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IRRELEVANT QUESTIONS. Last Spring, when the Interstate

Commerce Commission was investigating Mr. Harriman's railroad wizardry, it asked him several questions which he declined to answer. His alleged reason for keeping silence was that the questions were 'lirrelevant and immaterial." This is lawyers' lingo for the vulgar phrase, "None of your busl-The intimation was that the Commission was trying to poke its vant" questions referred to \$28,000,000 of Illinois Central stock which Mr. Harriman and his pals had purchased quietly when prices suited their purose and finally sold to the Union Pacific road at \$175 a share. The beauty of this transaction lay in the two facts that the selling price was fixed by the gang who owned the stock, and that the purchase for the road was made by the identical men who had the stock to sell. Mr. Harriman, who controlled the shares and managed the deal, was absolute master of the Union Pacific road at the As Harriman he sold the stock; as the Union Pacific road he bought it As Harriman he doubtless pocketed an enormous profit; as the Union Pacific road he acquired a vast bunch of securities at an inflated value. The Commission questioned Mr. Harriman concerning this transaction, and he declined to answer on the ground that it was his private business

Other questions touched upon the

ingenious trick which Mr. Harriman played upon the Union Pacific road a year ago last July. On the 19th of that month the usual dividend of the road should have been declared, but it was No dividend was forthcoming, and of course the price of the shares fell rapidly. A month passed, during the whole of which Union Pacific was a drug on the market, apparently; then, without warning, on the 17th of August, a dividend of ten per cent was declared. What fol-Of course, the shares rose more rapidly than they had fallen, and any person who had been shrawd enough to gather them in by the thousand during the month of leanness would be rewarded for his "prudence and foresight," as Dr. Day calls it, by profit accurately proportional to his Can it be supaforesaid prudence. posed that Mr. Harriman was idle during this golden harvest time? Can it be supposed by anybody except a corporation lawyer that the dividend was passed for any reason except to depress the price of the shares? And can it be supposed that the ten per cent dividend was finally declared secretly and suddenly for any reason except to inflate the price? The Commission inquired concerning Mr. Harriman's part in this transaction also, only to receive the reply that their questions were "irrelevant and immaterial." Whether he can be compelled to answer the questions or not is now being argued before the Federal court York by able lawyers, among whom Mr. Spooner, late Senator from Wisconsin, appears for Mr. Harriman, He takes the ground that the attemp to investigate these transactions is an effort to "pillory Mr. Harriman at the bar of public opinion." That depends. If he acted like an honest man, how can public knowledge of the facts "pillory" him? If he acted like a swindling rascal, why should he not

But are these transactions the pricommon opinion is that it was exces-

imprevements of the roadbed and new cars. If this is true, then Mr. Harriman's diversion of the money to play his game of speculation impaired the usefulness of the Union Pacific road as an interstate carrier. It was a direct impediment placed in the way of interstate commerce, and the effort to elicit the facts in the case is something more than a mere attempt to pillory Mr. Harriman, though that, too, is well enough in its way. Is it not absurd to admit, as Mr. Spooner frankly does, that Congress, through the Commission, may absolutely control interstate commerce, and then in the next sentence declare that the wreck and ruin of an interstate road is purely a matter of Mr. Harriman's private business? It is sad to see an intellect of Mr. Spooner's caliber engaged in such a pitiful task.

Moreover, the Commission is admittedly the judge in the first instance of the reasonableness of a road's rates. The swindling enterprises of Mr. Harriman and his pals directly affect rates, because if the earnings of the road are squandered in stock speculations, rates must of necessity be kept higher than they might be if the earnwere honestly applied. It follows clearly enough to the ordinary mind, even if a lawyer cannot see it, that the Commission's inquiries into the speculations of Mr. Harriman are anything but irrelevant. They directly and intimately concern the question of rates. Perhaps if the Wall-street gang had not robbed the Union Pacific road so thoroughly we should hear less about the two-cent rate in Nebraska being confiscatory. The confiscation of railroad earnings, it seems, is a privilege which belongs strictly to Mr. Harriman himself

Two little girls were looking at the apple show and spelling out the names. Even the names seemed to have a sweet taste in their mouths. "Whichwould you take," asked one, "if you had your choice, a Winter Banana, a Spitzenberg, an Ortley, or a Jonathan?" The other made a reply that strikes everybody as just about the right thing to say. "I'd take them all," she answered. So would we. Where all are so beautiful, what is the use of trying to make a choice? The proud legend of the Hood Riverites that their apples are raised by the angels in the Garden of the Gods seems almost warranted by the appearance of their exhibit; and we suppose Mr. Lowns dale's will rival them so smartly that we shall be still more embarrassed to make a choice when his show is displayed in all its glory.

