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YOUR SUMMER VACATION.

If you take one you will want to keep in touch with home. The best way to do this is to have the Journal mailed to you. Leave your order before starting. We will change the address as often as you desire.

The more the country sees and hears of William J. Bryan the more thankful it becomes that a man of his caliber and character was not elected President.

The new Servian Cabinet has resigned on account of quarrels about the assassination of King Alexander and Queen Draga. The world never knew a blood-stained throne to prove a bed of roses.

The warfare between Mr. Parry and the labor unions is getting almost as bitter as the differences between Messrs Bryan and Cleveland, with the difference that in the former row both sides are talking.

If Mr. Keach can snatch time from outlining his policy as prospective Grand High Chamberlain and Keeper of the Seal, he might run up to Chicago and arbitrate that strike over boiled or mashed potatoes.

Riots like that among the Standard Oil Company's employes at Whiting may be charged up to loose immigration laws of some years ago. They are better now, but could still be narrowed with good effect.

Pope Leo was a very pious and good man, but the fact that nearly a million dollars in money was found in his apartments shows he was not a business man. True, the Vatican is an exceptionally safe place to keep valuables, but it would have been more business-like to have deposited so large a sum in a bank.

The art department of Harper's Weekly needs editing. The able cartoonist this week offers a series of pictures showing General Miles starting out on a horseback ride, the animal on which he is mounted gradually evolving into a triumphant elephant, labeled "G. O. P." Evidently the artist is under the impression that the general's supposed presidential aspirations have to do with the Republican party.

It is believed in Washington that the amendments made by the Colombian Congress to the Panama canal treaty have killed it and that the President will recommend the Nicaraguan route. Under the law of June 28, 1902, he is authorized to close terms for either route, and if the Colombian government will not make a reasonable contract the President will undoubtedly select the other route.

Mr. Bryan's terms for his Indiana lectures vary according to circumstances. In one place the cost of admission is announced to be 50 cents, at another place he takes 1 per cent. of the gate receipts, and in still another town he is advertised to speak at "25 cents per." Evidently the once "peerless leader" is willing to accept anything he can get, knowing that he is raking in his last harvest from the wornout Democratic field.

Senator Hanna seems to have been sadly fooled when he introduced by request that foolish bill to pension ex-slaves. Now comes the word that a smart young negro, armed with a copy of the bill, has been representing himself as an agent of Senator Hanna, and has collected from negroes of Georgia and Florida upwards of $60,000 for the alleged purpose of getting the measure through Congress. The incident should teach all legislators to father no measures whose meaning and genesis they do not fully understand.

The veterans in the Philippines have just been celebrating the anniversary of the raising of the United States flag over the islands, which occurred five years ago on Thursday last. They have been a great five years for the Philippines. Five years ago the Filipinos had never experienced anything but galling tyanny and the worst kind of misgovernment; the city of Manila had no markets, no modern improvements, and was in a dreadful sanitary condition; there were no good roads or bridges to speak of; there were only thirteen postoffices in the islands and there was no school system. Now Manila has street-railways, four handsome markets, good sewers, a greatly improved harbor and good sanitary conditions. Millions of dollars have been expended in constructing roads and bridges. The number of postoffices in the islands has increased from thirteen to nearly 250. From no public school system at all there are now in the islands a well-organized department of public instruction with nearly 4,500 American and native teachers and nearly 300,000 pupils enrolled, all of whom are rapidly learning English and other branches. Five years ago the Filipinos had never tasted freedom; now they have the same guarantee of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness that every American citizen possesses. Truly, the last five years have been great ones for the Philippines.

OUR NEW IRRIGATION POLICY.

A Washington dispatch says the secretary of the interior has approved the award of contract for the construction of an irrigating canal in Nevada at an aggregate cost of $942,427. The canal will be thirty miles long, and, by carrrying water to a reservoir, will reclaim and fertilize about 300,000 acres of land. This, at least, is what is expected, though the undertaking is somewhat experimental. This is the first contract to be let under the act passed by the last Congress, and it marks the beginning of a new policy by the government. The practice of artificial irrigation is a very ancient one, and prevails extensively in some Eastern countries and in southern Europe. It has also been introduced in some of the Rocky mountain States by private enterprise and State patronage, but this is the beginning of irrigation by the national government. What the end will be remains to be seen. It is likely to be an expensive undertaking and the desert land reclaimed by it will be costly.

