service act in soliciting campaign funds and trying to coerce the political action of postoffice employes. The Postmaster-General refused to remove or even reprimand Wooley, although he had explicitly admitted to the Civil Service Commission that he was aware of the use of his name by the Republican committees of which he was and is a member. The President did and has done nothing, and the Department of Justice took no action.

The record of the President is in gross violation of his pledge to enforce and extend civil service reform when practicable. Instead of keeping his pledge the President reduced the classified service by his sweeping order of May 29, 1899. He has appointed an avowed enemy of civil service reform as one of the commissioners to enforce it. He has paid no attention to exposures by the Civil Service Reform League of specific cases of fraud and unfitness among Indian agents; he has done nothing respecting proved violations of the law in the postoffices of Philadelphia, Indianapolis and Jersey City; nothing in the case of the Customs Collector at El Paso, Tex., nothing in the case of the Internal Revenue Collector at Louisville, Ky., both of whom have been shown to have violated the law.

THE DRIFT TO STATE SOCIALISM.

The drift in Europe is to state socialism. It is seen in Germany, in France, in Italy and even Great Britain. A socialist member of Parliament, Keir Hardie, recently offered a resolution providing for the transformation of the United Kingdom into a socialistic commonwealth, and another member, named Bell, seconded the resolution. Secretary Chamberlain recently took public occasion to reaffirm his scheme of old-age pensions. Socialism as a distinct Parliamentary or political force has made far less headway in Great Britain than on the Continent, but under new conditions, like military conscription and heavy increase in the national tax burdens, socialism might become a formidable parliamentary force in Great Britain, for several of the great leaders of organized labor in England, like John Burns, are socialists. The socialist party in France has two representatives in the Cabinet, and is now a strong parliamentary force in France, without whose support the Waldeck-Rousseau Ministry could not maintain itself.

State socialism has friends in this country who, after the recent panic in the stock market, consequent upon the struggle between railway giants for the supremacy, declared that if those railways had been under Government ownership and control, as they are in Germany, the convulsion which finance and business suffered would not have taken place. Powerful private capitalists cannot fight for the ownership of public property, cannot smash the stock market in Berlin by making a "corner" on the German Government's railroads. These friends of state socialism further point to New Zealand, where the government owns the roads, as another object-lesson of the advantage of government ownership of railroads. These theorists plausibly insist that nothing short of government ownership can avert the frequent occurrence of great dangers to the public interest coming from the private ownership of great public works. These champions of state socialism say that the periodical anarchy of the colossal forces of wealth under irresponsible private control that battle for supremacy regardless of the public weal can be safeguarded against only by government ownership, and because of this fact at no very distant day we shall enact it.

Carroll D. Wright, who does not pretend to be a socialist, argues in the Philadelphia Times that the natural ultimate of socialization of capital will be government ownership. The economic trend is logically in that direction. Mr. Wright says that ten great railroad managers today control the business of the United States. When the country sees that instead of ten men it is five, instead of five it is three, and instead of three it is one man that controls all the railroad interests of the country, it will be found that public sentiment will not be afraid of the trend toward socialism. The public will ask whether it would not be just as well that instead of these ten great railway managers the Government itself should own the railroads and give the people a service whose manipulation could not be used to wreck the delicate machinery of public finance and industry by causing a whirlwind in the stock market.

It is further pointed out that the great department stores in our large cities represent an economic trend to state socialism; it is the effort of the capitalist to socialize capital. Organized labor is beginning to favor state socialism because, while it is willing that capital should have a large share in the benefits arising from the application of power machinery, it thinks that labor ought to have a greater share than it now receives, and this belief leads it to the conclusion that labor will not get the full benefit of the application of the invention until society shall become the owner of inventions. The conclusion of Mr. Wright is that there are three forces involved in this economic trend toward socialism—"the first, socialism itself, the weakest of the whole; the next strongest is organized labor, but the third and most powerful force that is driving this and other countries rapidly into state socialism is capital itself, and capitalists do not hesitate today to say that this is inevitably the result of their combination."

STRIKES IN ITALY.