It is a joy merely to look at these apples. What it would be to eat them is left for the millionaires to know by experience. The plain citizen only imagine it. And this is rather a melancholy fact when one sits down and meditates upon it. We remember a letter from Mr. Corby in The Oreonian which deplored the high prices of fruit in this blessed country, where all sorts are produced so easily and abundantly. Of course, such fruit as is displayed in the shows will always be dear; but there might be enough raised here at moderate prices-the medium grades of apples, pears and grapes-so that everybody could enjoy fruit and the growers reap a fair profit also. Oregon is emphatically a land of apples. They will grow everywhere in the state. In some parts they grow better than in others, but everywhere they will do well and can

be produced at a profit. It is the pick of the best orchards inquisitorial nose into matters which the shows. Nobody raises fruit which where the principle of the closed shop concerned Mr. Harriman's private af- is all as good as the prize exhibits. has been adopted in realms both safairs, and with which the public had They are a standard which growers average product approach within reasonable distance of the best. By this process, and by the steady planting of orchards, good fruit will by and by be placed within the reach of Mr. Corby and all the rest of us.

ENLARGEMENT OF PUGET SOUND

The Government is still dumping money into the Puvallup waterway, a stream that until recently carried at low tide barely enough water to float the canoes of the dwellers on the adjacent reservation. This improvement, like that of the other "waterway" which the Government dredged out of the tide flats for the benefit of the property owners, is simply an enlargement of Puget Sound. The first improvement of this nature at Tacoma was secured by Senator Foster, of Tacoma, who happened to be a large holder of tide-land property, which, of caurse, was increased in value. Scattle was either less fortunate or more in dependent, for, having no tide-land owning Senator at Washington, she enlarged her portion of Puget Sound by direct levies on the property adjoining the new waterways.

The enlargement of the Puyallup waterway, like that which leads past Senator Foster's sawmill, is probably worth all that it has cost-that is, all that it has cost Tacoma. Whether it is worth as much as it has cost the Government is another question. The Oregonian has no special reason for calling attention to this strange diversion of Government funds except certain palpable misrepresentations indulged in by the Tacoma News in the following language:

following language:

Take it all in sil, the Government has not done much for the waterways and channels of the Sound. Not much is needed. The harbors are natural harbors. Work and money will always be necessary, probably to remove the shifting bar at the mouth of the Columbia, and this is true also of Grays Harbor. For just this reason, Puget Sound is sure to cutartip Portland in the race for commercial supremacy. The muney to be spent here on the Puyallup River is not money spent on the harbor but for the addition of shipping facilities. On the Columbia, the money must be spent in order to provide a harbor at all. Even then there is no certainty of success.

Having delivered the above regulation Tacoma "knock" at Portland, the News hastens to inform us that there is no opposition on Puget Sound to Columbia River appropriations. This being the case, it is passing strange that the News should persistently, in season and out of season, distort and misrepresent the object of these appropriations. Portland has never yet en the beneficiary of the Government to the extent of reciving appropriations for enlargement of its harbor, although the task would be infinitely easier and more economical than that of converting an area of tide flats into a navigable body of water.

As the demands of commerce have increased, Portland has steadily advanced the money for meeting them. The Port of Portland has spent apvate business of Mr. Harriman? Take proximately \$2,000,000, not of Govine ten per cent dividend itself? The ernment money, but of good hard cash ernment money, but of good hard cash paid by our own citizens, and with that | Unfortunately for the traveling public,

the road; that it was paid, in fact, out nel in the harbor. We have also of funds which were sorely needed for | deepened the channel all the way from Portland to the sea, thus making it possible for the products of Washington, as well as Oregon, to find a cheaper and easier access to the sea than by way of the lofty mountain route to Puget Sound. Incidentally, we are carrying more of the Washington products passing to the world's markets by way of Portland and her channel to the sea than will ever be sent through the Puyallup waterway or any other artificial waterway on Puget Sound.