The law under which the work will be carried on was passed June 17, 1902. It provides that all moneys received after June 1, 1900, from the sale of public lands in Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington and Wyoming shall be placed in a special fund in the United States treasury, to be known as the "reclamation fund," to be used exclusively for the construction and maintenance of irrigation canals and reservoirs for the reclamation of the arid lands of the West. The public lands thus set apart for irrigation purposes, subject to the claims of agricultural colleges, amount to about 535,000,000 acres. The proceeds from the sale of lands during the fiscal years 1901 and 1902 amounted to somewhat over $6,000,000, and this amount is now available for irrigation purposes. The fund will increase while the public lands last at the rate of about $3,000,000 a year. It will be seen, therefore, that the government has embarked in a large enterprise. The work of constructing irrigating canals and reservoirs is to be done under the supervision of the secretary of the interior, who is authorized to open the reclaimed lands to homestead entry in 40, 80 and 160-acre tracts. The secretary is to decide what charges shall be paid by the entryman in repayment for the irrigation of his land, said charges to be regulated according to the cost of the work. No person will be allowed to enter more than 160 acres of the reclaimed land, the object being to prevent large holdings and attract actual settlers. When a majority of the lands in any irrigation district shall have been paid for the operation of the works will be turned over to the settlers, but the government will retain possession and control of the reservoirs. The law provides that as far as practicable the proceeds of sales of public land in each State shall be expended in irrigation works in that State—a provision which is likely to prove a fruitful source of controversy between the States and the national government and of trouble to the secretary of the interior, who will have the expenditure of the funds. The law is one of far-reaching consequences and contemplates a system of internal improvements that would not have been dreamed of a generation or two ago.

A SLOW CONSCIENCE.

A dispatch from Washington says the secretary of the treasury has received from a firm of attorneys in Philadelphia a check for $100 with a statement that it was "the amount of money which was paid on the 10th of December, 1868, by the United States government as additional bounty to a soldier." The conscience fund of the treasury has received many queer contributions, but it is believed this one indicates the slowest working conscience on record. Thirty-five years is a good while for a man to meditate over the moral quality of an action and debate with himself whether he should make restitution of money received under doubtful circumstances. We sometimes read of needles working to the surface of the body after having been buried out of sight many years. It took this moral needle thirty-five years to work itself into a position where it pricked.

The incident recalls a practice that prevailed during the civil war which it is to be hoped the government may never have to resort to again, viz., the policy of offering bounties to stimulate volunteering. This was begun by the national government in 1861 and was soon taken up by nearly all the States. An act of Congress of July, 1861, authorized the payment of $100 to every volunteer enlisting for three years. In June, 1863, the War Department authorized the payment of $400 to all veterans re-enlisting for three years, or the war. In October, 1863, the government offered a bounty of $300 to new recruits enlisting in old organizations. In July, 1864, the War Department authorities authorized the payment of $100 to every recruit enlisting for one year; of $200 for two years' recruits and $300 for three years. Under these various orders an enormous sum was paid in bounties. In the third year of the war many of the States offered bounties. Counties, cities and townships followed the example and the bounty system became general. The aggregate amount expended for local bounties in this State amounted to $15,492,876. Marion county paid out $1,377,199 in this way and other counties in proportion. The local bounties ranged from $50 to $500. Some of the Eastern States paid out much larger sums than Indiana did. As these bounties were paid in advance it was easy for a dishonest man to accept the bounty and then run away instead of enlisting. This gave rise to the practice of "bounty jumping," by which men went from one place to another accepting the bounty, pocketing the money and then decamping. This gave profitable employment to a large number of scoundrels. Organized gangs of men would go from one locality to another and enlist, don the uniform, then desert, buy citizens clothes, get another bounty and go through the same operation many times, re-enlisting under different names until caught. One man, arrested in 1865, confessed that he had "jumped the bounty" thirty-two times. An official report made by an officer who served in Indiana said: "Hundreds, if not thousands, of men from the British provinces, hordes of deserters from the rebel army, foreigners from every country, professional thieves, gamblers and roughs from every city, turned in to fill quotas and divide among them the greenbacks so profusely given out from the treasury. They prevented the army from being filled by crowding the rolls with fictitious names, on which many of them drew bounties a score of times. It is impossible to tell how many men stand represented on the muster rolls of the army of this class of villains, but they must be counted by tens, if not by hundreds of thousands." This is a dark picture, but those were dark times. Bounty jumping was one of the most degrading crimes developed by the war period, and it was carried on to an appalling extent. The man who after thirty-five years has returned a bounty to which he has concluded he was not entitled may not have been a bounty jumper, but his conscience seems to have experienced a prolonged state of inaction.

THE TROLLEY'S REVOLUTION.

No great war or political change ever worked nearly so great a revolution for the betterment of a people and the quickening of their ways of life as is now being wrought throughout the middle West by the trolley systems that are spinning their webs in every direction. Within the cities the change is already old, and we have forgotten how things were when we formerly depended on the mule cars for such little transportation as we had within the city. Such a thing as pleasure riding on the street cars was then unknown, and the pleasures of the parks were available to those alone that could afford horses and carriages. Moreover, the quickening of life that came with rapid transit and the general broadening out to larger areas and more comfortable living have come to be an old story in the city.