Since the ministry fell, in February last, because of its vacillating attitude toward the dock strike at Genoa, there have been strikes everywhere in Italy—agrarian strikes in Lombardy and Apulia, strikes among the tobacco-workers at Milan and Florence, among the macaroni-workers about Naples and the train-handlers, in Sardinia. Two months ago Gioletti, the Minister of the Interior, congratulated the country that 511 strikes had passed off without disorder; that 1,000,000 workmen had been benefited, that the government had maintained an impartial attitude alike to employers and employed; but a week later the shooting of two strikers at Barra by government troops stimulated the Socialist leaders to stir up a general strike.

The excessive taxation in Italy has brought the people face to face with hunger and starvation in the near background, so that in their desperate mood the agrarian strikers lend themselves to such excessive demands as these, which were delivered to the landed proprietors at Como:

The wage to be tripled.

Rents to be reduced 30 per cent, and, if paid in kind, the tenant's weighing or valuation to be accepted.

The landowners not to require payment of rent, or dismiss laborers who are unable to pay on account of misfortune or other cause.

The landowners, on their proper peril, not to employ outsiders.

These exceptional demands are tinged with radical socialism, which is so strong today in Italy that the present Liberal Ministry of Zanardelli has been kept in power by the group of Socialist Deputies. The radical socialism of the agrarian strikers in Italy has no appreciable foothold in the ranks of labor in this country, but if the industrial situation were the same, the taxation as burdensome, the wages as pitifully meager, the stress of hunger and the specter of starvation visible, our wronged labor would not endure the industrial situation any more patiently than do the strikers in the present state of Italy. In Italy the moderate Socialists are practical; they vote steadily with the Liberal Ministry in order to gain for workingmen the lawful right to organize and to strike, while the American Socialists at their recent convention in Indianapolis went completely beyond the public opinion of American labor in the passage of resolutions whose declared purpose was recklessly to despoil the capitalist.

The Oregonian editorial of August 10 says: "The total number of male invalid pensioners whose pension dates from the Civil War was 753,878 on June 30, 1900." I take these figures to be correct, and, as 753,878 is but a fraction of 1 per cent over 30 per cent of 2,432,554, my estimate was almost absolutely correct.—Major Caukin's Letter.

The Oregonian's meaning is clear that the total number of male invalid pensioners, whose claim for a pension rests on service in the Civil War, was 753,878, on June 30, 1900, but Major Caukin ignores the clear statement of The Oregonian that the total number of individual enlistments during the Civil War, 2,432,554, cannot be taken as a correct list of the pensionable persons at the close of that war, for on this roll of total enlisted during the Civil War are the deserters of the Civil War, 200,000 strong, not pensionable, and the dead of the Civil War, some 315,000 strong. It is safe to say that out of the total of 2,432,554 individual enlistments during the Civil War there was at the close of the war not more than 2,000,000 of men who could be legitimate beneficiaries of pension legislation. Of these 2,000,000 of legitimate claimants for a pension living at the close of the war, there cannot today be surviving more than 1,000,000 of men. Of this surviving million of pensionable soldiers of the Civil War, there are on the pension roll 740,000 today, which leaves only 260,000 veterans of the Civil War who are today self-supporting without a pension. We do not believe that there are 740,000 surviving veterans of the Civil War who are incapable of self-support out of 1,000,000 survivors. The number of pensioners today, at thirty-six years from the close of the Civil War, is 37 per cent of the 2,000,000 of legitimate possible ultimate pensioners at the close of the war, and it is nearly 75 per cent of the probable number of surviving veterans today.

The marine disaster reported from the far North comes at this season of the year as a surprise. Old, yet ever new, is this tale of the sea, and appalling in its weird power is the medium whereby a splendid ship was sent to the bottom of the ocean last Thursday morning, carrying with her to their death three-score human beings. The iceberg—an uncharted rock—in a Summer sea has ever, and with good reason, been the terror of the navigator of waters to which glaciers are tributary. Whether the captain of the ill-fated Islander was not as alert as he should have been, and so allowed his ship to bear down upon the iceberg through remissness in a seaman's duty; or whether the fog was so dense as to outwit the keenest vigilance, is not now a matter of moment. It can only be said that another disaster, appalling in its results, has been added to the history of navigation in North Pacific waters, and that, so far as now appears, the meeting of the iceberg and the vessel was a mischance that does not reflect upon the skill or vigilance of her navigators.

