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**PORTLAND, THURSDAY, DEC. 5, 1907.**

**THE COPPER COLLAPSE.**  
 The present crisis came on copper. It broke here, and spread to the rest of the world. There had been excessive speculation in copper. Copper stocks and copper bonds had been exploited to the limit and beyond it. The belief was that copper production and supply could be controlled, and actually the control of copper in the Standard Oil copper control. Prices of copper, and of copper stocks and bonds, had been forced, on this supposition, to a value or price—a supposed value and imaginary price—more than twice greater than the facts would warrant. These people supposed they had control of all the copper supplies of America, which are far greater than those of all the rest of the world. Stocks and bonds were multiplied on this supposition, to equal the imagined wealth, and were even carried beyond it. Upon the fight between the bulls and the bears, the crisis came. It frightened the public, and was speedily extended in other directions. Naturally it fell on the banks which were supposed to be promoters of various speculations; and the shock was quickly communicated to all parts of the United States.

The Standard Oil copper people believed they had gained full control of the entire copper supply, or the greater part of it, and could make such prices for copper as they chose. Yet they had not succeeded, as they supposed, in getting control of copper supply. But they persuaded European operators that they had done so. For a time the copper they were accumulating from American mines they succeeded in unloading on Europe; but the European customers presently became aware that there was an ever-increasing supply, and they hesitated, then stopped. The fight between the bulls and bears in New York and Boston made it impossible to hold up the price, so as to enable the operators to unload on Europe. The break came; the bears lost, temporarily, and the price fell, through at great loss, to the point where the bulls were able to keep the field by pulling in their horns, and making other interests, for their own protection, temporary allies, in the hope to save what they might. It shows the strength of the Standard Oil copper syndicate, yet the control is doomed. It cannot control the supply of copper, and therefore cannot hold the price up to the figures required by its programme.

The effort to maintain the price of copper bears a relation to the effort a few years ago to sustain the price of silver. In each case the price failed, because the metal may be produced at a lower rate, price or value than the exploiters supposed or imagined. Copper cannot be made into money; it is too abundant for such purpose. So was silver, unless gold was to be lost from use as money, which is not possible. Copper may be maintained by force, but copper was forced to a price of 18 cents a pound. It is worth about one-half that, because it may be produced at one-half that, or less. America now produces 2,500,000 pounds of copper daily; other countries about 1,500,000 pounds. A total of 4,000,000 pounds. But the world's consumption is not much more than 2,000,000 pounds daily, and prospects of increase of production far exceed all probabilities of increase of consumption. Copper will probably fall to 8 cents; for Utah and Nevada, to say nothing of other sources of supply, have mountains of copper ore that may be mined at this low rate, or lower. Full of copper also are districts in Eastern Oregon and Northern Idaho and Western Montana, and large areas of Alaska, not

yet developed. Never again can the price of copper be carried to the height it reached under the recent exploitation upon which it broke. Though production has been reduced by the manipulators, the supply on the market cannot be worked off, except at reduced prices. Increasing supplies of copper at natural prices will take care of the market hereafter.

No speculation of modern times has so overreached itself as this attempt to control the copper market. It was based on the fallacy that the syndicate could control production. The supply, could be limited, and the syndicate had "cornered" it. The market broke on the effort; and this precipitated a crisis in money in New York. The copper people, both bulls and bears, were very powerful; their bank connections had wide range, and the conflict between the operators and the banks was a serious one to business far beyond the limits of copper operations. Every other line of speculative effort felt the shock; the depositors ran to the banks for their money; the banks for their own protection, closing their doors, and legitimate business waits till it sees what has become of the plungers who have dropped into the abyss. But the crisis in other speculations would not have come so soon but for the copper catastrophe; which, on one side of it, resembles the other, is the result of the effort to hoard and to uphold silver, from 1880 to 1896.