But in the smaller towns, where the trolley is new and the closer connection with the larger and busier centers of life has but recently come, the changes are just now working, and it is interesting to observe their outward phases. Ride out over any line through a section where, a couple of years ago, there were old, unpainted houses and tumble-down fences, and you will see a sprucing up in the way of new paint and new buildings and general tidiness that is astonishing. And all the little old towns that were formerly sleeping in the summer sun seem to have been galvanized into new life. The cross-roads store has been wiped out, but wherever the town was large enough to have taken firm root as a community it has taken on new life. The boys can live at home and work in the city, instead of deserting the village to live in a city boarding house, and the "folks" find a way of making money off their poultry and "garden truck" that was formerly impossible. They love to spend the money in brightening up the old home, trimming the hedges and lawns, and making it look as if somebody lived there.

No human prejudice ever disappeared so quickly as has that of the merchant of the smaller town who imagined that the trolley was going to take away his business. He is now clamoring for all the trolley lines he can get.

THE MACEDONIANS.

That is a beautiful story that comes from Sofia about the belief of the Macedonian leaders that the unsympathetic attitude of the American press toward their revolutionary movement is due to Turkish gold! The United States has a hard enough time collecting what Turkish gold is due it from the government of the Porte; certainly there has never been any of it lying around for newspaper distribution. Apparently the Macedonian committee expected American gold to flow in upon them as soon as they were organized. Whether their purpose in starting the revolution was a venal one or not, it is dollars to little red apples that every leader in the crowd could be bought with the same Turkish gold they are talking about, just as similar revolutionary organizations in the Balkans have been bought on many previous occasions. The old spirit of venality that made the ancient Greeks, with all their literary and artistic talent, the most unstable people in the world in a political way, seems to have been handed down all through southeastern Europe, and the anxiety to fill itching palms with gold is just as rife there now as it was 2,000 years ago.

The American press does not bubble with sympathy for the Macedonians because it knows them. We have too many specimens of the Balkan peoples in America to entertain any illusions about them. Dirty, tricky, quarrelsome and mercenary to the last degree, they do not strike the average American as available pegs to hang romantic ideals upon. They have a certain amount of savage courage that makes them fight like fiends in personal encounters, but of the higher quality of moral courage they have none. The eternal quarrel between them and the Turks is not warfare in behalf of the Christian religion, but a race war, founded, like all race wars, on ignorance and prejudice on both sides. Undoubtedly the American people would like to see the Turk expelled from Europe for many reasons, but sympathy with the Macedonians is not much of a factor in this wish.

THE INFLATED KEACH.

The next person that writes a history of Indianapolis should devote a large amount of space to the rise and progress of James L. Keach. Of his discovery nothing need be said, for he discovered himself, but his development and evolution from a potato peddler to a political boss will furnish a great theme for the future historian. Mr. Keach has not attained his growth yet, but it is astonishing how much ground he covers. In an interview in the local organ he informs the public that "Mr. Lieber cannot contract with me to deliver him a superintendent of police with the expectation of retailing that arrangement to saloon keepers at $2 for each barrel of beer." Again: "No business interest can contract with me for any member of a board or any other public officer." It would be interesting to know at just what stage of his evolution Mr. Keach discovered that the chairman of a city committee has anything to do with naming members of a board or the superintendent of police. A somewhat careful reading of the charter fails to discover any such power lodged with the city chairman. The charter says the executive authority of the city shall be vested in a mayor and such departments as may be created. Perhaps Mr. Keach is a department. When the chairman of a committee says I guarantee this and I recognize that and I pledge the other it is evident he is on the point of concluding that he is the whole thing. Somebody should present Mr. Keach with a copy of the charter and ask him to point out just where he comes in. It would simplify matters for the future historian if he would unfold his ideas of charter construction and municipal government a little more fully. If he is to be the whole thing where would Holtzman come in?

The sentence imposed by Judge Whallon in the case of the convicted wineroom keeper, Griswold, met general approval, and his release on bail pending an appeal will cause disappointment and a great deal of criticism unless the police judge can show conclusively that admitting him to bail was the only course he could pursue.

The New England coast has escaped damage thus far in the mimic warfare that has been raging around the more exclusive summer resorts, but one of the battleships and a number of the younger officers appear to be somewhat the worse for wear.

The city is breathlessly waiting to hear that Cantrell was responsible for the death of the Taggart machine.

THE HUMORISTS.

Gentle Rebuke.

New York Weekly.

Husband (very late from the club)—H'm! I told you not to sit up for me.

Wife (sweetly)—I didn't. I got up to see the sun rise.

Such Language.

The poet says: "Of tongue or pen
The saddest words are 'might have been.'"
More sad the editor's, we think,
Who sticks his paste brush in the ink.
—Philadelphia Press.

