

NATION TRAVELS PROSPERITY ROAD

Merchants Buying and Paying Debts.

FACTORIES RESUME OPERATION

Rush to Wholesale Houses to Replenish Stocks.

FEW MEN UNEMPLOYED

Country Fast Recovering From Financial Flurry—Stocks Are Depleted and Buying is Heavier Than It Was Last Year.

CHICAGO, Feb. 12.—(Special.)—That the Nation again is on the high road to prosperity was shown today by reports from all sections of the country.

Following the end of the stringency in money comes an improvement in collections and a corresponding facility of barter and sale.

Mills Resume, Few Unemployed.—With more factories resuming operations every day, the number of the unemployed is decreasing, and it is believed that before long the idle mill will be the exception.

Chicago wholesalers report that the country merchants are coming in with their Spring orders in greater numbers than a year ago.

The steel business, recognized as the barometer of trade in general, has shown marked improvement within the last few weeks.

Building material is in better demand, not only steel, but the other commodities.

Merchants Buy Freely.—The outlook is for bigger business, both in quality and in quantity, than last year.

"There are many merchants in town, and they are coming by every train. They are flocking to the wholesale houses, and in practically every case they are buying freely."

"One of the biggest jobbers in the city told me that he had his men out on the road selling Fall goods, and that their orders were better than last year."

Idle Men to Demand Work.—Will March in Body to Pittsburg City Hall.

PITTSBURG, Feb. 12.—Unemployed workmen of the Woods Run District of the North Side, formerly Allegheny, at a mass meeting today organized as the "Employment Seekers of the North Side," and decided to march to the City Hall, the seat of government of Greater Pittsburg tomorrow morning and demand employment.

A life and drum corps will head the procession. Banners with suitable inscriptions have been secured, two of them reading as follows: "We Must Have Work so That We May Feed Our Starving Families" and "Idle Workmen Are Welcome in Our Army."

Implement Firm Fails.—CINCINNATI, Feb. 12.—P. P. Mast & Co., agricultural implement manufacturer

ers of Springfield, were today thrown into the hands of Howard P. Males, president of the company and Samuel P. McGrew as receivers.

SMALL BANK GOES TO WALL

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 12.—The State Bank Commissioners took charge today of the Bank of Greater San Francisco, a small institution on Market street, near Seventh, of which C. H. Pool is president and manager.

The capital stock of the institution is \$2,000. It has deposits to the amount of \$2,420.

ORDERED TO SHOW SOLVENCY

Independent Telephone Company Is Attacked by Stockholder.

NEWARK, N. J., Feb. 12.—The United States Independent Telephone Company today was ordered by Vice-Chancellor Howell today to show cause on February 15 why it should not be adjudged insolvent.

The company was described by Mr. O'Grady's counsel as a holding corporation, with an authorized capital stock of \$50,000,000, of which \$42,576,000 has been issued.

CHARGE F. LORD, OF PORTLAND, ARRESTED IN SEATTLE.

About to Board Train for Portland With Woman—Whole Affair Is a Mystery.

SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—Charles F. Lord, who says he is a Portland lawyer, was arrested here tonight while trying to run away with a Chinese woman.

The entire affair is one of mystery and none of the parties thereto will shed any light on it.

RENEWES HER DAMAGE SUIT

St. Louis Woman With Wounded Affections Claims Man's Cash.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Feb. 12.—(Special.)—Edward P. Frederick, superintendent, temporarily, at Seattle, Wash., of a rope factory in St. Louis, who was sued for \$20,000 for alleged breach of promise by Miss Stella Dalley, daughter of ex-Police Judge Thomas Dalley, waived service and entered an appearance.

Would Dredge Coos Bay.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—Senator Fulton introduced a joint resolution authorizing the Secretary of War to expend the balance of the appropriation made for the improvement of Coos Bay amounting to \$25,225 in operating a dredge now building for use in the harbors of Oregon and Washington, in dredging Coos Bay channel.

TAFT DEFENDS ISLAND POLICY

Speaks at Banquet of Lincoln Club.

DUTY TO THE PHILIPPINES

Rapid Strides Made Since the Americans Took Control.

GOAL IS SELF-GOVERNMENT

Secretary Also Praises Roosevelt's Fight Against Corruption and Is Loudly Cheered at Dinner in Grand Rapids.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Feb. 12.—The Lincoln Club banquet here tonight was a brilliant affair, with a galaxy of speakers never equaled in Michigan political banquets.

The speakers were Ambassador Jusserand, Congressman George Edmund Poes, Secretary of War Taft, Governor Curtis Guild, Jr., of Massachusetts, and Director John Barrett, of the Bureau of South American Republics.

Although all of the speakers were greeted with enthusiasm it was Secretary Taft who received the greatest outburst of applause.

The Philippine Islands came to us without our design. The destruction of the Spanish fleet put the Philippine Islands at our mercy.

Should we turn our Island Islands back to the government of Spain and the oppression under which they had revolved?

Finally, can there be any doubt where Lincoln would have stood in the issues which peculiarly distinguished the Administration of Theodore Roosevelt?

