MAY YET ARBITRATE

President Gompers Makes Offer for Striking Telegraphers.

FEW MORE LEAVE THEIR KEYS

Official General Order by President Small Makes no Material Difference in Situation.

Chicago, Aug. 17.—Despite the issuance of the general strike order by President Small the situation in this city was not materially changed yesterday. All of the men who were disposed to strike were already out. It was believed by the officials of the union that the order would paralyze a number of brokerage and commission houses, but no additional strikes were reported. Both the Postal and Western Union increased forces on the board. They both reported the situation as steadily improving and occasional applications from the strikers for their old positions.

The improvement in the Associated Press service was marked. A number of towns on the West, North and South circuits received a full report yesterday, and the volume of news handled was much greater than at any time since the walkout on Monday night.

The officials of the Telegraphers' union late yesterday changed front on the proposition to arbitrate and announced that they would accept the offices of the general board of arbitrators of the American Federation of Labor in settling their differences with the companies. This board consists of John Mitchell, of the Mine Workers; Daniel J. Keefe, of the Longshoremen, and President Samuel Gompers. Gompers made the above announcement.

BOTH SIDES FIRM.

Strikers and Companies in Fight to Finish at Portland.

Portland, Aug. 17.—Locally, the striking telegraphers and the telegraph companies are organizing their forces for a finish fight. There were two defections from the union yesterday.

Otherwise the situation in Portland remains unchanged, and the sending and receiving of telegrams continues seriously interrupted. The issuance of a general strike order by National President Small, of the Commercial Telegraphers' union, has served only to magnify the seriousness of the situation outside of Portland, since operators who had before hesitated to join the ranks of their striking associates cheerfully left the keys yesterday. The result was to more completely paralyze the telegraphic business of the country.

It was expected that a crisis might be reached yesterday, but the possibility of a settlement seems even farther removed. No sooner had the order for a general strike been issued by President Small than the Western Union officials issued instructions to all local managers to refuse to reinstate any more of the striking telegraphers.

Seattle Wires Cleared.

Seattle, Aug. 17.—Superintendent R. T. Reid, of the Western Union, tonight went to Bellingham to appoint Edward Earland, of Dallas, Tex., manager of the Bellingham office, to succeed Manager Tucker, who went out with the strikers.

The Postal company says business has fallen off more than 50 per cent, but that with seven day operators in the place of 12, they are handling all the business accepted. Both offices say less than half the usual volume of business is now offered, but both companies claim to be keeping up fairly well, especially to Pacific coast points.

Superintendent Reid, of the Western Union, says trouble on the coast lines is in Cow Creek canyon, Oregon, where railroad operators open the circuits. Reid has Pinkertons out patrolling all railroad lines in special engines to locate breaks in the Northwest. He said tonight he would prosecute railroad operators who prevent reopening of lines by grounding the wires.

Benson Trial Is Resumed.

San Francisco, Aug. 17.—The trial of John A. Benson and E. B. Perrin, indicted for fraud in connection with securing land in the Plumas reserve, was resumed before Judge De Haven, yesterday afternoon. Perrin was on the stand and continued his story for the defense. Argument will commence today. The main feature was the examination of character witnesses, first by the prosecution to establish the integrity of Snell and on the part of the defense to show the good reputation of Dr. Perrin.

Adams Chooses Darrow.

Spokane, Wash., Aug. 17.—According to reports from Wallace, Steve Adams has chosen Clarence Darrow in preference to Richardson to defend him when his trial comes up at Wallace shortly upon the charge of murdering Fred Tyler, a settler in the St. Joe district of Idaho. Fred Miller, one of the attorneys in the Haywood case, has been at Wallace, his object being to consult with Adams about his forthcoming trial. It is said that Adams readily selected Darrow in preference to Richardson.

Live Over Ye Olden Days.

Los Angeles, Aug. 17.—Living again in the days of the early padres, where the wild surroundings of a simple Indian village gave no suggestion of the bustling city which was in a few years to supplant it, parishioners of the Church of Our Lady of the Angeles Divine, today celebrated the founding of Los Angeles, and incidentally the establishment of their historic house of worship. The day began with a cannon salute fired by General Jose Aguilar.