THE OPEN SHOP.

Sometimes the civil war between capital and labor is partially interrupted by a truce for one purpose or another, but it never ceases and all but the most determined optimists have long since given up expecting it to cease. We still hear occasionally of efforts for the establishment of "industrial peace," but they are made by outsiders and excite little genuine in terest among the combatants. Both the labor unions and their employers seem to have made up their minds to fight out the war to a finish, and it is not difficult to perceive that they are disposed to look upon outside interference, whether by statute or advice, as impertinent meddling.

For active fighting purposes the most useful weapon of the employers has long been the injunction. This, discreetly brought into play at a critical juncture, paralyzes the forces of the unions and leaves them at the mercy of their foes. No wonder the unions design to attack in Congress the injunction power of the courts which has been exercised against them so frequently and sometimes so effectually; and no wonder the employers design to spare no effort or expense to preserve an advantage so enormous. But of late they have devised another method of attack upon the unions which may perhaps turn out to be still more effective than the injunction. It is directed against their treasuries. The effort is to make the funds of the unions responsible for any injury done to an employer by a strike or boycott or by inducing "scab" workmen to de-sert his premises. Like the injunction this matter belongs in the realm of technical law and must for the present be left to the courts. When Congress shall have taken it up seriously, of course another aspect will appear.

The employers have formulated also third method of attack upon the unions which is probably the most deadly of all, since it strikes at the very root of the principle of unionism while it is allied with all the precepts of conventional ethics and strengthened by every hitherto unquestioned dogma touching the rights of This is the attack upon the closed shop; or, conversely, the fight for the open shop. The seemingly indisputable principle behind the attack is the alleged right of every man to earn his own living in his own way and to make such lawful contracts as he may choose. In order to defend the closed shop the unions are compelled to deny this apparently incon testable principle and maintain that, under some conditions at least, a man has not the right to earn his living as he pleases and that the right of free contract may justly be taken from

At this moment we are not concerned to argue the abstract question thus brought to an issue, but it has seemed to us interesting, now that both the American Federation of Labor and the Manufacturers' Association are providing munitions for a fierce renewal of their endless conflict, in the state which is on exhibition at to call to mind an instance or two cred and profane, and where it has seen made by Legislatures a part of it is every fruitman's duty to make his the law of the land. For all practical purposes the Christian ministry is a Hosed shop. To earn his living by this industry a man must have obtained a union card; that is, a diploma from a theological school; and when he ceases to be in good standing with his union he loses his job and cannot get another one. - Moreover, there is no union that treats scabs with greater ignominy than does that of the minis-For a long time, to cite only one instance, the scab Salvation Army or ganization was ridiculed, persecuted and maligned by the union, precisely as the organized coal miners treat a

The case of the physicians is still more striking. Not only have they a strict union among themselves which rigorously enforces the principle of the closed shop, but they have invoked the aid of the law to make scabbing criminal. It is not at all an infrequent thing to hear of a man being prosecuted for asserting the principle of the open shop against the physilans' union. The law has also entered the field to apply the principle of the closed shop to the barber trade by making it unlawful to practice the tonsorial art without a state license; and the same is true of teaching in the public schools. Every teacher must / have a certificate, which amounts to nothing more or less than union care granted under the forms of law. We see, therefore, that we have at present certain labor unions, and very extensive ones, too, which exist by the command of the law itself and that in these the principle of the closed shop is applied with exceeding strictness and rigor.

Of course this application of the ground that whatever suffering it may cause an individual is more than compensated by the benefits conferred upon society as a whole. But so says every labor union in the country concerning the same closed shop idea when applied to its own trade. Nor can it be denied by any candid person that the closed shop of the physiclans, ministers, teachers, barbers and others violates the sacred liberty of contract just as flagrantly as closed shop of the miners and ironworkers. And it is difficult, if not impossible, to advance any defense for the former which will not apply with equal force to the latter

The Mexican greasers who travel over Mr. Harriman's lines south of the United States boundary will have all the best of it compared with the unfortunates on this side of the line. A New York dispatch yesterday says that Mr. Harriman has purchased two shiploads of steel rails in Russia for use on his Mexican lines. The day previously we were advised that the Steel Trust which had taken over the Tennessee Steel, Coal & Iron Company, to which Mr. Harriman had let a contract for some "safe" rails at a premium of \$1 per ton, would switch the order to the trust factories sive, unwarranted by the earnings of sum of money has deepened the chan- the Steel Trust economies prevent a

safe rall being turned out at trust factories, and our tariff prevents us enjoying the privileges accorded the Mexicans, who can buy where the best

