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Wouldn't it be queer if Mr. Bryan's "new idea" turned out to be nothing but the Iowa idea in disguise?

"Bryan Forsakes the Silver God," read the headlines in one paper, and in another of the same date, "Bryan Will Raise His Voice for Silver." So you can choose either idea that suits you and Bryan will still be the Peerless Leader.

In the report of extra cold weather in St. Louis, the other day, the dispatch stated that all workmen at the exposition grounds stopped working with the exception of the Japanese. That is the sort of spirit that Russia has to look out for.

While running to catch a train on the New York elevated railroad, the other day, two persons dropped dead from heart failure. Is that not typical of the modern strenuous spirit? Better to risk death than wait three minutes for the next train!

Most of these fatal mine explosions appear to be caused by the extreme carelessness of the miners in the use of matches. What is the use of safeguards and legislation when people will run such deliberate and criminal risks of a terrible disaster?

The new decoration of the Legion of the Medal of Honor is displeasing to several of the members, who declare that it is lacking in finish and appropriateness, and is too much like a G. A. R. button. But it stands for as much as if it were an artistic triumph. Look at the Victoria cross!

South Africa has taken a dangerous—some think a fatal—step in committing itself to Chinese cheap labor. It looks like the deliberate importation of a race problem and a labor trouble at one fell swoop; and it appears, indeed, in the words of an Eastern paper, that society there will soon consist of only two classes—millionaires and slaves.

People have different ideas of what constitutes a world-power. Extent of territory, foreign possessions, size of army and navy—these are points most frequently considered. But when one reads that the United States now has 50 per cent. of the banking power of the entire world the question seems to be answered.

The incorporation of a company with $300,000 capital to engage in hydraulic gold mining in Morgan county looks as if somebody had faith in the enterprise. Gold in small quantities has been found there for many years past, and it may be that with improved machinery some pay deposits may be found, but they are not likely to be extensive.

Is there no food for reflection on the part of the insurance companies in the statement of a noted New York civil engineer to the effect that one-third of the theaters built are burned within five years after the building? Present-day theaters must be about as poor risks as they were in Shakspeare's day, when the "Globe" suffered so much from the fire fiend.

Scientists are greatly encouraged by the discovery in Utah of an apparently unlimited supply of radium. It will not become cheap, although the carmotite ore in which American radium is found is much more abundant than the pitchblende used in Europe. The cost of isolating the coveted substance is immense, but there will be a sufficient quantity for the use of laboratories and experimental work.

If you need a job and can speak the Chinese language there are lots of chances in the far East. There is a demand for diplomats who are familiar with the language and customs of the country. Seven young men are studying Chinese in the American legation and preparing to be student interpreters, which are to be sent by the government to each of the consulates; and two new consuls, under the provisions of the recent Chinese treaty, have been sent to Mukden and Antung in Manchuria.

The continued illness and repeated relapses of Senator Hanna will be sincerely regretted throughout the country. The congestive chill of Wednesday was an added serious symptom. A person of Senator Hanna's age—he will be sixty-seven next Sept. 24—does not easily recover from the effect of such an attack. He will probably outlive it, but his health will be shattered. This prospect will be regretted by all who regard the Ohio senator as one of the most useful men in public life, and especially by Republicans who would like to see him one of the foremost leaders in the next presidential campaign.

MISREPRESENTING THE PRESIDENT.

For a bill that never stood a ghost of a chance of passing Senator Foraker's bill to amend the anti-trust law has attracted undeserved attention. This is mainly due to the fact that it was seized upon by the Democratic press as a pretext for partisan misrepresentation and by enemies of the President to place him in a false position. The bill is a very short one. Aside from its title and enacting clause it reads as follows:

That nothing in the act to regulate commerce, approved Feb. 4, 1887, or in the act to protect foreign trade and commerce against unlawful restraints and monopolies, approved July 2, 1890, or in any act amendatory of either of said acts, shall hereafter apply to foreign commerce, or shall prohibit any act or any contract in restraint of trade or commerce among the several States, provided that such restraint be reasonable, or shall hereafter authorize imprisonment or forfeiture of property as punishment for any violation of said acts, except for perjury or contempt of court.

The Democratic press immediately jumped to the conclusion that the bill was an administration measure and indicative of a change of front by the President. They construed it as showing a desire to placate the trusts by materially limiting the scope and effectiveness of the anti-trust laws. The New York Staats Zeitung (Democratic) described the bill as sweeping away all the limitations which previous anti-trust laws have attempted to establish, and said:

And this with the approbation of President Roosevelt, seeking to assure himself of Wall street's support. Either two years ago he spoke contrary to his own convictions or he is now sacrificing them, in order to win the trusts to himself. However one may look upon it, this much is clear—that never yet has the presidency been sought with greater demagogism.

The New York Sun, independent and anti-Roosevelt, approved the principle of the bill but thought the time and manner of its introduction would prove damaging to Mr. Roosevelt. "It is humiliating," said the Sun, "to reflect that the legislation of the country has been so perverted to the ends and uses of demagogues that such a measure should be necessary to set it straight; but it is still more humiliating to have to confess that the remedy is now vouchsafed only from discreditable and unworthy motives."