Her Mistake.

Chicago Evening Post.

"Well," she said, "the Browns have accepted our invitation and are coming to spend a week with us."

"Hang it all, Maria," he complained, "you must have made that invitation too cordial."

Artificiality.

Philadelphia Ledger.

He—See here! Do you want to catch that train, or are you going to be late, as usual?

She (dressing)—I haven't made up my mind yet.

He—Gee whiz! Do you have to make that up, too?

Continuing the Simile.

Baltimore American.

Old Employe—You know as well as I do that I have been as faithful as clockwork in your employ.

Old Employer (bitterly)—Yes, just exactly as faithful as clockwork. You struck every time you could and never gave more than five minutes' warning.

Quite Different.

Chicago News.

"Say," exclaimed the irate tailor, "do you cross the street every time you see me to keep from paying that little bill?"

"Certainly not!" replied the delinquent.

"Then why do you invariably do it?" asked the knight of the iron goose.

"To keep you from asking me to pay it," replied the party of the other part.

Due Caution.

Chicago Tribune.

"Aren't you going up in it yourself?" asked one of the spectators.

"No," answered the inventor of the flying machine. "This is merely a trial trip, and I have decided to send one of my assistants. At this critical stage of the invention I cannot afford to run any risks. Are you all ready, Jacobs? Follow the directions I have given you and you will be perfectly safe."

THE DRIFT OF POLITICS.

"Oh, yes, I'm working very hard on my 'boom' and after the State Tax Board adjourns I expect to do nothing else," said Governor Durbin yesterday afternoon. "There's just one thing that bothers me now—I'm afraid I can't get Kentucky."

It was the first time the Governor has had anything to say about the vice presidential boom which he is enjoying and, indeed, it was with some misgivings that the reporter broached the subject, for Mr. Durbin is not given to talking about his political affairs and he has at times an effective way of squelching such temerity. But he was in excellent humor, as is shown by the mild sarcasm in his answer and his humorous allusion to the probable attitude of Kentuckians toward the suggestion that he is the man for second place on the Republican national ticket next year. Certain elements in Kentucky have professed neither admiration nor regard for the Governor since he refused to honor requisitions for the retun of fomer Governor W. S. Taylor and former Secretary of State Charles Finley, of that State, to be tried for complicity in the Goebel affair. However there are few if any Republicans in Kentucky who do not approve of the position he took in the Taylor-Finley cases, and as it is the Republicans who would decide whether the Governor should get the delegation from that State in event his name went before the national convention as a candidate for Vice President it seems that he should find no cause for worry as to the probable attitude of the Bluegrass State. Kentucky Democrats would doubtless do all in their power to defeat him for election, along with the rest of the Republican ticket, but they will do that no matter who is the nominee, so their efforts would cause no one concern.

While the Governor will not discuss the question seriously and really is not giving it serious thought, it is not difficult to see his position. He is not a candidate for the nomination and will not be a candidate. Custom has made the vice presidency an honor that seeks the man and it has been years since there was a contest for the nomination. The developments of the next eight or ten months may make the Governor the logical man for President Roosevelt's running mate and if the leaders in Republican national politics should so determine they will probably go to the Governor and ask that he permit his name to be presented to the convention. If he consents he will receive the nomination. No one has ever declined this distinction. President Roosevelt did not want the nomination three years ago, but when it came to him he accepted.

Many of the Governor's friends believe he will be the nominee. The President has shown in a striking manner his opinion of the Governor and newspapers in all sections of the country have mentioned the Indiana executive as the man for the place. In the meanwhile the Governor is pursuing the even tenor of his way. As he is human it is not reasonable to suggest that he is unaware of the widespread publicity he is receiving, or that he is not gratified at the nature of it, but he is not seeking to make political capital of it.

Governor Durbin left last evening for Charlevoix, Michigan, where he will spend Sunday with Mrs. Durbin and his son.

x x x

Republican State Chairman James P. Goodrich, of Winchester, was in the city yesterday and was at headquarters a few hours. He had nothing to say on political lines.

x x x

Charles E. Thompson, of Lafayette, one of the Republican wheelhorses in Tippecanoe county, was here a few hours yesterday. Mr. Thompson is Secretary of State Storms's law partner and he came over to see Mr. Storms on a business matter, but found that the secretary was closeted with the Tax Board in executive session and he was compelled to return home without accomplishing the object of his visit. As chairman of the Republican organization in his county Mr. Thompson is in a position to know what is going on there politically, but he said yesterday that there was nothing new.