Half a dozen whalers have drifted into San Francisco within the past few days, most of them with good catches as a result of long voyages in the frozen North. The big liners have driven the clipper sailing ship out of existence. The snub-nosed, pot-bellied tramp steamer is displacing the old sailing freighter, and throughout the world all lines of business on the high seas have changed, except in the case of the whalers. These relics of a bygone age even, though most of them are propelled by steam, still bring with them an air of mystery as they flounder into port after months and years among the ice floes of the Arctic. The life of a whaler is at the best a hard one, but around the calling still cluster some of the old charm and romance which lured the youngsters rom the Atlantic Coast to the Far North a hundred years ago. And yet the reason for this charm is inexplainable even by those who feel it the strongest.

The Bradley-Brown murder case, now before a Washington City court, is likely to bring out nothing more sensational than the details so often rehearsed of man's perfidy voman's weakness combined in violating the law upon which all organized society rests. The story will be pathetic in many of its details; the old, old story always is. But through it runs such a broad line of folly and shame and perfidy that pity for the principals in the tale-the man who is dead and the woman who killed himis lost in disgust. Sympathy finds legitimate exercise in the case of the two bright little boys who were born to this shameless couple, in that the unnatural father utterly repudlated their claim upon him and the doubly disgraced mother faces a felon's fate. Herein lies the tragedy of the tale whatever the outcome of the trial may be.

"I am now able to get help to do farm work for the first time in several years," says a Polk County farmer, who, along with nearly every other employer of labor, has been unable to secure a sufficient force to clear land and perform other farm tasks which the regular "hired man" had no time to attend to. This case on the strain in the labor market will not be without its good results, for it will anable thousands of farmers in other counties than Polk to improve idle land that has remained unproductive for lack of labor with which to Next year we shall also notice another advantage when it comes time to put in the Winter's supply of wood. More woodchonners are going into the woods, in spite of the coming bad weather, than at any previous period for the past three years.

Administrative circles at Washingon are said to regard the attempt of French protectionists to prevent further tariff negotiations with this country as indicative of a willingness to continue the existing modus vivendi. This conclusion is somewhat surprising in view of the mighty clamor that the French made when this country granted Germany much more Hberal concessions than France had ever en-joyed. Perhaps the French protecionists are willing to break off negotlations with us and inaugurate a system of reprisals which will prove more effective in demonstrating to the United States that we cannot forever maintain

The annual John Jay treaty banquet at Kansas City will probably be held without sangulnary encounters. refusal of Mr. Hill to attend unless admission was denied Tom L. Johnson has been softened and rendered void by the declination of the Clevelander appear. Mr. Hill is an interesting talker, and his remarks will be worth listening to, but, for all that, Mr. Tom L. Johnson has no monopoly of the character when he assumes the role of a demagogue, and it is difficult to understand where Mr. Hill would have suffered had he joined him at the

If "Roosevelt did it," why did New York's financial leaders compel certain speculating bankers to step down and out? The associated banks of New York City knew where to place the blame, and they did not hesitate. If speculators everywhere could be ousted from the control of banks we should have no financial crises and very few failures

James R. Keene has officially anounced that his horses this year won more than \$400,000. held the amount of his losses in the stock market, but close observers of the rich man's panic will hardly believe that the track winnings will be sufficient to offset the ticker losses.

which is demanded of Harriman were one that could be creditable to him, he would hardly be hiring the greatest lawyers of the country, and paying them enormous fees, to protect him from the requirement to tell it.

If the Mauretania, the latest Cunarder, could maintain her trial speed across the Atlantic she would make the trip in four days and ten hours. This is flying not without wings, but literally on the wings of steam.

The financial flurry has not ouched the apple crop-nor, Indeed, any other material asset of this great and prosperous state. Just look at the apples on display in Portland store street windows and be convinced.

Oregon potato-growers who get for their product, think they are get-ting little enough. But perhaps they can remember when two bits a bushel was the ruling price.

Several sections of Portland ought to hold special Thanksgiving service over the Council's failure to secure a

President Roosevelt's message recalls the Wyoming saleonkeeper who kept this sign prominently posted: 'In God we trust; all others cash.'