Man Missing, So Is $13,000.

Omaha, Aug. 17.—Theodore Olsen, ex-Danish vice consul here, and once city comptroller of Omaha, is missing. It is alleged his accounts with the Danish government are short $13,000, on account of estates he handled as trustee for the government of Denmark.

TURNING POINT REACHED.

Both Sides in Strike Expect They Can Win Fight.

Chicago, Aug. 19.—Important developments in the strike of the Commercial Telegraphers are looked for today by both disputants. Confident that the strike has spent its force, and that the turning point has been reached, the telegraph companies look for a stampede of the strikers to regain their former positions.

Cheered by the reports they have received from the various cities affected, the strike leaders on the other hand are prepared to prosecute the fight more vigorously than ever.

According to advices received at union headquarters, the messenger boys and check clerks in New York are scheduled to go out today. Broker firms throughout the country have been given until noon today to sign contracts with their operators or suffer the consequences of a walkout.

Three hundred operators employed by the American Telephone & Telegraph company throughout the Southwest may be called out before night, unless a 10 per cent increase in wages is granted. This is one of the trump cards which President Small expects to play. If the order is issued it will isolate Chicago from the rest of the country, so far as telephonic communication is concerned.

KEEPS CORPSES LIKE LIFE.

Young Italian Blacksmith Finds New Method of Preservation.

Paris, Aug. 19.—The scientific and medical world is greatly interested in the discovery of a young blacksmith, of Rome, to preserve corpses fresh and intact. The system is the injection of serum which kills the micro-organisms of putrefaction.

It is said to be the secret of the invention many years ago for the same purpose of Gerolamo Segato, which had since been lost. The inventor is a young man named Pignotti, 23 years of age, and his hope is that from this discovery he may push on his researches and succeed in curing certain diseases by injecting his serum into the living subject.

It has already been injected into living animals without causing them any inconvenience, or disorder of the oragnism, while a corpse which was inoculated with the concoction was found ten days later in exactly the same condition as at the moment of death.

PLAGUE IN FRISCO.

Board of Health Takes Drastic Measures to Isolate Patients.

San Francisco, Aug. 19.—Five cases of bubonic plague, four of which have resulted in death, have been reported to the Health department within the past week. The patients, with one exception, were of the poorer class of foreigners dwelling in the neighborhood of the old Chinatown. The exception was a foreign sailor taken from a coastwise steamer.

Prompt and active measures were taken by the local, state and Federal authorities, and spread of the disease is not feared. Both President Jules A. Simon, of the health board, and Health Officer James T. Watkins stated today that the situation is well in hand and no occasion exists for alarm. The infected steamer was ordered into quarantine with her passengers and will so remain until released by the Health department. The two shacks inhabited by the other patients were fumigated, locked up and sealed.

The bodies of the two Mexicans, Italian and Russian Pole, who succumbed, were destroyed in quicklime.

Pinkerton Dies at Sea.

New York, Aug. 19.—Robert Pinkerton, head of the detective agency bearing that name, died at sea Monday on the steamship Bremen. He was en route to Germany in the pursuit of health. The cause of death was fatty degeneration of the heart. Robert Pinkerton was one of the two principals of the Pinkerton Detective agency, this organization having never incorporated. During the last 25 years, he has been in charge of the New York agency, while his brother, William A. Pinkerton, resided in Chicago.

Big Shipload for Philippines.

San Francisco, Aug. 16.—The transport Buford sailed at noon yesterday for Manila with cabins crowded with casuals and the hold filled to capacity with various kinds of merchandise, supplies and ammunition. This will be the fourth of the transport fleet to leave this port within 12 days. The Warren sailed on August 3, the Logan on August 5 and the Crook on August 10. Among the Buford's passengers are 16 officers, who are to join their regiments, eight surgeons and 25 Philippine government students.

Resent Visit of Haywood.