**OUR FREQUENT MURDERS.**  
 The cheapest commodity in the United States today is human life. It is protected by no tariff; it is monopolized by no trust. Even the courts, which are instituted primarily to safeguard life, make it of less account than property. Mr. Justice Brewer says very frequently, "The chief business of the Supreme Court is to protect property, but it is difficult to recall anything he has ever said about its obligation to protect life. From its readiness to set convicted murderers free on technicalities one infers that it does not feel under any such obligation. The wholesale murder and holocaust of a family such as occurred at Macleay the other night excites a little passing attention even in Marion County, where murder is one of the common pastimes of excitable citizens. Thirteen human lives have been taken in Marion within a year, and no bodies punished. Every one of them has either set the police officers in just such a muddle as this Macleay affair has caused, or else it has been excused under the detestable "unwritten law," which does so much to encourage homicide wherever it is preached. Perhaps the Macleay murder is the last of the kind. It is a sad commentary on the Portland officials, but certainly nothing less could do it. The slaughter of one little boy like the McGrath child causes not even a moment's disturbance of their astral calm. The death of a child under conditions painfully suspicious is not a crime in the eyes of many citizens; must be murdered at the same time to make up a case worthy the attention of our guardians and protectors? What is the matter with us? Are we reverting to savagery? Not even Italy, the land of brigandage, where the law is almost entirely unenforced, can compare with our record of homicides. In this evil practice we surpass the world. Mr. Roosevelt, says it is because of our love of technicalities and our sentimentality. Doubtless he is right; but it does look as if inherent "cussedness" had a good deal to do with it. We like to praise our National good temper, but a country which can show more murders to the thousand than any other in the world must shelter a certain amount of temper which is not so good.

**THE RECALL OF AOKI.**  
 The recall of Japanese Ambassador Aoki will be a matter of deep regret to all who have had any knowledge of Japanese affairs in this country. Viscount Aoki is a man of unusual intelligence, and his views on the Japanese question in America have not been warped and biased by the pretty but misleading comment of the Eastern press. How many citizens must have difficulty in understanding the aversion shown to their countrymen by a certain element on the Pacific Coast at a time when another element of our variegated society on the Atlantic Coast, 3000 miles away from Japan, were so ready to welcome the Japanese as equals of our own Anglo-Saxons. But Aoki has not been deceived. He knows that along the entire Pacific Coast, wherever his countrymen have appeared, there has arisen a deep and ineradicable feeling of bitterness, that has appeared in birth, breeding and racial instincts prevent the Americanization of these Japanese, but wherever they have secured a good, strong foothold there is much evidence that they meet with signal success in Japanizing the portions of America where they gain the ascendancy. The honorable government of Japan is undoubtedly disatisfied with Minister Aoki because he has not been as aggressive in demanding full recognition and no immigration restrictions for his countrymen, in the United States. The expressed sentiment of the New York newspapers, the Jingo party, which seems to have pretty full swing in Japan just at present, demanded that a slight brawl between American hoodlums and Japanese in San Francisco be magnified into an international question of serious portents.

Aoki declined to make any undue fuss about the matter, and, to insure a continuation of the best possible relations between the two countries, refused to regard it at all seriously. But if Japan, as reported, is recalling Aoki, it is because he has not been sufficiently aggressive in demanding that she will learn her mistake if she replaces him with a man who attempts to make the United States kowtow every time an inelegant riot is started on the Pacific Coast. Aoki is a man of high character, and his countrymen of the coolie class were not wanted in the United States. He also knew that their increasing numbers were causing a strain on the industrial situation which must soon lead to serious trouble, and he did not care to inaugurate that trouble by wearing a Jingo air or making Jingo reports to his government.

The attitude of his successor will be watched with considerable interest. When Aoki arrived the United States was the only country then protesting against the indiscriminate admission

of Japanese. Now the subjects of the Mikado are receiving rougher treatment from Canada than they ever received in the United States. The agreement signed at St. Petersburg in September by representatives of Great Britain and Russia unquestionably left Japan in the lurch so far as ever having Great Britain for an ally on the Pacific was concerned. Canada is already enforcing harsher exclusion measures against the Japanese than are in effect in the United States, and if Aoki's successor comes here in the humble attitude that has been shown during the Aoki administration, he will be referred to existing conditions with our nearest neighbor on the north.