x x x

The rumor has reached Indianapolis that a change in the personnel of the Metropolitan Police Board of Marion is imminent, and that it will be consummated within the next few days. D. C. Reardon, one of the Republican members, will retire, it is said, but the rumor does not give the name of his probable successor. The other members of the board are W. W. McCleery, Republican, and A. E. Gibson, Democrat. It will be recalled that the members of the Marion board were called to this city for a conference with Governor Durbin last week, the situation with regard to the labor difficulties at Marion being the principal topic discussed.

x x x

George B. Lockwood, secretary to the Governor, accompanied State Forester W. H. Freeman on a trip to the new State forestry reserve in Scott county yesterday and spent the day in meandering over the "Knobs."

x x x

R. S. Truitt, one of the proprietors of the Noblesville Ledger, was a caller at Senator Fairbanks's office yesterday.

x x x

James W. Sale, of Bluffton, one of the well-known Republicans of Wells county, was at the Columbia Club yesterday.

x x x

The Evening Harmonica, the local Democratic organ, announces with a flourish of trumpets that "harmony is now an assured fact" in Indianapolis Democracy, and in substantiation quotes Claude G. Bowers, secretary of the Jefferson League, to the effect that the members of the league in Indianapolis will give Holtzman the most enthusiastic support, and that personally he will travel 150 miles election day to add one vote to Holtzman's majority.

Mr. Bowers speaks as one having authority, and the Harmonica parades his utterance as one of vast import, but before it is taken too seriously it would be well to consider who Mr. Bowers is, who compose the Jefferson League in Indianapolis and what sort of evidence of harmony it is to be assured that the league will be for Holtzman. Mr. Bowers is a young man who lives in Terre Haute and spends practically all of his time there, although he claims Indianapolis as his residence. He was present at the meeting July 4 of fifteen or twenty free silver Democrats, who decided to organize the Jefferson League, and was chosen secretary. Up to the present time the Jefferson League in Indianapolis consists of the half dozen men from this city who were present at that meeting. Of these John W. Kern is the most conspicuous, and Mr. Kern announced the day of the Democratic city convention that he would support the ticket. Flavius J. Van Vorhis was another prominent figure at the July meeting and was the principal speaker. He has since announced his determination to support the Prohibition candidate for mayor. There's a part of the league that will not be enthusiastically for Holtzman.

As a matter of fact, the Jefferson League has scarcely taken on tangible form up to the present time. It is a shadowy, airy—it might be said, windy—nothing; an idea which a few enthusiasts are endeavoring to crystalize. Under the circumstances the "enthusiastic support" which the league will give Holtzman will hardly turn the tide in Holtzman's favor. Democratic City Chairman Keach knows this, and he gave evidence that he knew it the day after the convention, when the suggestion was made to him that the league would fight Holtzman, for he merely smiled his most sarcastic smile.

Harmony will be an assured fact in Indianapolis Democratic ranks when James E. McCullough, W. F. Moore and Robert E. Madden, the mayoralty candidates who were victims of the Keach-Holtzman machine, announce that they will support the ticket themselves and urge that their friends do likewise; when the members of the Indiana Silver Club declare their loyalty to Holtzman; when the Democrats, who are now working on an independent Democratic city ticket, abandon that project and get in line; when the Democrats Keach kicked out of the city organization forget their bruises and learn to love those that despitefully used them, and when hundreds of Democrats in the city, who have always been Democrats, can bow gracefully to the prostitution of their party by a small coterie of men who have never hesitated to desert the party and work against the party whenever the party's policies and candidates have not suited them.

Harmony will be an assured fact when the tail can wag the dog and the dog doesn't object.

x x x

Chairman Keach announces, through the Harmonica, that he will make no bargains with brewers in the coming municipal campaign. It has been understood all along that he has already made all his bargains—that he made them before he was permitted to become a candidate for the chairmanship. There is just one interesting thing about this announcement of Mr. Keach, and that is the frank manner in which he admits that he is the "whole show," and that in the event Holtzman is elected he (Keach—Czar Keach, Boss Keach, Big Injun Keach)—will make the appointments. He says:

"If Mr. Holtzman is elected there will be no controversy with the brewers over his superintendent of police. No business interest can contract with me for any member of a board or any other public officer."

x x x

State Senator S. L. Stricler, of Marion, was here yesterday. He says the chief thing of interest in Grant county at present is the Fairmount fair, that is attracting thousands of people to the southern end of the county.

GLEANINGS FROM STATE PRESS.

Honey Creek Item.

Franklin Democrat.

Walter Waddle called on Maggie Fullen Sunday afternoon.

A Happening at Fox.

Marion Chronicle.

Charles Pritchett has hold his horse and bought another one.

Wanatah News.

Laporte Herald.

Emery Carpenter is suffering with a lame knee, caused by a blackberry thorn entering the sac.

Big Peach.

Petersburg Press.

Mrs. Mary Brown presented this office with the largest peach we have seen this season. There were but few peaches on the tree, and in consequence they grew large.

Sure Thing.

Vevay Reveille.