Chicago, Aug. 16.—William D. Haywood, secretary of the Western Federation of Miners, visited the Chicago Press club today and some of the member are much wrought up about it. An emphatic protest, addressed to the board of directors, was prepared at once and circulated for signatures. A vote of censure is asked for the members who brought Haywood into the club. This will be considered at the board's meeting Friday night.

Record Price for Rents.

New York, Aug. 19.—Nine leading companies affiliated with the Steel corporation has leased four floors of a great office structure which the Hudson Tunnel company is erecting at the Church street terminal, for which they will pay a record rental of $60,000 for each floor, or $2,400,000 for 10 years' lease. This is said to be the largest rental paid anywhere on earth.

Double Track Great Northern.

Seattle, Wash., Aug. 19.—N. H. Hogeland, chief engineer of the Great Northern, announced here tonight that the line on the west slope of the Rockies, between Whitefish and Summit, would be double tracked and a large portion of it entirely rebuilt. Mr. Hogeland has just completed an inspection trip over that territory.

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

FAIR IS FAILURE.

Uncle Sam Can't Get Money Back from Jamestown.

Washington, Aug. 20.—Uncle Sam may become gatekeeper at the Jamestown exposition this week. He materially assisted in financing the undertaking, but has been unable to get his money back according to agreement.

Assistant Secretary of the Treasurer Edwards is now upon the ground for conference with those in charge, and unless some definite assurance can be given that installment payments will be made on the government loan, he may place a representative at the gates to take charge of the receipts.

At the treasury department it is stated that patience has been exhausted waiting for some evidence to be shown of a serious intention to reimburse the government. By an act of congress $1,000,000 was advanced out of the public treasury to aid in the opening of the fair, and with the consent of the exposition company it was stipulated that 40 per cent of the gross receipts would be paid the government in July, when the first installment on the loan was due, and that on August 1 and every half month thereafter $100,000 should be paid.

Weather and other conditions were adverse to the exposition at the beginning, and delay in installing exhibits kept many visitors away.

NO PROMISE WAS MADE.

Bonaparte to Hold Conference Next Monday on Alton Case.

Washington, Aug. 17. — Attorney General Bonaparte announces that he will confer here Monday with present and former United States District attorneys who were at Chicago on the question of the promise made to the Chicago & Alton railroad of immunity from prosecution for rebating to the Standard Oil company. Bonaparte stated he had not promised immunity to anybody, but added that the promise was made with the cognizance of ex-Attorney General Moody.

Asked what action might be anticipated against Harriman besides the New York proceedings to compel him to answer the questions of the Interstate Commerce commission, Bonaparte replied that he was considering the report of the commission and had not yet arrived at a decision.

Growing Brighter Each Day.

Washington, Aug. 21.—A new and beautiful comet which appears daily in the eastern sky and is visible for about an hour before sunrise has been under observation for some time by astronomers at the United States naval observatory. This comet, which is entirely new to astronomy, has been named in honor of Mr. Daniels, of the Princeton university astronomical department, who discovered the celestial interloper some weeks ago. The observers at the naval observatory say the Daniels comet is growing brighter each morning.

Settling Zone Difference.

Washington, Aug. 21.—Secretary Taft before leaving concluded arrangements with representatives of the United States of Colombia and Panama for the settlement of the issues between these countries and the United States growing out of the separation of Panama and the creation of the canal zone. It provides for three treaties, one of which, if approved by the president and Secretary Root, probably will be sent to the next session of senate.

Taft's Plans in Effect.

Washington, Aug. 17.—Major Parry Hodges today began his duties as purchasing agent of the Isthmian Canal commission, with headquarters in Washington. At the same time Taft's plan of reorganization of the administration methods of the canal commission became effective. Considerable of the work heretofore done in Washington will be transacted on the isthmus, where the office of the secretary of the commission will be located.

Immunity Bath for Alton.