The Catholic educational forces of the Pacific Northwest, having acquired the Portsmouth University property, have taken vigorous hold of the work necessary to found there an institution of learning that will be of value, not only to the Catholic portion of the community, but to the public generally. There is no question, either as to the wholesome discipline or the substantial quality of learning provided by the proposed university. The "go-as-you-please" features that belong in a greater or less degree to educational schools and systems miscalled "free" find no place in well-equipped institutions that depend for their life upon the record they are able to make for thoroughness in the mental, moral and physical training and equipment of pupils. Older communities support schools of this character without detracting from the popularity of the public school. Such an institution will probably be of slow growth in this state, but its establishment now seems to be assured.

The trial and conviction of a party of Whitecappers in Campbell County, Georgia, in which white men are held to punishment for an offense against the home of a colored man, is gratifying proof of a return to the enforcement of legal justice in the Empire State of the South. The Governor of Georgia recently had to send a negro accused of criminal assault upon a woman from Atlanta to Canton, Ga., for trial. Hearing that there would be an attempt at lynching, the Governor ordered out three companies of militia, whose commander was held responsible for the safe conduct of the criminal. The negro was tried, convicted, sentenced to be hanged, brought back to Atlanta and safely lodged in jail.

So far, the great strikes have been practically unmarked by violence. The self-restraint of the strikers is suggestive of the great change that has come over labor leadership since 1894. The only question is now whether this conservative leadership will be able to hold down the hot-headed fellows who are undoubtedly still in the ranks.

The recent stage-robbery in the State of New York should be a warning to all those who attend the Buffalo exposition to keep their Winchesters unlimbered and have their knives within easy reach. One cannot be too careful in a wild and untamed country like New York.

Pennsylvania Republicans announce that they will hold a quiet convention. It is well. The quieter the better. The less attention they call to themselves the better for them and the more comfortable for others.

The "Citizens" members of the Legislature seem to have been generally in favor of forest-reserve proposals. Possibly this was part of their comprehensive "reform" programme.

The German editors who are accusing Von Waldersee of talking too much do not mention the name of his distinguished pacemaker for fear of being hanged for lese majeste.

Richard Croker is coming back to New York. He is too shrewd a political general to allow the enemy to cut him off from his base of supplies.

SENSATIONALIST BROUGHT TO BOOK

Elbert Hubbard, of East Aurora, N. Y., in a supreme effort to make out a case against the churches of that flourishing suburb of Buffalo, wrote an article which was published in the New York Independent of a recent date, and which has brought forth sharp denials by the ministers and laymen of the scandalized churches and people of that town. Referring to the matter in a later issue, the Independent says:

"Mr. Hubbard described the seven churches as 'all in competition; rivalry is ripe,' 'the spirit of the Master is smothered in a scrimmage to raise the wind,' and he told a sad story of 'chicken pie socials' and 'poverty parties' and 'all the usual round of petty, pious blackmail resorted to in order to make up the deficit'; and he concluded the list with the story of a church which had a dozen pretty young women take off their shoes and stockings and expose their feet from behind a curtain. 'Then we paid 10 cents each, passed by and made guesses as to the owners of the underpinning.' He proposed that all the churches be given up, and one temple erected for all, to be called 'The Church of Man,' and he says:

I got all our seven local clergymen together and carefully outlined the plan. Two were inclined to accept it, two laughed heartily and refused to take me seriously, and three flew into wrath and called me names uncomplimentary, and accused me of ambitious oblique, direct and conclusive. So the matter rests.