**INLAND WATERWAYS.**  
 Taken with reference to the long waterways is the most important part of the President's message. The difficulty with corporations is for the most part psychological, like our current panics. In creating these formidable agencies we were a little more thoughtful than we are now. We grew afraid of our own handwork and have not yet quite recovered our equanimity; but that will come in time. Some Aladdin will presently find a lamp which need only be rubbed on the rim and the corporate Jinn will obediently serve the country which they now threaten to ruin. When our judges find a way out of the enchanted forest of technicalities where they wander, the legal troubles with the syndicates will disappear like morning mist. Lack of common sense lies at the basis of most of our difficulties with monopolies, and the currency also. But inland waterways are among those material things which lie at the basis of civilization. Upon them depend the increase of population and the security of human welfare on this continent.

From most new devices in the realm of mechanics people expect too much. This was emphatically true of railroads. When the country was first reticulated with iron tracks it was believed by everybody that the day of inland water transportation had gone forever. The old Chesapeake and Ohio Canal fell into disuse. The Mississippi steamboats were left to rot at the forsaken wharves and the towage along the great river, which had driven on the trade, of the boats were almost deserted. The channel of the river became clogged with sandbars; the water, forced out of the banks in flood time, invaded the fertile lands along the lower reaches, while the detritus of the forest and the upland river intensified and hastened the process of universal ruin. What was the use of spending time and money to rectify the river? The day of its usefulness was gone forever. The navigation of the Mississippi had passed into history and was of no further interest except in Mark Twain's books.

Then came the awakening. The country discovered all at once that it was impossible to carry its internal commerce on the railroads. The system of railroad transportation which had seemed adequate for all time broke down. It was perceived that we must either develop a new mode of transport so despised or forever dwarfed by the growth of the country. Mr. Roosevelt, with his usual foresight, was one of the first to see the dimensions of the internal waterway problem, and he consistently advocated a broad and scientific scheme of development. This scheme would include the improvement of river channels and the construction of canals. The rivers to be improved are naturally in the first instance the Mississippi, with its tributaries, and the Columbia. But the main channels should be navigable for deep draft vessels before the tributaries are attempted.

The first step in improving the channels of the Mississippi and Columbia Rivers will naturally be to reforest their banks. This will put a stop to the wash of silt, which builds the river bed up, and thus makes it impossible to improve the channel. The Mississippi contains no rapids from the falls of St. Anthony to the Gulf, except the rather negligible ones at the mouth of the Rock River. But with the Columbia the case is different. To have a navigable channel from the mouth to the head of boat navigation there must be at least a canal at Celilo, so that this canal is really a part of the improvement of the river channel. Along the Lower Mississippi a system of levees is essential to retain the water in flood time, but the chief object of these levees has been to make the channels more shallow and thus neutralize their protective influence. The same experience has occurred with the Theiss in Hungary, the Po in Italy and the Hoang Ho in China. The beds of these elevated rivers have actually been elevated above the adjacent lands by the long action of the levees, and they thus become a greater menace to the country every year. Permanent improvement of a river channel would include a system of levees which would cause the current to scour instead of deposit silt. Fortunately the question of levees does not concern the Columbia.

By way of the Mississippi the Middle West would have access to the Gulf, but this would not be sufficient. There is a great area of country which is covered by the Missouri. Until that river is improved the Dakotas, Montana and Nebraska must depend upon the railroads for their outlet, and we have learned what this means. There a deep waterway should be provided from Oswego, on Lake Ontario, to Troy, on the Hudson. The present plan of New York to provide for a barge canal at an expense of \$100,000,000, but this is insufficient. Canada is under construction a ship canal from Georgian Bay by way of Lake Simcoe to the north shore of Lake Ontario. With this complete the supremacy of the Great Lakes will pass to our northern neighbor, and the area of the Northwest will go to Europe, and out trans-shipment, down the St. Lawrence. There must be a waterway across New York which will permit cargoes to go to Europe by way of New York City without breaking bulk. The West needs not a deep waterway to the Gulf, but also a route along its natural eastern outlet.

Interoceanic canals like the Suez and the Panama strike the imagination, but their importance is very much less than that of inland waterways like the canal across New York and the Canadian route through Georgian Bay. It is our internal trade that has made America prosperous. Still, the waterway to the Gulf derives part of its importance from its being a feeder to the isthmian route. This

route will relieve the congestion of the continental railroads. In fact, it will greatly lessen their importance to trade, as their managers well know. But there will be trade enough for all, in the long run our inland waterways are not so insignificant as they appear. Ultimately the railroads will become feeders to the canals and rivers, which are destined to be the main arteries of internal commerce for everything except rapid freight. Congress cannot take up this important enterprise too soon nor treat it too liberally.

