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Texas oil drillers were not satisfied with boring the biggest oil wells on earth, but have struck a volcano or something that resembles one, at a depth of more than nine hundred feet. Gas, sand and gravel were blown to a height of three hundred feet, and there is no way to confine the terrific force.

It is too early to get people interested in politics, and those who delight in stirring up faction and strife of a state, county and district campaign will have to content themselves with more commonplace amusement for awhile. The people will want to think about harvesting their big crops of grain and fruit. The season for politics is not so far advanced this year as the season for work.

The path from pugilism to the gutter is short and sure. John L. Sullivan traveled it, and "Gentleman Jim" Corbett is now on the way. He kept a saloon in New York, the first step taken by every ex-champion, but is now out of a job because he sold whiskey on Sunday, and in New York that means a forfeiture of license. Suit will now be brought to recover double the amount of the bond given by Corbett.

Although it is less than three years since the war with Spain began, there have been already about 41,000 applications for pensions filed on account of it, and this exclusive of the service in the Philippines. It is estimated that the total number of men in the war on the American side was 275,717, though of this number only about 60,000 were actually engaged. It will be seen, therefore, on this basis, that for every six men who actually saw service there have been four applications for pensions.

Bryan sniffs the battle from afar and in his Commoner antedates defeat as follows: "It is probable that Mr. Hanna will flood South Carolina with money to aid Senator McLaurin and then the Republican party will claim credit for the good times which follow an increase in the circulation." Mr. Bryan cannot read the handwriting on the wall. It means that the new business era in the south recognizes McKinley prosperity as a fact, and southern voters cannot always be held by old-time prejudices.

The Southern Pacific Company is inaugurating many new modes and upsetting a great many of the old customs that have been in vogue since the palmy days of pioneerdom. The new president of that corporation, Mr. Hays, has ordered the liquor selling bars taken off the ferryboats plying between San Francisco and the cities across the bay, notwithstanding they yield the company a rental revenue of over \$50,000 a year. The commendable sentiment expressed by President Hays, in explanation of this edict, was that "The Southern Pacific company is in the railroad business and not in the saloon business."

"One touch of nature makes the whole world kin," said William Shakespeare long ago of an exhibition of selfishness which drew together the creatures of his imagination. This finds an application in the case of the people of Texas who are tumbling over each other in their eagerness to become "oil magnates." Only a few years ago the people of Texas seemed almost unanimous in hostility to all forms of accumulated wealth. Through their legislature, judiciary and executive, they were waging war upon capitalists, corporations, bankers and trusts, and all other agencies whereby aggregated wealth now operates. It seemed that every good Texan was including in his daily devotions that anathema against the "trusts" which his fathers and grandfathers were wont to deliver against their neighbors across the Rio Grande. But when the Texans "struck oil" the most frigid belief in the evils of wealth and the coldest disdain for the privileges that possession brings, began to melt in the sunshine of its possible acquisition. A change then came over the spirit of the Texans' dreams. Instead of hating corporations they eagerly formed them. Instead of denouncing "aggregations of capital" as enemies of humanity, they vied with one another in aggregating wealth. Instead of regarding "stock watering" as the worst of vices, they zealously practiced it, all of which goes to prove that if we can only be the capitalists, the evils attending the centralization of wealth are not near so appalling as they are when the other fellows are forgoing the trusts.

DISFRANCHISEMENT IN THE SOUTH.

There is a general effort in the south to disfranchise the negro without coming in conflict with the federal constitution. In Alabama an attempt is made to avoid conflict by treating the negroes as individuals and not as a race. In Virginia delegates are trying to escape from the limitations or mandatory clauses of the federal constitution by declining to take the oath of allegiance to the United States, as provided in the state constitution. In both states there is an avowed purpose to disfranchise the negroes and an admitted intention to evade the constitution. In Alabama the plan is to evade it under legal form, and in Virginia to reach the same end by refusal to recognize officially the application of the federal constitution to the proceedings of a state convention. The delegates refuse to take the oath of allegiance as delegates, whereas many of them have taken it as citizens and as members of congress and the legislature. This refusal, some of the delegates contend, is technical and does not imply disloyalty, or disregard of the constitution or disrespect for it. They refuse to take the oath to support the constitution—"for this occasion only"—that they may have free hands to violate the constitution. But former Governor Jones of Alabama told the delegates to the convention in that state that violation of the federal constitution under any juggle of words or through any convention strategy would be "revolution and nullification in its most imposing legal form—the explicit repeal of the constitution of the United States by a state constitution." Therefore, Governor Jones advised the Alabama convention to treat the negroes as individuals and not as a race. Governor Tyler of Virginia takes essentially the same position. The leaders of the extremists in the Virginia convention admit that, if the delegates act under an oath to regard the federal constitution, they cannot disfranchise the negroes and may as well go home. The conservatives reply that if they do not regard the provisions of the constitution, their work will amount to nothing and the result will be the same.