"We have received letters from several of the leading clergymen of East Aurora absolutely denying the truth of these statements. The clergymen assert that no such interview with them ever took place, and they declare that the description of the condition of the churches in that flourishing suburb of Buffalo is equally false. This is corroborated by laymen of high character, long resident in the town. We accordingly wrote to Mr. Hubbard, asking him to give us the date of the interview and the names of the pastors, and also the place and time of the barefoot exhibition. Mr. Hubbard replies under date of July 25:

You require that I give you names and dates and time and places. I respectfully decline. . . . My article was very general. I mentioned no names.

"We regret that Mr. Hubbard is unwilling to substantiate what he said. We published the article on his testimony of what he had seen and done. In view of the testimony which contradicts his assertions we regret that we published statements for which we can get no corroboration."

The Oregonian having quoted briefly from Mr. Hubbard's article from the Independent, gives place to the above, feeling that it is well for a sensationalist of this type to be "brought to book."

HYMNS AND HYMNOLOGY.

They Deserve Praise, Notwithstanding Amateurish Criticism.

Boston Advertiser.

A man named Triggs, who is an oddity even in a Western university, has achieved a temporary notoriety by asserting that the church hymnal is made up of trash and that the average "hymn is below the dime novel in point of literary value." This assertion must be regarded as less of light upon the literary value of hymns than upon the worth of Triggs as a literary critic. Probably Professor Triggs prefers a dime novel to a hymn, but that is rather the fault of Triggs than the result of the hymn.

The hymnology of the present day has gone to all times for its wonderful treasures. Baring-Gould's resonant "Onward Christian Soldiers," befits the church triumphant, and Montgomery's "In the Hour of Trial" foreshadows the church triumphant, even when the hour is darkest. What does this man Triggs think of Bishop Heber's "Bread of the World," if indeed he has ever heard of it or knows of the author? What has he to say of Addison's "Spacious Firmament on High," or does he know who Addison was? If he is anxious to learn the literature of hymns, he might also read up about Cowper, who wrote "O for a Closer Walk With God," or Dryden, who wrote "Creator, Spirit."

The names of Montgomery, Isaac Watts, Charles Wesley and John Newton are surely not beyond the realms of reverent literature. The chorales of unknown composers have been handed down from generation to generation, and have lived through the countries with glorious settings of music by the world's greatest composers. Some hymns of the Christian church are sometimes trivial, but these are soon consigned to disuse. The hymns that live and have lived are among the world's most important literature.

They have been sung in midocean, where vessels have sunk to the solemn sound of the last declaration of undying faith. They have been heard on the battlefield, where men have given their lives to show that faith. They have pealed for ages in glorious cathedrals and have been the cradle songs in the hovels of the pitifully poor. They have shouted forth the triumph of liberty and have comforted the deathbeds of millions and millions. In all sorrows, in all rejoicings, in all the experiences of humanity since the founding of the Christian church, the great hymns have been so inseparably woven into history that without them life would have been robbed of its chief source of human, reverent, religious utterance in the past 19 centuries.

The Sinking of Venice.

Boston Herald.

Venice, it seems, is gradually sinking. For centuries the Adriatic shores have been in process of submergence, islands have slowly disappeared below the sea, and some of the important low-lying features of Venetian architecture are under water, including church crypts and the great stairs that formerly connected the Grand Canal with the ducal palace. The fate hanging over Venice indicates that there may be truth back of the romantic legends of sunken cities and lost continents, like Atlantis and Lemuria. It would be a calamity for history and for art to have Venice disappear in this way. As in cases of emergence of the land, the shoaling of ports can be counteracted by excavation of channels and harbors, so submergence may be remedied by compensatory filling in and by the raising of buildings. To "jack up" an entire city in this way would be expensive, although here in Boston we have had considerable experience in raising the level of whole sections by such means, as in the case of the Church-street district, which lay too low for drainage. Possibly in Venice it might be cheaper to confine such operations to the historical and monumental structures, and allow the lower stories of buildings in the rest of the city to their fate, filling them in with the progress of submergence and adding new stories above. It seems likely, however, that it would be more economical to raise the level of the entire city by action of the municipal or general government.

The Third Person.

McCrea Pickering, in The Smart Set.