One of Vevay's most popular young ladies is soon to wed a gentleman now located in the far West. No guess work; we positively know it, and will tell you about it just as soon as we "dare."

Hint to Other Teachers.

Vincennes News.

One of the school teachers now attending institute says he has had very good luck since he got married. Then he rode in a road cart, now in a rubber tired rig. He is a native of Palmyra township and an old university student.

The Kendallville Way.

Elkhart Review.

It is said that after a Kendallville young woman had refused a ayoung man of that place, instead of shooting her and making himself a nuisance to the people, who would have had to bury him, the young man bought her a bag of candy and congratulated her upon her lucky escape.

From the Woolleytown Correspondent

Denver Tribune.

One day last week Mrs. Levi Dewald went to Peru, and while she was gone the boys went to the house to prepare dinner. The first thing they say was a big house snake hanging on a nail beside the kitchen door. The boys didn't prefer that kind of a cook so they killed it. It measured over six feet in length.

The Smiths' Good Luck.

Warren Review.

Mr. and Mrs. Harry Smith spent Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Cole, in Warren township. They report an enjoyable time. Uncle Sam always wears that "same old smile," which makes you feel at home, and the way Aunt Beck can cook chickens, cream gravy and bake huckleberry pie no one can realize until he has partaken of a meal with the good old couple.

PROROGUED TO NOV. 20

SITTINGS OF BRITISH PARLIAMENT SUSPENDED BY THE KING.

Premier Balfour Assures the Commons of the Generally Satisfactory Condition of Imperial Affairs.

KING'S SPEECH IS RATHER DRY

HE IS MUCH PLEASED WITH IMPROVEMENTS IN IRELAND.

Hopes for a Prosperous Growth of His Irish People—Winston Churchill Is Rather Sarcastic.

LONDON, Aug. 14.—Both houses of Parliament assembled to-day to wind up the business of the session.

In the House of Commons several questions were asked relating to matters of international interest. Premier Balfour, in a general reply, said there had been an unexpected delay in the Venezuelan question, which, however, was not due to Great Britain or Germany, who had taken parallel action, but to the fact that France and Spain objected to the use of the English language by the tribunal. The question had been left to the tribunal itself to decide. He believed that the court, whose members the Czar had been requested to nominate, would meet on the date originally fixed.

Regarding the complaints that the government was showing a lack of sympathy with Macedonia, Mr. Balfour pointed out that one of the deep sources of mischief was the dissensions among the Christians. It was not the Turk alone—deep as his guilt undoubtedly was—who was responsible for the miserable conditions. It would be folly to forget that the Christians committed atrocities on Christians. The government was still of opinion that the best policy was to support the Austro-Russian endeavors to improve the administration.

Dealing with the protests against puzzling the Housee on the fiscal controversy, the premier said he thought there was no necessity for undue hurry in discussing the matter. There was no pending fiscal question before Parliament nor would there be one during the currency of the present Parliament.

With a final fling from Winston Churchill, who seemed doubtful whether the present Parliament would meet again and who characterized the premier's policy of transferring the fiscal discussion from Parliament to the country as that of a demagogue, the sitting was suspended. Subsequently the House was summoned to the House of Lords to hear read the King's speech proroguing Parliament. The speech was of little general or international interest. The most important part of the speech deals with Ireland. It says:

"The warm expressions of good will with which I was received greatly touched me. My visit enabled me to realize how much was being attempted to improve the housing accommodations for the working population, stimulate commercial activity, advance the methods of agriculture, develop technical education, and provide for the sick and infirm. Much remains to be done, but it was with feelings of the deepest gratification that I noticed signs of increasing concord among all classes in Ireland, presaging, as I hope, a new era of united efforts for the general welfare."

Referring to the Irish land bill, the speech says it offers inducements to the land owners to continue their residence among their countrymen, and provides facilities for improving the conditions of life in the poorer districts of the west. It adds: "This reform, by removing the ancient causes of social dissension, will, I heartily trust, conduce to the common benefit of all my Irish subjects."

Reference is made in the speech to the general anxiety regarding the situation in the European provinces of Turkey, to the great progress made in the work of resettlement and pacification in South Africa, and to the improvement in the condition of agriculture and finance in India. After the reading of the King's speech Parliament was prorogued until Nov. 20.

There probably has never been a prorogation of Parliament which, for the future of the government, was so uncertain as is the case on this occasion. Many believe there will be a dissolution in the autumn, though the best information does not support this belief. Mr. Balfour's speech at Sheffield at the end of September is awaited with the keenest interest, as it will contain a pronouncement of policy which will possibly force either the Duke of Devonshire, a pronounced free trader, or Colonial Secretary Chamberlain to resign. The members of Parliament will curtail their holidays—the Free Food Leaguers in order to open the fiscal campaign as speedily as possible, and the followers of Mr. Chamberlain to repel the attack.