Washington, Aug. 15.—It became known today that the Chicago & Alton road was given an immunity bath for its part in connection with illegal rebates for which the Standard Oil company was recently convicted and fined $29,240,000. As a reason, it is probable that the cases against the Alton, which might have carried with them fines amounting to several millions of dollars, will be dropped.

Better Prices for Fruit.

North Yakima—Deputy Horticultural Inspector Brown prophesies that prices for fruit will be from 20 to 30 per cent higher this year than last. He estimates that the crop this year will amount to at least 1,400 car lonads. The orchards are much freer from pests than ever before. Mr. Brown believes that the codlin month will be absolutely exterminated within a few years.

Captain Fox in Command.

Washington, Aug. 16.—Captain C. E. Fox has been assigned to the command of the cruiser South Dakota, which, with the California, Tennessee and Washington will comprise the new Pacific cruiser squadron.

Redding Man Recommended.

Washington, Aug. 17.—Senators Perkins and Flint have recommended that Judge Edward Sweeny, of Redding, be appointed superintendent of the mint at San Francisco to succeed Frank Leach.

Buffalo to Aid Cutter Patrol.

Washington, Aug. 21.—Naval transport Buffalo sailed for Puget sound yesterday to assist the revenue cutters in patrolling the sealing waters in the vicinity of the Pribiyloff islands.

Portland Man Gets Clerkship.

Washington, Aug. 21.—Jack J. Wochos, of Portland, has been appointed a clerk in the office of the shipping commissioner at San Francisco.

BODY BLOWS FOR OCTOPUS.

Prosecution Will Continue Until Great Oil Trust Is No More.

Washington, Aug. 15.—Where is the next "trust-busting" blow to be struck? That is the question that has been raised by the resumption of activity at the department of justice today. Attorney General Bonaparte has cut in upon his vacation to come back here and set certain things in action. He will remain in Washington for two weeks before resuming his quest of recreation. During the period of his stay something important is likely to break loose.

Mystery surrounds all prospective developments. The attorney general acts and talks like a man who is anxious to do something drastic to force anti-trust offenders to book in some manner that will serve a better purpose than the imposing of fines.

That there are other anti-trust proceedings than those lately in the limelight to receive attention in the near future was strongly intimated today. No details will be given out, however, until matters have reached a focus. As to Standard Oil, it was hinted that the fines already imposed are but a beginning, and that before the government is through with the parent of all trusts the giant corporation may be mulcted of millions and that the Landis imposition will be made to seem a mere bagatelle.

It was also indicated that suit to dissolve the Standard Oil corporation, instituted at St. Louis, is to be prosecuted with particular vigor. What form the effort of the government to break up the Standard eventually may take is not certain, but it is said that some move is in contemplation that will be more effective than the receivership ideas evolved with respect to certain other trusts, and upon which the department of justice is inclined to pride itself greatly.

There is little doubt that the administration has set to work to knock the Standard Oil company out of existence, if such consummation be possible.

Oppose Sending Fleets.

Washington, Aug. 14.—The president's naval program to send a powerful battleship and cruiser fleet to the Pacific is threatened by a certain element in congress. Inquiries made at the Navy department indicate that there is strong opposition to the program. Unless the fleets are well on the way when congress meets, resolutions designed to embarrass the administration are likely to be introduced. The control of the ships is, by law, in the hands of the president, who will probably assert his rights.

Taft Calls on President.

New York, Aug. 15.—Secretary Taft went to Oyster Bay today and visited President Roosevelt for the last time before his three months' trip to the Philippines. Secretaries Root and Meyer also visited the president. Mr. Taft says he expects to be at Yellowstone Park from September 1 to 3, going thence to Portland, Seattle and Tacoma. He sails for the Philippines on September 10. The duration of his stay there is not yet determined.

Guarding Against Waste.

North Yakima — Judge Ralph C. Kauffman, of Kittitas county, in the absence of Judge Rigg, has appointed A. L. Smith, of Prosser, water commissioner for Yakima county, under the provisions of the new statute. The official's duties involve the guarding of the canals and ditches of the reclamation service and the overseeing of the use of water by the ranchers.