Eddie Foy, funmaker for a continent popular alike in the two-dollar seats and the gallery, has ambition. He expects to do Shakespeare. Preliminary to his debut, he is only noted by adding to it "Fitzgerald." A name so short as Foy, he thinks, is a handicap. Perhaps Mr. Edward Foy Fitzgerald has forgotten, if he ever knew, that contemporaries and posterity in England and America found no fault with a distinguished relative named Foy who is remembered with honor on this side of the Atlantic. One can scarcely count the prominent actors, living and dead, who are known only by the names they assumed when they entered the theatrical field. These became permanent names. One of these was Minnie Maddern, who by gradations came to be known to the present generation as Mrs. Fiske. "Willie" Collier succeeded in changing the diminutive into dignified William. At his time of life, Foy will do well to substitute Edward for the child's name, and to make his name a dignified heights in the realm of comedy, he can do it under the familiar name of Foy.

Henry O. Havemeyer, the sugar king, died yesterday. Mr. Havemeyer rose to the head of his profession by a signal ability as an organizer of a trust under the name of the Standard Oil in its power to enact unreasonable toll from consumers of one of the great necessities of life. The magnificent fortune, for which no place will be found in his pocket-less shroud, was piled up by a system of extortion of big profits from the consumer, and of depression of values of the raw material for the producer. In some circles, Mr. Havemeyer is charged with promotion of the Spanish War for the purpose of furthering the ends of the grasping monopoly which he perfected. This crime has never been proved against him, but others have, and all of the millions which he accumulated by the devious ways of the trust will not avail in the land in which his spirit now wanders. In the imperishable wealth of a good name and of good deeds well done, the late Judge Frazer, of this city, left a fortune incomparably greater than that of the dead sugar trust magnate.

"At present prices for wool and wethers, there is actually more money raising sheep in the Willamette Valley than there is in raising grain." In these words an Eastern Oregon sheepman calls attention to the probable extent of the increase of production of wool in the Willamette Valley. It has been pretty well demonstrated in the past few years that the lands of the Willamette Valley are more valuable for almost any kind of farming than for grain-raising. It has also been demonstrated that sheep on cultivated farms in the Valley are much superior to those which are obliged to rustle for a living on the vast ranges of Eastern Oregon.

The influence of the coming Argentine wheat crop is already felt in the world's wheat markets, and prices have been weak for the past few days. It will not do, however, for foreigners to place undue reliance on the Argentine crop, for it will be necessary for it to break all previous records by an enormous margin in order to make up for the loss in other quarters. Just at present the unsettled money market in the United States is the most potent factor in depressing wheat prices. Fortunately for the Pacific Northwest, there has been a material reduction in the price of wheat since the beginning of the year. If the downward trend continues, it will, at least, make an effective stand-off for the decline in the price of wheat.

Some philosopher once remarked that "with the exception of horses and women, all things are made to yield." This being true, the people of Southern Oregon ought to rejoice over the resumption of "mixed train" service on the Southern Pacific, for this is one of the "oldest" as well as the slowest kind of service now in use on American railroads.

Ex-Senator Simon expressed the opinion that the Title Guarantee & Trust Company would pay dollar for dollar of its obligations. If Mr. Simon is sufficiently sincere in his belief to support his judgment with money, he can readily accumulate a large number of claims for an astonishingly heavy discount from the face value.

The Anti-Imperialists held their ninth annual meeting in Boston Tuesday, and reported very little sentiment in favor of retaining the Philippines. In fact, the sentiment of the party was confined to the anti-imperialists, there would be very few people in favor of disposing of them.

At any rate, the man or men who seek to organize a state convention anywhere in the Union against Roosevelt, will have a hard task. Conventions may not send delegations to the White House, but they certainly will not send delegations known to be unfriendly to him.

Commendable indeed is the spirit of civility which has been shown by the prompts residents of Portland Heights to construct at their own expense a sixty-foot boulevard.

As if we haven't enough new trouble, now comes a reminder of high finance in the life insurance business when your Mr. Hyde thought himself dictator.

It must have been a lady reporter who, describing the latest prizefight, spoke of Moir as "uncertain and ill at ease."