Enough breath was wasted over a new crematory site to lift a balloon across the continent.

CALLED "A SURE LOSER." Remarks on the Presidential Prospects of Mr. Bryan.

Brooklyn Eagle (Ind. Dem.) It will not be long before the skirmish preliminary to the fight of next year will be dismissed from the public mind. Nor will more than a brief interval elapse before the fight becomes general as a subject of discussion. Meanwhile, to indulge in an irrelevancy, may be remarked that it is customary to cartoon the Democratic party as an

Just now there is no warrant for presuming that any name other than that of a Nebraskan will be seriously mentioned for the Democratic nomination. Cartooning will continue. The familiar figue of the ass will be exploited as typifying, as harmonizing with the condition of Democratic things. This because donkeys are patient and accusomed to hard usage.

Naturally, Mr. Bryan was especially solicitous about the results of the recent election in Nebraska. Once he carried it, but that was years ago. When he ran again, in 1900, his own commonjust beaten by 20,000 the ticket for the election of which he made many speeches.

To go a little further is to fare little better, Mr. Bryan invades Kentucky, perhaps by special request, and the A representative of the New York par state goes Republican. Experiences of this sort do not yet seem to have suggested to Republican campaign managers the idea of offering inducements to Mr. | mor Bryan, whenever and wherever they want to be sure of success. It would pay them to hire his hostility.

The World says that the returns from Nebraska and Kentucky ought to mean the elimination of Mr. Bryan from party eadership. It asks why he should be ominated for President, or why he should be allowed to dictate the Democratic nomination. The only answer to the question is that the party is, or appears to be, determined to make assurance of defeat doubly sure. Having asked a question, the World

may pardon one; Is there, in its opinion, the remotest possibility that Mr. Bryan could carry the state of New York next year? Without a doubt, its answer will be categorical. It knows of nothing more remote than such a possibility Nor is there any likelihood that even Mr. Bryan himself would answer the question otherwise, could be be persuaded to respond unequivocally.

This makes him a sure loser. With the state of New York, he might be a winner; without it, defeat is a certainty. According to all indications, Mr. Bryan will be nominated for the third timenobody knows why. And, as nothing is surer than that he will lose this state, so is there nothing surer than that he will be beaten again. It is fitting that the ass should persist as an emblem.

Political Impartiality.

Youth's Companion. Mrs. Eliot sighed so deeply as she took out her hatpins that her husband looked up from the evening paper. "I don't lieve I've any bent for politics," she said, response to his inquiring glands very time there's an election of officers of the club I get into some kind of mess, try as I may to avoid it." "You see, Harry," she continued, con-"You see, Harry," she continued, confidingly, "I don't really care a fig who is in the office so long as I'm not. I like all the members very well, and I'd as lief have one as another president, or secre-

tary, or on committees.
"I have no favorites. I'm truly impartial. But that won't work. If you belong to a woman's club you are force. to sweat and agonize over candidates. You must be partisan, or be out with both sides.

'You know Mrs. George has been president for four years, and every year Mrs. Tufts has tried to get Mrs. George out and herself in. About a week ago she came to me and said she was sure of pression and are on the home stretch the nomination if I would gote for her. Would I? I thought it over and said I in from abroad by the millions, gold is would, for I admire Mrs. Tufts imnsely, as she is so lovely and char-

"Today, just before balloting, Edith Reynolds came to me and said I must vote for Mrs. George. Edith said I owed it to her—you know she has just helped me make over my blue foulard, and can-ned all those peaches for me when the

cook burned her hand,
"Everybody wanted Mrs. George, Edith
said, and if I voted for her she would
get the nomination. I thought it over, and said I would vote for her. I admire and respect her very much, she .s so witty and forcible when she presides, and she speaks French beautifully, and I thought if everybody wanted her it was only proper that-

"Do you mean that you promised to vote for both?" Interrupted Mr. Eliot. "Yes, I promised Mrs. Tufts, as I have just said. And I promised Edith be-

"But you didn't actually vote for both?"
"Why, of course I did, Harry. I may not be much of a politician, but I was brought up to keep my word," said Mrs. Ellot, with dignity

One Roosevelt Victory. St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

Mr. Roosevelt has accomplished one thing, at any rate. Under no other administration have people with twins and triplets written to the Treasury Department demanding a reward.