AND THE CAT CAME BACK

EVERY BANK IN PORTLAND PAYING 100 ON DOLLAR

CONFERENCE

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Would Abraham Lincoln have disapproved the policy? We have found a people separated from each other by 10 islands of barbarous character and we are now engaged with a school system in teaching their children at the rate of \$800, a common medium of communication, the business language of the Orient and the language of free institutions—our own English.

Have Equalized Taxation. We have introduced a system of taxation from which the burdens of government are borne by wealthy and the humble in the proportion of their ability to pay.

Only Two Rights Withheld. We have introduced into the islands all the good government of the United States.

During the Administration of Theodore Roosevelt our influence as a world power has exceeded anything before in history.

King Manuel, of Portugal, in His Sailor Uniform.

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Represents True Democracy. Leake denies he represents the Republicans enjoying hearing opponents air their troubles.

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Bryan Finds a Champion. "My colleague, Mr. Leake, last Monday made some remarks derogatory to the conduct of William J. Bryan."

Fit to Fill Presidency. "Shouts of Democratic approval greeted Hamill's announcement that, while he agreed with the statement that Bryan's knowledge of the commandments would fit him to occupy a pulpit with prominence, it can also assure the House, reflecting at the same time their own conviction, that the same acquaintance will

enable him to occupy with equal the post of President of the United States."

Friends differ on Bryan's virtues. New Jersey Democrats Amuse House. Hamill lauds peerless one.

Leake denies he represents True Democracy. CALLS DOCTRINES HERESY

Republicans Enjoy Hearing Opponents Air Their Troubles—Richardson Raises Cry for Rich Raw Materials in Tariff.

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enable him to occupy with equal the post of President of the United States."

All eyes then turned towards Leake, who, amid Republican applause, said that he had been misunderstood and that the Congressional Record would bear him out that he had made no aspersions on the "peerless one."

Leake spoke of the doctrine of Thomas Jefferson and, reverting to Mr. Bryan, provoked Republican applause and general laughter when he said:

I believe that Mr. Bryan is sincere, honest, and I believe that he is truthful. I believe further that he cannot represent the principles of Democracy before the American people.

General applause and laughter greeted Leake as he took his seat, and after a momentary silence, it broke out with increased vigor.

I have observed that the rivalries of the other side were considerably stirred by the clash of the two individual opinions on this side.

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POLICEMAN KILLS PRACTICAL JOKER

John G. Wetle Shot by Patrolman Hepner.

PRETENDS HE IS HIGHWAYMAN

Points Pipe at Officer and Demands His Money.

ANSWER IS A PISTOL SHOT

Men Close Friends and Neighbors. Living at Fulton Park, Where Shooting Occurred—Hepner Only Recently Joined Force.

For the sake of perpetrating a practical joke, John G. Wetle, a married man with a wife and seven children, forfeited his life last night.

Wetle knew Hepner well, in fact they have been bosom friends all their lives, and all the evidence in the affair, although there were no witnesses to it save the two principals, goes to show that Wetle, who was an ex-policeman, wanted to try the mettle of Hepner, who is a young man of about 24, with only a little experience on the force, and afterwards gave him the laugh about the affair.

Hepner left his home between 7:30 and 7:45 o'clock and started for the police station, where he was to report for duty shortly before 11 o'clock.

Hepner had just arrived at a spot where two nights before John Duffy, one of his neighbors on the hill, had been held up and robbed, when he saw a man coming toward him from behind a clump of brush.

Wetle was then about 50 feet away. As Hepner turned, Wetle also turned and made straight for Hepner, and when within about 15 feet, drew his hand from his pocket and, holding what Hepner thought to be a revolver, commanded: "Hand over your money."

Fatal Shot Fired.

Hepner drew his revolver and fired. The shot went through the man's heart. He tottered on his feet for a bare second and, with the cry, "Oh, my God, 'Fritz' sank in his tracks, dead."

The moment Wetle spoke Hepner recognized his voice and knew that he had shot his friend.

Hepner summoned Wetle's brother to the scene and the police were notified at once, Hepner reporting the shooting at the first telephone he could find.

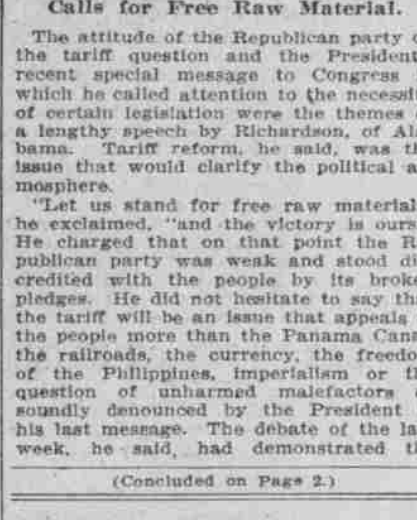
Men the Best of Friends.

Wetle was 43 years old and was employed in the Engineer's department in the construction of sewers.

Many Cars Are Idle. PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 12.—The Pennsylvania Railroad has on its line east and west 7,000 idle cars, representing 28 per cent of the company's freight car equipment.



Senator Isidor Rayner, of Maryland, who opened the attack on Aldrich currency bill.



William J. Bryan, of Nebraska, who is being criticized by Leake.

CONTENTS TODAY'S PAPER. The Weather. YESTERDAY'S—Maximum temperature 46 degrees; minimum, 37 degrees.

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