Goes Over the Testimony.

Washingon, Aug. 21.—Attorney General Bonaparte conferred several hours today with District Attorney Sims, of Chicago, going over the testimony taken in the Standard Oil trial at Chicago to determine to what extent the evidence given by Harriman and other Chicago & Alton officials would render them immune to prosecution growing out of the so-called Alton deal.

Cutter Manning Hits Rock.

Washington, Aug. 20.—A telegram received by the Treasury department reports that the revenue cutter Manning yesterday ran upon an uncharted rock near Valdez, Alaska. As Captain Cantwell added that he proceeded to Sitka for repairs, it is believed the Manning is not seriously damaged.

New Northwest Postmasters.

Washington, Aug. 9.—Postmasters appointed:

Oregon—Pokegama, George W. McIntyre, vice G. B. Walters, resigned.

Washington—Hall, William A. Geer, vice O. B. Aagard, resigned; Bingen, Melvin Wetherell, vice S. G. Hadley, resigned.

Taft Is Off to Manila.

Washington, Aug. 20. — Secretary Taft left here today on the first stage of his trip to Manila. He is expected to make a notable speech in Columbus, O. At Seattle he will be joined by members of his family. Mr. Taft will return in December, via Suez, completing a trip around the world.

Discredit Sinking of Island.

Washington, Aug. 21.—Government officials are inclined to discredit the Honolulu story that Laysan island has disappeared and attribute it to a probable mistaken reckoning by the captain of the schooner Olsen, who made the report.

Wireless Stations on Coast.

Washington, Aug. 21.—The Army and Navy departments have arranged to co-operate in maintaining wireless communication between Nome and St. Michaels, Alaska, and Seattle and San Francisco.

Presidio Will Now Salute.

Washington, Aug. 16.—The War department has designated the presidio of San Francisco as the saluting station for the harbor instead of Alcatraz island.

EDITORIALS

Opinions of Great Papers on Important Subjects.

LONELINESS OF A GREAT CITY.

IF you live in a large city you are lost. You are swallowed up by the ocean of people around you. You go down into the deep and that's the last of you, except perhaps an occasional bubble that may come to the surface near where you were last seen. There are so many people you can't escape drowning. You can't make friendships as you do in a smaller place, where the individual isn't entirely effaced by the mass. Society is not what it is in the smaller place, where the human element enters in altogether. In the larger place your comings and goings are not noted by your friends even, and never by the newspapers unless you are one of the high financiers or packing house bunch. The births and weddings in your family are of no more interest outside of your own flat than are the wreaths of smoke curling up into the empyrean; no merry crowd of interested neighbors with their warm congratulations. The deaths bring little sympathy from the rumbling, rattling world outside; no sorrowing acquaintances who have stood by you through the long sickness; there is little or none of that evidence of loving kindness that comes from neighbors and real friends in a small city or town, where the dollar mark is not written so large and so indelibly on everything. It is a paradoxical law that where there are so many people there are fewer friends, and when you diminish the number to a frontier community where neighbors are miles apart your friends are ready to take their lives in their hands for you.—Utica Globe.

FINE FOR THE WIFE; HOW ABOUT THE WIDOW?

MR. MARRIED MAN, did you ever give much thought to what might happen when you died? Did you ever spend much thought upon the fact that you were going to die? Did you ever realize that your wife would cease to be your wife and become a widow? Did you comprehend that your children would no longer be your children but would be known as your orhpans?

If you did grasp these facts, which many men try to dodge, did you ever carry your speculation a little further, thus wise: "Will my widow wear as good clothes as my wife?" "Where will the bread come from when the breadwinner passes away?" "Will my orphans have the advantages of my children?"

It is rather a grim subject—this idea of death. Not dinner table conversation at all. It's a pleasant thing to forget. Many men do successfully dodge the subject all their lives. But there is no dodging Death itself. It never forgets. It never skips. Rich or poor—mighty or lowly—no matter.