An Untimely Demand Chicago Record-Herald.

This is really the wrong time for the heirs of George Washington to put in an appearance. At the most they, would have to be contented with a clearing-house certificate,

Puck.
The Giraffe—Ah, there, Taft!
The Hippo—Why, hello, Fairbanks!

A FEW SQUIBS.

"Old Abrams took his son into der busi-ness as a partner so der poy couldn't steal so much oht der old man's money." "Vy can't he steal so much?" "Now, vhen he steals a tollar he steals half ohf it from himself."—Judge.

Housekeeper—"How does it happen. Jans, that you never saw finger bowls Nefore? Didn't they use them in the last place you worked?" Jane—"No, marm, they mostly washed theirselves before they came to the table, marm."—Life.

"No. sir," said the self-made man, "I don't believe in hiding my light under a bushel." "I don't blame you," rejoined the home-grown cyaic. "It would be wasteful when a plint cup is more than ample."—Chicago Daily News.

Little Mollie (who often becomes reflective at bedtime, and has spent the whole day with her grandmother)—"Do godparents get punished for their grandchidrren's sins, mother?" Mother—"No, Mollie." Mollie (with a prefound sigh)—"Oh, what a pity! I felt so comfr about it."—Punch. Greengoods Man (just 'pinched')—"O' course we'll so along with you an' all that, but we ain't the only ones yer gotter think of. Think of the innercent investors, the wilders an orphans, maybe, that'll suffer fr yer pinches us. They paid real money for our stuff, an' they'll be wiped out, see!"

"Will you loan me \$500 on a house?" the seedy man asked the banker. "I will have to see the house," the banker replied. "That's all I want to know," said the man, "It's perfectly plain to me now that the Prosident's course has destroyed the con-fidence of the moneyed clars. Good morn-ling sir,"—Claraland Plain Dasies.

SENATOR BOURNE MAKES DENIAL

That the President Rebuked Him as Second-Elective Term Boomer. WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 7.—(To Oregonian recently published a dis patch from Washington, D. C., to the effect that President Roosevelt had taken me to task for my advocacy of his renomination, and stating that the President "read the riot act to me" at the White House. This dispatch was absolutely incorrect, and there was no

foundation whatsoever for the report

made denial of this statement

Washington, D. C., Heraid, and would respectfully ask that you do the same. I send my denial which I should like to have The Oregonian use.

JONATHAN BOURNE, JR.

Washington (D.C.) Herald A New York newspaper contained a disparch under Washington date in which it stated that "it is understood that the Fresi-dant informed Senator Bourne, of Oregon, that he meant what he had said in declining

When this dispatch was called to the attenwealth would have none of him. Every year since then it has persisted. It has lady and gentleman from Portland, Or., to give them an opportunity of meeting the Presi Gent. During the conversation politics was not mentioned, either directly or indirectly. Nothing occurred out of which the most vivid imagination could manufacture such a story on me, informing me he had heard such a rumor, and asked me if the report was true I told him that there was no truth whateve in it, and no ground whatever for such a ru-mor. In spite of my positive denial, the story was printed conspicuously. "There is unquestionably a tremendous pub-

tic sentiment favorable to President Roose velt's re-slection, or election for a second elective term, regardless of his own personal wishes, and any honest, intelligent person must realize the impossibility of his placing himself greater than his party or his country "I cannot conceive that the President would attempt to dictate to me or any other Ameri-an cilizen whom he should favor for any of-dice, or directly or inferentially deny my right assert emphatically what I believe, namely hat he is helpless; that he must and will obey he command of his party and country when saued; and in my humble opinion, the best interests of the country necessitate that he should serve for a second elective term."

CLOSING A SOUND BANK'S DOORS. Frenzy of Depositors Was Cause of Merchants National Suspension. Eugene Register.