GOOD WEEK IN BUSINESS

INCREASED VOLUME IN MANY LINES, WITH PRICES STEADY.

Improvement in Footwear and Woolens—Grains, Iron and Steel—The Week's Bank Clearings.

NEW YORK, Aug. 14.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly Review of Trade to-morrow will say:

Earnings of railways for August thus far show an average gain of 7.7 per cent. over last year's figures and 16.3 per cent. compared with 1901. Distribution of merchandise is very heavy, more interruption to traffic being recorded, and in staple lines prices are steady. Preparations for fall trade are vigorous, many manufacturers working overtime to fill important orders. Collections are fully as prompt as usual for the season, although in some lines there is less inclination to discount bills. Crop news is reassuring. Foreign trade at this port for the last week showed a loss of $1,461,049 in exports, as compared with the same week last year, and imports decreased $2,127,575.

Hesitation in certain branches of the iron and steel industry, incident to the season and aggravated by labor controversies, is indicated with some degree of definiteness by the monthly statistics just published by the Iron Age. A vast amount of business is being done, but there is no indication to anticipate requirements of the future beyond contracts placed. The week has brought no developments in the price situation, but there is a steady gain in purchases of pig iron, although the meeting of a committee of leading concerns failed to decide on placing new contracts, which was a disappointment to some prospective sellers. Agricultural implement and machinery manufacturers have secured a further large tonnage of material. Merchant steel and pipe show improved demand, but in plates and structural material the waiting tendency is still dominant. A slightly increased volume of business in common goods is confined to small orders for quick delivery.

Quotations for cottons are firmly held, and no advance in staple prints occurred this week, but the ratio of the product to the raw material is far from such as to encourage manufacturing. A steady demand for men's wear woolens sustains prices and business in dress goods is improving. Dry goods jobbers report fairly good buying, the feature of the week being some special dribs in dress fabrics.

The feature this week has been the liberal purchasing of heavy shoes for next spring by local jobbers. Leather has at last shown the increase in activity promised by the vigorous operation of factories and both sole and upper leather find a better market, although no large contracts have yet been placed. Hides continue weak, but the average does not exhibit the fall that has been the rule in recent preceding weeks, some lines slightly recovering.

Failures this week numbered 174 in the United States, against 196 last year, and in Canada twenty-two, compared with twenty-one a year ago.

Bradstreet summarizes the grain movement as follows:

"Wheat, including flour exports, for the week aggregated 3,413,191 bu. against 3,040,629 last week, 4,591,805 this week last year, 1,039,761 in 1901 and 3,113,641 in 1900. For six weeks of the cereal year they aggregate 18,460,444 bu. against 25,385,608 in 1902, 41,546,906 in 1901 and 17,982,438 in 1900. Corn exports for the week aggregate 707,387 bu. against 884,428 last week, 93,423 a year ago, 508,807 in 1901 and 3,017,081 in 1900. For six weeks of the cereal year they aggregate 6,494,880 bu. against 587,860 in 1902, 7,773,220 in 1901 and 21,820,000 in 1900."

WESTERN COAL TRADE.

Influence of Transportation Conditions is Feared Somewhat.

CHICAGO, Aug. 14.—The Black Diamond, reviewing the Western coal trade, to-morrow will say:

"The question of transportation seems to be uppermost in the minds of many coal shippers at this time. During the past week there have been frequent delays in securing cars, and in some instances mines have been obliged to shut down in Indiana and Illinois, owing to the shortage of cars or the congestion along the lines of road reaching some of the principal mining centers. But conditions in the West have not been nearly as bad as from points in Ohio, West Virginia and western Pennsylvania, where the mines in quite a number of instances are working only half time. The car shortage is having no immediate effect, other than to lead shippers to give more careful attention to the future and to take careful cognizance of everything which is likely to have a bearing on the transportation problem from the early part of October till the end of March. In some quarters it is felt that as much difficulty will be experienced in getting coal forward the coming winter as was experienced a year ago, while in others it is said railroads have promised, and have taken steps to keep that promise, that there would be an improved service. Transportation will have more or less of an influence on prices from this time forward, and when there are delays in movement or shippers are embargoed on certain lines, thus creating a temporary scarcity of coal, it is probable that values will show a stronger tone while these conditions last.

"In the anthracite trade, reports are almost unanimous that the dullest season of the year is at hand and that demand, both from shippers and retailers of coal will be light during the next three or four weeks. Shippers are urging retailers to take larger supplies of coal, and are also urging them to use their influence to secure orders from consumers for immediate delivery, fearing that if all the remaining business is crowded into the last few months of the year difficulties may be encountered in the movement of coal which will seriously handicap householders in getting a supply when they require it.