It's a fine thing to live. It makes a married man proud to have a home, to dress his wife, to give his children educational advantages and to keep his family in the front rank. It takes money, yes—but it's fine for the children, delightful for the wife, satisfying to the man. But when you've run your length, Mr. Married Man, what then? Some day your friends will lay a lily on your chest, heap the praise, the reverence, the kindly tributes that should have been yours through life, upon what is left of you, lay you away, and proceed to forget you.

But the widow won't forget. The orphans won't forget. When you go to the cemetery will the widow go to the poor house? When you pass into the Unknown will your orphans pass into the asylum? There is no time to decide this but now. Prune a few luxuries. Start a bank account. Save! Leave an income!

If you left your wife while alive the law would put you in jail. Death relieves you of the law but not of responsibility! Then again, Mr. Man, your saving may not be for merely your widow or your orphans. It may be yourself. There are such things as paralysis, blindness, insanity. Think it over.—Indianapolis Sun.

THE FOREST RESERVE.

WHEN the President, by proclamation a few weeks ago, added seventeen million acres of land to the national forest reserve he raised the total amount of land withdrawn from settlement to one hundred and forty-five million acres—an area almost equivalent to that of Minnesota and the two Dakotas.

These lands are held primarily for the protection of the water supply of the country, particularly that of the great West. Forest reserves in the East are not national but state property. In some of these States there are movements to purchase mountain land in order to prevent lumber companies from denuding it.

The power to withdraw forest lands from settlement by proclamation was conferred on the President by act of Congress in March, 1891. Immediately afterward President Harrison issued the first proclamation under the new law, and began the national forest reserve. By 1899 forty-six million acres had been put in the reserve, and the amount had been increased to a hundred and twenty-eight million acres in February, before President Roosevelt's last proclamation.

The last Congress repealed the law giving the President power to add public lands to the forest reserve, and ordered that hereafter no land should be withdrawn from settlement without the approval of Congress.

It is less than twenty years since the scientific study of forestry was begun in the United States. So much has been learned of the subject that the protection of the water supply is not now urged as the sole reason for preserving the forests. A properly managed forest will not only protect the water sources, but will yield a profitable amount of lumber without injury to the forest area. The government is selling lumber from its reserves, and it is said by those in charge that within a short time the Forestry Bureau will be self-supporting, if not a money-making branch of the government.—Youth's Companion.

A GOOD CATCH.

It was a pleasant afternoon in a village in western Nevada. A group of young men were playing a rough game of ball in the middle of the wide, sandy street, but the sidewalks were almost deserted. This rendered every passer-by conspicuous to the motley crowds of Indians, Chinamen, cowboys, miners and other adventurers that lounged in front of the shops and barrooms of the main thoroughfare.

A tall young man and a dainty, sweet-faced girl came out of the hotel and took their way along the sidewalk, their dress and manner plainly proclaiming them to be Easterners and "tenderfoots," for the young fellow wore a silk hat, and a long "Prince Albert" coat with all the innocence imaginable, and his very small mustache was distinctly curled up at the ends.

The pair walked unconcernedly along the street, the target of every eye, but all unconscious of creating a sensation, for the crowd, on account of the sweet-faced girl, endeavored to suppress somewhat its deep and heartfelt disapproval of her companion's dress and appearance.

Suddenly one of the players in the street, a husky young cowboy, gave the ball a tremendous swing; it accidentally slipped from his grasp and went straight for the pretty girl's face.

The player gave a cry of horror, the crowd gasped and caught its breath. In an instant all would be over with the pretty girl. But quick as thought her escort sprang forward, threw out his left hand, deftly caught the "red-hot" ball not a foot from her face, and lightly tossed it back to the player.

There was a moment of dazed silence; then from every motley group all up and down the street came a burst of hearty, spontaneous applause. Loud and long it continued. The young man lifted his hat, the pretty girl, the color rushing back to her cheeks, smiled and waved her handkerchief, and as they disappeared from view down the dusty roadway, the tall hat and the long-tailed coat were freely forgiven.

RICH AMERICAN GIRL.

MISS GLADYS VANDERBILT.