Is "Jimmy" Hyde suffering from an attack of conscience or is he trying to "do" the Equitable again?

Gus Lowit has gone to Denver. What bank will he get into there?

## WILLIAMS STILL THE BOSS

**Democrats Reject Scheme to Take Away Committee Appointments.**  
 WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—By a vote of 124 to 4 the House Democratic caucus tonight voted down the proposition of Representative Jones of Virginia to take the designation of minority members of the committees out of the hands of John Sharp Williams, minority leader, and by the same vote adopted a resolution affirmatively placing the power in Mr. Williams' hands.

Immediately after the caucus was called to order, Jones offered his resolution referring to the discretion of the speaker in the selection of minority members of the committees, and placing the responsibility on the Speaker. Jones spoke in support of the resolution for three-quarters of an hour. He said he desired to make it unmistakably plain that in proposing the abdication of the nominating power by the minority leader he was not actuated by personal motives. He said:

"I do not want my action to be construed as expressing any want of confidence in the speaker. I have never opposed the naming of committees by the leader of the minority. I am unambiguously opposed to the practice of permitting the speaker to select the members of the committees. In other words, I do not believe the Speaker should, with our consent, be enabled to select the members of the committees to sow contagion of envy and dissension."

Mr. Williams, Jones' colleague, offered as a substitute the following resolution: "That it is the sense of this caucus that the minority leader be requested, authorized and instructed to nominate minority members for assignment to committees."

The substitute, directing the minority leader to nominate committees, was adopted by a vote of 124 to 4. Those who voted negatively were Jones, of Virginia; Edward S. Gurney, of Texas; and Hardwick, of Georgia.

Henry then withdrew his resolution, offered but not acted on at last Saturday's caucus, for the appointment of a committee to formulate a plan to force a discussion of the tariff question on the floor.

## SENATORS OFFER MANY BILLS

**More Pay for Army and Navy—Ship Subsidy Once More.**

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—Nearly 1000 bills were introduced in the Senate today and all of them were referred to committees, where they will be taken up in order of their priority. The bills shall be given committee assignments. No other business of importance was transacted. Almost all of these bills are of the nature of amendments to existing laws, and most of them are private pension bills. The whole number introduced in the Senate of the Fifty-ninth Congress is 10,000. It is probable that at least half of them will again be introduced and referred to committees.

Among the more important measures introduced are the following: By Fulton—Amending the railroad rate law in such a manner that a change of tariff filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission cannot go into effect until objection is made until the commission has declared the rate fair.

By Dick—The administration measure for the improvement of the coast of the members of the Army, Navy and Marine Corps.

By Burkett—Providing for the teaching of agriculture in normal schools, free postage on reading matter mailed to the blind, and prohibiting telegraph and express companies from transmitting returns on gambling.

By Heyburn—Bill providing for the purchase of public building grounds in Washington; the establishment of land courts and appellate land courts; the establishment of a national board of corporations, and a department of mines; and placing in the capital building of each state a model of a naval vessel.

By Frazier—Repealing the timber and stone act and providing for the sale of timber on public lands; also a bill giving non-citizen entrymen the right to be absent from their homesteads during four winter months.

By La Follette—Requiring that railroad rates be fixed so as only to yield a fair return on the valuation of a road's property.

By Nelson—Extending the free delivery of mail to the owners having a postal revenue of \$500.

A short bill which may take the place of a regular ship subsidy bill this session is introduced by Gallinger. It provides for an increase of the mail carrying rate for 16-20 cts per ton on the Pacific and the South Atlantic to all ports of call, and for the construction of first-class vessels. The bill is designed to meet the ideas set forth on ship subsidy in the President's message.

Gallinger also introduced bills prohibiting the sale and transportation of poisonous foods, providing for a monument in Washington to the private soldiers of the Army and increasing pensions for total disability.

Two single statehood bills were introduced, one by Teller for the admission of New Mexico, and the other by Stone, for the admission of Arizona as a state. Culberson reintroduced two bills, which he advocated in the last Congress. One is intended to make illegal the dealing in the other to provide penalties against railroad companies that fail to furnish cars to shippers.

Overman reintroduced his bill authorizing the President to suspend the collection of customs duties on articles of competition with products of companies which sell abroad at a less price than in this country.