Now, these are the words her husband said:
"Oh, yes, your gown's all right,
But you know you never look well in red,
And the thing's too gay and bright."
"You light the room like a rose abloom
With its hundred leaves astir—
A rose too fair for a clown to wear,"
Said the Tertium Quid to her.

Now, these are the words her husband said:
"Good Lord, you women are wise!
You have raced and chased till you look half dead
And have circles beneath your eyes."
"Tonight your smile is as faint the while
As a star in the mist's dim blur.
You're tired, I know, but you're loveliest so,"
Said the Tertium Quid to her.

Now, these are the words her husband said:
"He'll pay for it, every cent!
But why should she choose that man instead?—
She ought to have been content!"
"Oh, women are dear and women are queer
And are bought with a coin forbid;
And their husbands may grow wise some day,"
Reflected the Tertium Quid.

ONE BUBBLE PRICKED.

New York Evening Post.

One bright dream the steel strike has put an end to, and that is the vision which certain promoters have seen of the trust as the cure-all for labor troubles. We all know what their reasoning was. You were to group industries into combinations so vast that labor unions could not think of measuring swords with them. And, of course, you were to have your huge corporations managed by men so wise and just that they never would give workingmen cause of complaint, and so the strike would become as obsolete as a Roman toga. The union of bigness and benevolence in the trust was to bring about a kind of earthly paradise for both capital and labor. Well, we see now that it does not work that way. A tremendous combination of capital fairly invites, we may almost say forces (human nature being what it is), a tremendous combination of labor. That is exactly what the Amalgamated Association officials at Pittsburg are saying. "The manufacturers are refusing us the right which they themselves exercised in forming their combination," asserts Treasurer Williams. This may not be the strict truth. We think it is not, so far as we can make out the conflicting statements about what is really meant by "unionizing" a mill. But we have to take laboring men as they are, prone to excitement and exaggeration; not always reasonable or scrupulous; and, being such, they show that the great trust, far from being the extinguisher of strikes, may prove their provocative on an enormous scale.

Sagacious as our captains of industry and finance are, they too often fail to take into their reckoning these elements of human nature, often unlovely, in our laboring population. The history of our protective tariff is filled with instances of this short-sightedness. Protection is a scheme to obtain selfish and exclusive advantages. Yet protected manufacturers have often discovered with indignation that their men, too, had a keen eye for selfish advantages. Were they not better off than ever before? Were not their wages higher, their employment steadier? Yes; but, strangely enough, the men in the union, like their protected employers, were perverse enough to desire unreasonable profits, unnatural advantages. So it will always be under any system where legislative favoritism, or a giant combination of capital, gives or appears to give an undue share of the products of industry to the employer. If he seems to be grasping, he ought not to be surprised if his men learn the trick of him. Monopoly methods in the counting-room provoke monopoly methods in the lodge of the labor union. That is one lesson of the great steel strike. It ought to make the glorifiers of the trust a little shy for a time of railing at the despised and outgrown idea of free competition and individual initiative.

England's Trade With Russia.

Engineering Magazine.

England has large sums invested in Russian industries and knows what implements and machinery are needed; moreover, she has a standard which the United States lack. In America a dealer orders a pump at such a price. In England he demands a Perm pump or a Jeffrey pump, knows the exact price at which he can buy and sell, and would take no other make. The Russians accustomed to this standard system cannot understand the American custom of substituting "something just as good." Other countries study the foreign markets and give their customers what they demand, manufacturing special machinery for each and every market, if necessary, while the American manufacturer too frequently insists on forcing his goods on the foreign purchaser for trial, whether they are suitable to the country or not; if not, a duplicate order is lost to America.

The Law Will Not Be Enforced.

Washington Times.

The combined movement of labor organizations, the Anti-Trust League and outside sympathizers to proceed against the steel and other trusts, under the Federal and state laws that they violate daily, is an excellent one in principle, but we do not expect much to result from it in practice. The Attorney-General of the United States came to the office freshly graduated from the law department of the Carnegie Steel works. No doubt he would do his duty as he saw it; but, between his trust training and the known desire of the Administration to protect the trusts in all circumstances and at all hazards, probably not much in the way of active prosecution could be gotten out of Mr. Knox.