Miss Gladys Moore Vanderbilt has attained her legal age and comes into her inheritance from the estate of her father, the late Cornelius Vanderbilt. This inheritance amounts to $13,000,000, and it makes her America's richest girl.

When Cornelius Vanderbilt died in 1899, he bequeathed $7,500,000 to each of the five children, except Cornelius, Jr., the money to be paid each heir upon reaching legal age. Cornelius, Jr., was cut off with a mere $1,500,000, because he married contrary to his father's wishes. Alfred was designated head of the family and it was provided that the bulk of the estate should be given to him in installments. Certain funds were placed in trust with the provision that they should be distributed when the youngest child, Miss Gladys, reached her legal age.

Under careful management her bequest of $7,500,000 has grown to $10,500,000 in the seven years since the death of her father. She receives in addition $2,500,000 from other funds of the estate, the total of $13,000,000 making her one of the richest unmarried young women in the country.

WITCHES AND PLANTS.

Many Legends and Traditions that Link Them Together.

In all countries in which the witchcraft delusion now exists or in which it prevailed in former times we find folklore stories connecting those mysterious bogies with the plants of those particular regions. Even the great Shakspeare causes his witches to discourse learnedly on the diabolical properties of "hemlock digg'd i' dark" and of "slips of yew silvered in the moon's eclipse." They are supposed to have had their favorite flowers as well as plants, and in England at the present time foxglove is spoken of as "witch bells" and harebells as "witches' thimbles." The common ragwort is well known as the "witches' horse," the tradition being that they mounted rank growths of that species of weed and "rode the skies," just as the dame with the pointed hat rides the broom in the familiar picture. In Germany and throughout northern Europe it is the belief that witches float from place to place on beds of hay, composed largely of witches' blossoms and "devil spikes," this last being a species of dwarfed slough grass. St. John's wort, which is now so popular for shoulder and buttonhole bouquets on St. John's eve, was formerly worn for the express purpose of averting the crafts and subtleties of the witches, bogies, ghosts and spirits which the European peasantry believed walked abroad on "that night of witching mysteries."—London Spectator.

STAR BEHIND THE CURTAIN.

Besides Technical Knowledge She Must Possess Diplomacy and Tact.

The star lady who now comes from the front of the house, feeling her way to the stage with the box-office gentleman guilding her footsteps through the dark and the assistant stage manager yelling to the electrician for "house lights for Miss X——" this star lady has learned the necessity of watching that unruly member, her tongue, and also of picking her friendships with unerring aim, says a writer in the Bookman. Repression, diplomacy, instinctive judging of men and women are some of the unadmitted qualities that make a star. It is not all bursting genius and technical knowledge of the stage. She must be a diplomat and a business woman. If the company is small, as a rule, all other members are presented to her. Many of them she may know, and she moves from one group to another, recalling old associations and laughing over old-time escapades. The head of a company is no snob. She may conduct herself before her people during the working hours with dignity and reserve, she may confer with the leading actors, showing them much deference, while with the smaller members she may have very little to do, but in her friendships she gives herself great leeway, and the girl with whom she is most intimate out of the theater is more often than not a subordinate in her company.

When the reading of the play begins she sits by the side of the author at the table, the company fills the half circle and a great quiet falls as the portfolio containing the manuscript is opened. A playwright will find no more critical audience than this first one. Each actor listens for the appearance of his own part in the play and eagerly follows the development of the plot to see how deeply he is concerned in it.

Curious Nesting Habits.

Many birds in their nesting habits have accommodated themselves to the advance of civilization. Thus the barn and cliff swallows, which once built under overhanging cliffs and in caves, now place their nests on the rafters and beneath the eaves of our barns. The chimney swift, which originally placed its nest on the inside of hollow trees, now uses our chimneys for that purpose. The purple martin, once nesting exclusively in holes in trees, will now in many sections of the country use nothing but the bird boxes which kind-hearted men have erected.

Pay for Nation's Rulers.

The amount of money paid annually to the world's rulers amounts to $80,000,000.