Withdrawal of funds from the Merhants National Bank of Portland, result of which though still solvent, compelled the institution to close its doors temporarily, serves to demonstrate what will or cur when people lose their heads. The bank had \$5,000,000 in deposits, and before it closed it had paid out half the mount to depositors, a most remarkable evidence of soundness of the institution and ar absolute proof of the fact that no matter how strong financially any bank may be, it can be forced to close its doors by such foolish acts as characterize Merchants National depositors. The people after while will put their in the same one after they have done what they could to injure the rapidly improving financial situation in Portland by crippling one of its best and soundest institutions through an uncalled for and and practical ability, persuaded their reabsolutely unnecessary and unjustifiable spective families to dismiss the incompe the balance of the state in avoiding six months' experiment in housework similar action, for, if left alone all the The club dues were nvested in domestic banks of the state will come through with flying colors, thereby saving the values for all of us.

turn, and men who are thoroughly conversant with American finance declare the wages formerly paid to the clusive in most positive terms that we have "help" and also whatever might be saved to normal conditions. Money is coming all accounts the club has been a great moving westward for handling crops and ing the following resolution was read: starting anew all the wheels of progress. The holiday season is now, apparently, short-lived.

A "Life" of Herbert Spencer. The Athenaeum (London) makes the

following authoritative announcement: Herbert Spencer left by will materi als for the compilation in "one volume of moderate size," by his friend Dr. Duncan, of his "Life and Letters. The work is now complete and will shortly be published with the authority of the Spencer trustees. The aim of the author is to give a plain narrative of Spencer's life, largely on correspondence. The denial and unwearled diligence played by Spencer in his early years will be revealed for the first time in full detail. The incidents described in the "Autobiography" will not be re-peated. That work, however, extends only to 1882, and it was during the last 21 years of his life that SI uttered his most vigorous protests against Socialism.

Among his correspondents no long er living may be mentioned the l Duke of Argyll, John Bright, H. Buckle, Darwin, George Ellot, Glad-stone, G. H. Lewes, James Martineau, J. S. Mill, Leelle Stephen, Tennyson and Tyndall. The volume will include reminiscences from some of Spencer's intimate friends, which throw light on the emotional and sympathetic sides of his character. It will also contain two unpublished appendices written by Spencer. One, prepared in 1902, Is or his own "Physical Traits." The other was written in 1898-9 and is styled "The Filiation of Ideas." It is a remarkable intellectual history of him-

Weish Sea Serpent Appears. .

This year, as usual, the sea serpent has nade its appearance. Edward S. Dodgson, of Jesus College, Oxford, and Rev. T. C. Davies, M. A., of Queen's College, Oxford, saw it when they were staying at Tintagel, Wales. It was moving at a distance of about 200 yards very rapidly along the caim surface of the sea toward Tintagel Head. In about a minut had disappeared behind the cliff that ounds the cove on the west. It was, they say, at least 20 feet long, holding its large head, with apparently some kind of a crest or mane upon it, aloft.

Thanksgiving Anticipations.

Mazie V. Caruthera.
Of course we'll have a turkey,
A great, big, husky feller,
'N vegetabuls of every kind—
Fertaters white and yeller;
Turnips, 'n squash, 'n onlons, tooUmi Umi 'N' celery,
'N' stuffin', that's the best of all,
Fixed up with savory.

'N' pies! Well, 'I'm prepared to say All other kinds is fakes Alongside o' the punkin ones, An' mince, my mother makes! Hesides, they's apple turnovers To cap the hull array.
An' I can have two slabs of each, 'Cause it's Thanksgiving Day!

But after eating fruit 'n' nuts
'N' candy with the rest.
I bet l'li feel like letting out
'The buttons on my vest!
'N' walkin' 'round the block is good



BY LILIAN TINGLE. Some years ago "Corinthianism" was a fad which proved amazingly popu-lar in Parisian society and spread throughout other parts of wealthy France. Unlike "Diabolo," however, this social pastime was not adopted to any very great extent in other countriesthat is, as a fad or amusement, although many American housewives had of ne-| cessity practiced the art for years and will probably continue to do so for some time to come, for "Corinthianism" is described as "the art of doing without servants.