A Prophecy Being Fulfilled.

Boston Herald.

We are now beholding the fruition of possibilities which John Sherman recognized in the McKinley tariff. From his seat in the Senate he publicly warned the Nation of them and earnestly entreated the manufacturers not to take unjust advantage of the power that the new tariff gave to them for oppressing the people. Sagacious as he was, he never dreamed of such gigantic combinations of capital and fictitious capital for extorting profits out of the American people as have been consummated within the last five years. It is full time to take away the abnormal, corrupting stimulus to these oppressive speculations.

Just for Politeness' Sake.

London Telegraph.

In one of the largest mercantile offices in the city the manager is very punctilious respecting the duty of politeness. To an applicant who lacked 12 months of the age at which he could be taken on as a junior he said that an appointment would be ready for him at the requisite time, and he added: "But if in the interval you happen to die, I hope, in common politeness, you will drop us a line, informing us of the fact, because our directors do not like to appoint persons who are already defunct." The applicant promised to perform this duty without fail.

Time to Abolish the Tariff.

St. Louis Republic.

The perpetuation of the high protective tariff threatens now to precipitate a trade war, waged against this country by a European trade alliance, which would be of infinite costliness to American trade. The high protective tariff now only further enriches the American trusts. It taxes the American consumer for this sole purpose. It is time to abolish the high protective tariff.

Senator Vest Is Shrewd.

Atlanta Journal.

Senator Vest is not blind. He realizes that the proclamation of the free silver principle by the Democracy in 1904 would, in his own strong language, be "suicidal." One need not be so able and experienced a politician as Senator Vest to realize this truth. He who runs may read it; it is clear to the wayfaring man.

Trust.

Washington Star.

If Congress were here
I am sure we would find
Relief from the queer
Things that trouble the mind.
The sun that has glared
Till the corn crop grew sere—
Sure, it wouldn't have dared,
Had Congress been here.

The thermometer, too,
Would grow kind and demure;
No tricks would it do
With the temperature.
And the moisture would fly
From our dense atmosphere;
We'd be happy and dry,
If Congress were here.

But we must not complain.
For these eloquent men,
Lest they break 'neath the strain,
Need a rest now and then.
So, though sorry our plight,
We will still persevere.
Things are bound to come right
When Congress gets here.

NOTE AND COMMENT.

Uribe-Uribe is not only flush of names, but he holds two of a kind.

It might be a better plan to let old Cervera referee that Sampson-Schley match.

Despite all this talk about coal oil, it is noticed that the mosquito is still warbling at eve.

The fiction numbers of the magazines do not look so ingenious in these days of war correspondence.

Now Kipling is beginning to find out how Alfred Austin feels when he opens his morning newspaper.

The bicycle will never be driven out by the airship. It is not possible to maim pedestrians with an airship.

New York is dissatisfied with its police force. If memory serves, some such discontent as this has arisen once or twice before in that city.

Science has supplied a remedy for the mosquito, but the double-barreled shotgun remains the only effective means of disposing of the flea.

The cotton crop is better than it has been for years, and we look forward hopefully to a Fall in the price of warranted all-wool clothing.

The led striker can call it a strike just now without troubling himself to make a more intimate acquaintance with the avatar of the American spirit.

Love may make the world go round, but it can hardly be responsible for the revolutions of those portions of it known as South American republics.

Judging by the deep peace and quiet which now broods over Seattle, she is no longer out after the record held by the class in municipality of Wolfville.

England certainly lacks enterprise. While she has been pulling off one war, the smallest and most peaceful of South American republics has begun and ended a couple of dozen.

A prominent actor holds that Hamlet is a comedy part. And yet we see no place where the Prince can trot down to the center of the stage and sing a topical song without somewhat marring the effect of the play.

'E's a gittin' waxed most awful in the papers near an' far,
'E is classed with Halfred Haustin, think o' that!
They makes fun of 'is hopinions on the way to fight the war,
An' they say that e's a talking through 'is hat;
But as long as T. Mulvaney tells o' fightin' Paytheens, where
The fightin' was the kind to read about,
An' while old Shere Khan is snarlin' in 'is mossy jungle lair,
Little Rudyard's reputation won't give out.