## ABERDEEN SHIPPING NEWS

**Highest Tide of Season Probably Flouts Solano.**  
 ABERDEEN, Wash., Dec. 4.—(Special.)—The highest tide of the Winter was recorded today, and as the storm was light, it is believed the schooner Solano has been floated. If so, Captain Stream, who has engineered work on the strand of waste, will come in for a great deal of praise and a large reward.

The dredge Pacific was successfully placed in drydock today at high tide. The feat was at first considered hardly possible. The schooner Golden Shore, which arrived from Mexico recently, will go on the marine railway as soon as the dredge Pacific is taken off.

Considerable trouble is being experienced by captains of boats arriving here in paying off sailors, as they refuse to take the scrip of local banks and demand gold, according to their contracts.

The schooner Andy Johnson sailed today. The schooner Bendixson and bark S. C. Allen, which left the harbor last week, are still detained under the quarantine.

Captain C. P. L. Roberts has been appointed an assistant quarantine officer.

## LIKES THE ASHLAND NORMAL

**Senator Miller Visits School and Is Pleased With Appearance.**

ASHLAND, Or., Dec. 4.—(Special.)—Hon. M. H. Miller, of Ionia County, a Bryan and Democratic leader in Oregon, and a holder member of the State Senate, who is on a lecturing tour of the state in the interest of the Modern Woodmen of America, visited the State Normal School at Ashland, Oregon, today. Senator Miller, a member of the State Text Book Commission, a regent of the State University and is deeply interested in the educational system of the state. He spent the day at the school, and was briefly and after visiting the different departments and looking over the buildings and grounds, expressed himself as being impressed with the school and its work, and as being pleased with the appearance and the possibilities of developing their natural attractiveness, which has been much added to by the work done the past year.

## MESSAGE COMES FROM DEAD

**Relic of Steamer Dix Washed Ashore on Dungeness.**

PORT TOWNSEND, Wash., Dec. 4.—A message from the sea was picked up on the shores of Dungeness Bay by "Jim" White last Saturday. It reads: "Am on the Dix, and all are going down, down, down, so good-bye to all." "JOHN."

The reverse side contains the following: "Should any one find this message mail it to Aggie Shaughnessy, Missoula, Mont."

The fact that a man named Shaughnessy took passage on the Dix the night it was sunk by the schooner Jeanie in Seattle harbor lends credence to the authenticity of the note. It is written in pencil and was corked in a whisky flask.

## APPLES TAKE A BIG SLUMP

**Tacoma Market Weakens and Fruit Is a Drag.**

TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 4.—(Special.)—The apple market has taken a big slump, prices in some cases having declined as much as 25 per cent. The commission men are selling today at 25 cents a box fruit that brought \$1 three weeks ago.

Owing to the weakened condition of the market the street is now carrying a heavy surplus of apples. Apples which were bringing top notch prices, as much as \$2.50 was being obtained for extra fine Yakimas but there is no demand for apples at that price.

## ASSERTS POLE SHOT HIM

**Country Lad Hit on Hand by a Ball From Pistol.**

ABERDEEN, Wash., Dec. 4.—(Special.)—Thomas Majek, the Polish youth charged with shooting a country lad named Henry, is making a preliminary examination today and held on bail for trial in the Superior Court.

Landers was shot in the hand by a stranger on the night of the shooting. Majek, however, declares he is entirely innocent.

## Adventists to Hold Conference.

**FREEWATER, Or., Dec. 4.—(Special.)—**The next annual conference of the North-Pacific Union Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists will be held at College Place, January 20 and February 1.

This union conference has under its jurisdiction the States of Oregon, Washington, Idaho and Montana, and delegates are expected to be present from the entire field. The conference will include, but that section is in a separate union conference.

## Council Levies Tax.

**ASTORIA, Or., Dec. 4.—(Special.)—**The City Council at a special meeting this evening decided to levy a tax of 18 mills on an assessed valuation of \$2,389,915 for municipal, park and library purposes. The ordinance will be passed at the next meeting.