"Corinthians" agreed to practice strict economy in order to raise funds for the coming elections, and fashionable hostesses took to cooking and marketing and other domestic duties. For Corinthian dinners or juncheons the guests were isually invited to arrive an hour or two before the meal, which they helped to cook and prepare in company with the host and hostess. Cooks caps and fancy aprons were sometimes supplied by way of luncheon favors. Two guests (one of each sex) were deputed to serve the soup. Then they took their seats and another couple rose to change the plates and serve the fish, and so on. There were also many successful garden parties where the daintiest of tea cakes and candles were prepared by relays of guests, while others were occupied by tennis and croquet. Certainly such occupations are to be preferred to the old dreary guessing affairs, "book teas" and such, that were also rather in vogue some years ago, or those painful forms of entertainment connected with beribboned pads and pencils and head-racking searches for rhymes, or "animals beginning with A." or similar horrors. I know one unfortunate youth whose hostess never forgave him for a "poem" produced in response to the command, "Write four lines of rhyme on the subject of 'Peanuts.' "

> And Rhyme! The Deuce Of a Time!

wrote:

And I believe the secret sympathies of the other guests were with him. It would certainly seem that a revival of "Corinthianism" might by welcomed in this country at this time, not neces-

sarily in connection with next year's election funds, but as a fitting tribute to the financial crisis, the domestic service problem and the economic position of woman. In a recent magazine there is an account of a luncheon club, the members of which are young girls who meet at each others' houses once a month and do their own planning and serving within a definite expense limit. An adaptation of this idea ought to be welcomed by sensible mothers who are anxious to interest their daughters in domestic matters while still allowing them the times" that belong to their youth. There money back in the banks, many of them is another girls housekeeping club in a pleasant suburban community near a large Eastern city, which is a much more complicated and businessitke organization. Six girl friends, of good education run upon its funds. This Portland proced- tent houseworkers that were making life ure ought to have a salutary effect upon a weariness and piedged themselves to a science books; notebooks and account books were exhibited at the club meetredit of the country and holding up ings; a laundress and a "handy man" were secured for joint employment by Today the whole situation throughout the six families, and the girls made a the country is taking on an optimistic financial arrangement with their respective parents by which each should receive on the regular monthly bills without low ng their usual standard of living. From success and at the last semi-annual meet.

> Resolved. That housekeeping is a practical application of the arts and sciences and is fully worthy of any woman's most careful study; that it demands to the fullest extent or best mental and physical activities; that a proper understanding and practice of house-keeping conduces more to the health and happiness of the world than any other occu-pation a woman may pursue.

> I understand, however, that there is ome talk of changing the name of the organization, since "Girls' Housekeeping Club" seems hardly dignified enough for a group of young matrons. I once off clated as teacher for a club of working girls who were devoting some of their evenings to the acquisition of the useful arts of cooking and sewing. They were all interested and did very good work except a 16-year-old Scotch lassie, who had a talent for making mistakes, and with whom, as with Br'er Rabbit, one "didn't know what minute was goin' to be the nex'." But she was irrepressibly goodnatured, and it was difficult to scold her. One evening, however, she offered an unspeakably bad cake for my inspection, and I felt that her hour had struck and put on my severest frown. "Aren't you ashamed to show a cake like that, Maggle?" Maggie raised guileless blue eyes to mine. "It could no be bounte, ye ken, teacher; there's a bad egg in it."
> "A bad egg! Why, Maggie, didn't I tell you always to break an egg into a cup and smell it before using 11?" "Yes, teacher, and so I did, but it was bad just the same." I think that was an occasion when cookery had not demanded, or at any rate had not received, "her best mental and physical activities," but she developed wonderfully later and is now I believe practicing "Corinthianism" very successfully in a gray granite cottage in 'Auld Aberdeen.'

MOST IRRATIONAL OF PANICS

What Real Reason Is There for Distrust by Anybody?

New York Globe. Seriously, soberly and honestly, what earthly ground is there for distrust as to the future, in this favored country? Is there real material for slarm in corn, and wheat, and oil, and fat cattle and swine, and in gold which grows out of our heaven-en-riched soil like robust weeds in a neglected garden? This is no pleasantry, it is soher fact. This country is bursting with fatness, and positively more so than in any other epoch since trusting Puritans and Dutch-men first hitched up their oxen to plow the nelds of New England and New Amsterdams Wealth? It is here, in larger measure than ever. Wealth is just the stuff of wollbeing, and that stuff abounds, until the granaries crack with it. But money you say, is scarce. Stop a moment; money is not scarce—it is merely scared. It is all here, somewhere. People may have been playing ducks and drakes with their credit and extending their schemes too fast, but they have not been burning up their green-backs, nor running their gold and silver back into the veins and fissures deep down in the dark rocks under the ground from which it came. The money has merely gone, white with senseless fear, off into timid corners here and there. It will all come out in a moment when it finds out what a precious zool it has been.