Monday's Oregonian editorially attributes the rapid growth of socialism to the Carnegies, Rockefellers, Morgans and others of their description, and cites the decision of the steel trust to put both its common and preferred stock upon the list of dividend paying securities as one of the evils of the day tending to arouse the spirit of antagonism to corporations and to wealth. The alarm sounded by the Oregonian is simply an echo of the prejudice and passion aroused by demagogues at first, but which awakening has grown and extended to the minds of men who can measure the evils or the benefits attending the aggregations of capital by ordinary standards of intelligence and common sense. People have found by observation that the trust, be its motives good or bad, has come into existence in strict accordance with the law of social progress—the law of corporation and organization. When we denounce trusts simply because they are trusts we cry out against combinations of human effort and possession

No External Symptoms.

The blood may be in bad condition, yet with no external signs, no skin eruption or sores to indicate it. The symptoms in such cases being a variable appetite, poor digestion, an indescribable weakness and nervousness, loss of flesh and a general run-down condition of the system—clearly showing the blood has lost its nutritive qualities, has become thin and watery. It is in just such cases that S. S. S. has done some of its quickest and most effective work by building up the blood and supplying the elements lacking to make it strong and vigorous.

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THE SWIFT SPECIFIC CO., ATLANTA, GA.

in every field of activity, and set ourselves against the laws of progress and declare in favor of retrogression and anarchy. The tendency of the times in industry and commerce, in charity or in science, is all toward cooperation and organization; and that tendency, exhibiting itself in a small and unimportant way at first, has become more and more the cause for alarm, according to our different points of observation. It is really the harm that people imagine they may do rather than the harm they have already done that makes the steel and similar trusts appear bad. But while we may concede them to be innocent enough, they should be watched and controlled by law, just as individuals are, so that their power for doing evil will be diminished.

While the Willamette valley with its tender grasses and succulent shrubs is the natural feeding ground for the goat, it is hoped that we will not allow the profit which we gain by raising the humble goat to dull our sense of national patriotism to the degree of allowing us to put the goat ahead of sentiment. At a celebration of our national holiday in one of the Italian districts in Philadelphia last week the goat was master of the emotions of the embryo Americans, and the refrain of the good old hymn was rendered thus:

"The star spangled banner,
Long may it float
O'er the land of the free
And the home of the goat."

\$43.00 to Buffalo.
This is what the established rate amounts to in each direction, making \$86.00 for the round trip, and by arranging with the Burlington route passengers are given the choice of seven trains on dates of sale. Call upon or write us for full particulars before making other arrangements. R. W. Foster, Ticket Agent, Burlington Route, Corner Third and Stark Streets, Portland, Oregon.

The Salvation army sells 10 pounds of rice for a cent in the tenement districts of New York, and countless blessings have been showered on the humble but untiring philanthropists.



It is very convenient to attribute the disasters which overtake us to fate. But for the most part man is the arbiter of his own fortunes. Business men are struck down suddenly as by lightning. The verdict is generally "heart failure." "His heart was weak. It was fate for him to meet this end." But if we went behind the "weak" heart we should find a "weak" stomach, probably, and back of the weak stomach is careless eating at irregular hours. When the stomach is diseased the organs depending on the stomach for nutrition are starved. Starvation means weakness of the body and its organs. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery cures diseases of the stomach and other organs of digestion and nutrition. When these organs are cured, diseases of heart, liver, lungs and kidneys, caused by the diseased stomach, are cured also. "In the fall of 1897 I was taken with smothering spells, palpitation of the heart, and a distressed feeling in my stomach," writes Mr. H. W. Kinney, of Knight, Doddridge Co., West Va. "I consulted a doctor and he said I had organic heart trouble. He gave me some medicine, but it did me no good. I then tried different kinds of patent medicines, but they only helped me a little. I then sent and got five bottles of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. Before the first bottle was gone I felt a change. When the five bottles were gone I began to work. I had not worked any for a year before. I am well and can eat anything now with the exception of pork and greasy food." Doctor Pierce's Pleasant Pellets cure biliousness.

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See our windows Saturday for Prices.

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