Then 'ere's to you, Mr. Kipling', you're a 'as-been, it may be;
But the things you've done already's plenty good enough for me.

A young woman of Kansas City who returned recently from a visit to friends in rural Kentucky brought back a good darky story. When they reached the house of their friends she was given, as is the custom there, a colored girl who was to be her personal servant during her stay. After about a week the colored girl asked permission to be absent one night at the wedding of a girl friend. The next morning her temporary mistress asked her about the wedding. "Oh, we had a fine time," said "Mandy," "lots to eat and lots of ice cream and cake, and fiddling and dancing all night. And the bride, she wore a white dress and white satin slippers and a big, long white veil." "And how about the groom?" asked her mistress. "Don't you know," replied "Mandy," "that trifling nigger never did show up."

Miss Matilda Johnson, of Detroit, Oregon, two of whose poems were lately published in this column, has favored us with the following:

Dear Sir—As you have taken the liberty to publish two poems of mine without authority, I would respectfully suggest that you take a few lessons in spelling and grammar, as my verses which appeared in your Note and Comment column were shockingly deficient in both. I am a graduate of Vassar, have taken post graduate courses at several of the larger universities, and am, as far as I know the one woman in Oregon on whom has been conferred the degree of LL. D. Circumstances over which I have no control have forced me for the time being to earn my living as a waitress in a country hotel, and in an unguarded moment I wrote some verses and allowed several people to make copies of them. I can only explain the condition in which they appeared in your paper by supposing that the gentleman who gave them to you was not thoroughly familiar with Sanskrit, the language in which they were written, and that they consequently suffered in translation. The poem, however, on which I base my claim to literary fame is neither of those printed by you, but one entitled "Beautiful Snow," of which you may possibly have heard. I also wrote "Gray's Elegy" and "The Iliad," as well as portions of the "Rubaiyat."

Miss Johnson's poems were reproduced from what The Oregonian supposed to be her own manuscript, and the injustice done her was unintentional. Hereafter we shall give closer attention to her work, and endeavor to see that its typographical appearance shall give her no offense. We are glad to know that she is the author of the works she mentions, as we had attributed them to others, and shall be further rejoiced to hear that she wrote the epistles of Paul and Euclid's fascinating treatise on geometry, which, although they now appear over other signatures, bear unmistakable evidence of Miss Johnson's genius.

PLEASANTRIES OF PARAGRAPHERS

Inexpensive.—"I think I shall go to Europe." "How the deuce can you afford to go to Europe?" "I can't; but I can afford to think." —Brooklyn Life.

The Dachshund.—A bright American youngster's description of the dachshund: "One of those dogs that is a dog and a half long and only half a dog high."—Life.

An Absolute Necessity.—"Mr. Chairman," said the delegate from Upthecreek, "if we are going to be so equipped that we can let slip the dogs of war, we have got to have more ocean greyhounds in our Navy."—Baltimore American.

Distinction to Be Drawn.—"You believe in protection, do you not?" said the man who is always looking for an argument. "It depends on what you are talking about," answered the weary-looking man from New York; "the tariff or the police department."—Washington Star.

A well-known Perth doctor, as witty as he is clever, came across a master butcher the other day admiring a block of houses which he had recently put up. "Weel, doctor, what think ye o' that block?" asked the butcher. "Think o't?" replied the doctor. "I just think there's mair profit in killing than curing!"—Tit-Bits.

A white minister was conducting religious services in a colored church in North Carolina recently. After exhorting a bit, he asked an old colored deacon to lead in prayer, and this is the appeal which the brother in black offered for his brother in whites: "O Lord, gib him de eye ob de eagle dat he spy out sin afar off. Give his hands to de gospel plow. Tie his tongue to de line of truth. Nail his ear to de gospel pole. Bow his head way down between his knees, and his knees way down in some lonesome, dark, and narrer valley, where prayer is much wanted to be made. 'Noint him wid de kerosene ile of salvashun, and set him on fire."—Roanoke News.