"The influence of transportation conditions has been felt to a greater extent in the bituminous branch of the industry than in the anthracite. Reports from the Pittsburg fields have not been reassuring as to a supply of cars, and, according to the press dispatches, many of the mines have been down half the time during the past week and a half, caused by the lack of cars and motive power. It is said that the larger corporations have suffered some reduction of tonnage on this account and that there has been a falling off in tonnage moving to the head of the lakes. The difficulties which have been frequently referred to in this column out of the West Virginia region continue. Transportation is extremely variable, and in quite a few instances operators have only been enabled to work on half time, owing to a lack of cars, and, after the cars were loaded, a lack of motive power to move them. There is very little hope of any improvement out of that field at the present time."

WEEKLY BANK CLEARINGS.

Indianapolis Makes a Surprising Record in Matter of Gain.

NEW YORK, Aug. 14.—The following table, compiled by Bradstreet, shows the bank clearings at the principal cities for the week ended Aug. 13, with the percentage of increase and decrease as compared with the corresponding week last year:

		Inc.	Dec.
*New York	$1,216,875,254	....	5.5
*Chicago	157,493,888	3.2	....
*Boston	126,898,747	7.8	....
*Philadelphia	99,641,838	12.6	....
*St. Louis	50,203,569	14.6	....
Pittsburg	43,071,724	19.5	....
*San Francisco	27,879,701	11.2	....
*Baltimore	21,402,494	....	2.7
Cincinnati	21,536,900	10.0	....
*Kansas City	22,130,245	9.0	....
Cleveland	15,275,638	5.9	....
*Minneapolis	11,690,700	....	7.8
*New Orleans	10,510,359	10.1	....
Detroit	13,709,419	8.9	....
*Louisville	7,304,484	....	5.2
Omaha	6,837,182	3.9	....
*Milwaukee	7,183,753	2.7	....
*Providence	6,118,900	4.7	....
*Buffalo	6,258,565	....	....
*St. Paul	5,256,523	....	3.2
Indianapolis	6,777,013	43.5	....
*Toledo	3,501,340	....	....
Peoria	2,560,546	9.9	....
Dayton	1,622,035	9.4	....
Evansville	942,866	....	2.3
Springfield, O	374,316	....	1.0
Bloomington, Ill	336,162	23.0	....
Decatur, Ill	252,910	....	9.0
Totals, United States	$1,992,627,569	....	0.6
Outside New York	775,752,315	8.2	....

*Balances paid in cash.

SUES A UNION PRINTER.

Typographical Error in New Orleans Charged Up to the Typesetter.

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 14.—Typographical Union No. 17 (New Orleans) is stirred up over the decision of Judge Downing of the First City Court in the case of the Daily News against R. Wilkin, and will carry it up to the United States Supreme Court, if possible. Wilkin, who is a union printer, in setting up a bank statement for the News got a figure wrong. The bank refused to pay for the advertisement because of the error, whereupon the News charged Wilkin the full value of the advertisement, and took the amount out of his pay.

The printers in the News office at once struck and the News surrendered. The owners, however, bought suit against Wilkin for damages, which was fixed at the value of the advertisement lost through Wilkin's typographical error. The typographical union defended the suit.

Judge Downing gave the News judgment for the full amount claimed, with costs. In rendering the judgment the judge declared that the withdrawal by the News of the claim against Wilkin in the face of a strike and a settlement made under such coercion did not act as an estoppel. The president of the union announces its purpose to fight the matter to the bitter end.

WILLED TO POPE LEO.

Fortune of a Neapolitan Priest Now the Subject of a Suit.

NAPLES, Italy, Aug. 14.—A parish priest named Milone willed his whole fortune of $80,000 to the reigning Pontiff when Leo XIII was at the point of death. The priest has since died and his family now set up the claim that the will is invalid. Cardinal Rampolla, as papal secretary of state, directed a local attorney to represent him, claiming that the priest collected the money in virtue of his office and that it should go to the church and that Leo XII, being the Sovereign Pontiff at the time, could be represented in the action by his secretary of state.

Trial of the action took place to-day and the judge reserved his decision.

Hanged for Sextuple Murder.

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 14.—A. E. Batson was hanged at Lake Charles, La., at 1:42 p. m. to-day for the murder of six of the Earl family in February, 1902, near Welsh. He made no confession. The crime was not discovered for several days after it was committed, when Batson, a field hand of the Earls, appeared in Lake Charles with stock for sale, representing himself as Ward Earl. Relatives found the bodies of Mrs. Earl and four children shot and their throats cut. Batson always denied committing the crime.

Bank Closed by Controller.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—The Navsenk National Bank of Red Bank, N. J., was closed to-night by the direction of the acting controller of the currency. Shortages and irregularities to such an extent were discovered as to render the bank insolvent. Examiner Mason has been appointed receiver.