## AGAIN ENJOINS LUMBER RATE

**Judge Hunt Bases Decision on Interstate Commerce Law.**

HELENA, Mont., Dec. 4.—Judge William H. Hunt in the Federal Court here today issued an injunction restraining the Great Northern Railway from collecting the excess over the old rate on a new lumber rate which went into effect November 1, until the Interstate Commerce Commission has decided as to the merits of the new rate. The new tariff would affect lumbermen a "fixed" amount, but the court's decision is based on the Interstate Commerce Law, which prohibits the Interstate Commerce Commission from acting upon the rates charged. Some similar cases were recently decided in St. Louis, where Judge Sanford and Wolverson, who based their decision upon the anti-trust law, while Judge Hunt bases his on the Interstate Commerce Law.

## Finnds Bank a Gold Brick.

CHICAGO, Dec. 4.—John W. Worthington has brought suit to set aside the contract by which he bought control of the Federal National Bank from Isaac N. Perry, and to compel Perry to return \$40,000 cash and \$100,000 in notes. He says he found in the bank's assets notes securing loans given by firms who had gone into bankruptcy and by individuals who were in jail. The bank closed September 28, 1907.



BY LULIAN TINGLE.

ONE would think that with the opening days of December all Thanksgiving troubles should be over and done with. Christmas looms threateningly ahead, of course, but that is another story. Yet here before me two disturbing letters bearing the date of Thanksgiving eve and addressed from a well known university. One writer explains that the only thing that kept him from going home was "some 80 miles of hard road," and the other speaks pathetically of the "immense dinner" being prepared 500 miles away. "For all except 'loved one' at college," we go contentedly and refer to them as "X, 80" and "X, 50" respectively. X, 80 opens fire by calling me a "gastronomic iconoclast"—surely a hard name to hurl at a harmless Domestic Science woman. Not that I am much scared of polysyllables as a general rule, though I think they are rather dangerous things to leave lying around loose. Once when I was quite young I approached my big brother with a simple question in organic chemistry. A plain "yes" or "no" would have sufficed, but he was busy and carelessly flung out, "diacetyltrichloro-hydrogenol." I got over it, and it left no scar; so I have never been really afraid of their simile.

"Gastronomic!" I can stand. As Humpty Dumpty remarked to Alice, "Adjectives you can do anything with; but why 'iconoclast'?" My gastronomic precepts and practice are utterly orthodox; I don't break things such as a rule, not even prunes; I am a very careful dishwasher and I always try not to step upon other people's toes. My spelling-book gave "iconoclast" as "a breaker of idols," but the only idol I possess is a placid brown Buddha which nothing short of a steam hammer could smash. To quote Humpty Dumpty again, "Impenetrability, that's what I say." X, 80 then goes on to accuse a little article of mine — "Some Suggestions for the Thanksgiving Menu," of having caused the following distressful symptoms: "My parrot and sub-lingual glands began such a secretion of enzymes as was never experienced before." Moreover when he insisted upon reading the said article to certain of his fellow students (separated by varying numbers of miles from their family turkey) he "suddenly became the cushion protecting some six big fellows from an awful fall," but he read it to them all the same and caused them to have similar symptoms.

X, 50 explains how nothing more exhilarating than corned beef and cabbage was to be expected for the following day. "Three hundred of us poor unfortunates are fed at the same place, and while it is very good, it is not fair-quantityed." This Thanksgiving day looks just like any other day to the management." He says further "Any solution you may have of this problem (that of Thanksgiving emptiness), and you must have some, will be thankfully received by some very hungry boys."

Now the feeding of students is an extremely delicate matter, and far from any problem and should be in the hands of intelligent and thoroughly trained dietitians and careful and competent cooks. But that is too wide a subject for discussion at this moment. All I have to suggest refers to the personal side of the problem. Let every fond mother, sister, cousin and aunt who has any children, any young man at any university within a radius of 50 or 80 miles from his home, prepare and send forthwith (never mind if he is coming home at Christmas; do it now), a large and comforting hamper of good things to eat, prepared in best home style. It is not too late for a roast turkey with a stuffing that "eats good" cold. Cranberry jelly, trays of sweet bread, but he read it to them all the same and caused them to have similar symptoms.

Crabapple jelly, trays of sweet bread, but he read it to them all the same and caused them to have similar symptoms. Fruit cake makes a good solid bottom layer. Red apples are mighty convenient things to slip into corners. Choice celery hearts (done up in paraffin paper with a jar of