That there was no foundation whatever for these views appears first from a statement by Senator Foraker, and second by a prompt and emphatic denial by Attorney General Knox, speaking for the President, that the bill was an administration measure. Senator Foraker says he drafted the bill about a year ago, but held it up until the Northern Securities case, which had then been brought, should be decided. He assumes the entire responsibility for it and thinks it would make the anti-trust laws more conformable to the common law and to the English practice than they now are. Whether this is the case or not need not be discussed at present.

When Attorney General Knox was asked if the bill was introduced with the knowledge and approval of the administration he replied: "Absolutely no." He then went on to state what the effect and operation of the bill would be and wherein they would depart from the views and policy of the administration. The two statements of Senator Foraker and Attorney General Knox prove beyond doubt or question that the Foraker bill not only was not an administration measure, but that it was a distinct departure from the President's views.

As Senator Foraker is an avowed friend of the President it is not to be supposed that he intended to bring criticism on the President by introducing his bill, nor is he responsible for the fact that it was distorted to that end. That it was seized upon as a basis of partisan misrepresentation shows the eagerness of the President's enemies to find some charge against him that will stick. This one did not more than others, and it remains to be seen if the papers that have used it will retract and apologize.

MR. COCKRAN'S WAY OF LOOKING AT THINGS.

Mr. W. Bourke Cockran has been nominated by the Democrats in the Twelfth New York district to succeed Mr. McClellan, elected mayor. In accepting the nomination Mr. Cockran made a speech which for vast and varied misinformation and studious disregard of facts is probably without an equal. Mr. Cockran is noted for his fondness for rhetorical effect and his distaste for the prosaic verities of life, but in this speech he quite outdid himself.

He began by reminding his audience that "ten years ago we had a Democratic President, a Democratic Congress and Democratic Governors in several leading States," but that since the country had passed through a crisis. So it has, but not of the kind depicted by Mr. Cockran. "Any one," he said, "can realize by looking at the yawning chasm between the conditions of this country as they are to-day and as they were ten years ago, that Democratic success is an absolute necessity if the country is to be preserved." Any reader of the Journal who has time to step to the edge of the yawning chasm and look into it will probably feel like yawning himself at Mr. Cockran's description of the situation. He said:

Democratic surpluses have been squandered by Republicans who succeeded our leaders in office; surpluses were turned into deficits and panic spread over the land. It was Democratic integrity and sagacity from 1893 to 1897 that restored the shattered credit of the country and revived business in 1897, but at that time the Republicans, just elected into power, claimed the credit, although they had only harvested the crop planted by Democratic ability, loyalty and capacity.

If there is anything in political literature to equal the audacity of this the Journal does not know where to find it. As Mr. Cockran was addressing a Tammany audience it did not make much difference what he said, and most of those who heard him will never know any better. But it may be well to state some of the facts.

During the last three years of the Harrison administration, 1890 to 1893, the government revenue exceeded expenditures by $121,793,268; during the last three years of the second Cleveland administration, 1894 to 1896, inclusive, government expenditures exceeded revenues by $137,811,750. On July 1, 1893, the first year of Mr. Cleveland's second election, the public debt was $1,598,111,156; on July 1, 1897, it was $1,811,435,708—an increase of $213,324,552 during an administration of profound peace. During Mr. Cleveland's administration there were four issues of bonds to replenish the treasury and meet current expenses, viz.: Jan. 17, 1894, $50,000,000; Nov. 13, 1894, $50,000,000; Feb. 8, 1895, $62,315,000, and early in January, 1896, $100,000,000. In contrast with these bond issues during a time of peace President McKinley carried the Spanish war to a successful conclusion without borrowing a dollar.

Everybody remembers the panic of 1893 and the period of business depression that followed. Everybody remembers also how quickly business responded to the election of McKinley. A contemporary history written in the fall of 1897 says: "It is no longer denied that the country is once again fairly started on the road to business prosperity from which it wandered groping, early in 1893." There never was in any country as rapid and complete a recovery from universal depression to general posperity as that which followed the election of McKinley in 1896. Mr. Cockran attributes it to the bond-issuing and debt and deficit-making administration of Mr. Cleveland, and says, "Now again we are threatened with the results of Republican ascendency."

If Mr. Cockran is elected to Congress, as of course he will be, he may become a source of gayety for the nations. He only needs to be punctured to give forth a stream of imaginary facts that will make the comic history of Rome appear tame by comparison.

The raising of the Goebel issue in the House was evidently done as a pretext for attacking Republican officials. As far as the action of two Indiana Governors in the Taylor extradition case is concerned, the ground has been thoroughly traversed and need not be gone over again. No person cognizant of the facts believes that Governor Taylor could have had a fair trial in Kentucky or doubts that if the Kentucky officials could have laid their hands on him he would have been railroaded to the gallows or to the penitentiary for life. Such an outcome was a foregone conclusion, and Governors Mount and Durbin were right in refusing to become parties to it. There is no power to compel a Governor to honor a requisition against his convictions of justice and right, and it is absurd to say that he has no discretion in the matter.

The public-spirited men and corporations of the city have come to the front again in an emergency by raising a guarantee fund to insure the holding of the State fair this year. Past experience probably justified the board in declining to hold it, in the face of a prospective deficit without a guarantee against loss, but now the difficulty is removed. The public ought to rally to the support of the fair and make it unnecessary to draw on the guarantee fund.

If the Supreme Court should hold the present apportionment law unconstitutional, Governor Durbin would probably follow the precedent of Governor Matthews in 1896 in refusing to call an extra session of the Legislature when the laws of 1895 and 1893 were held unconstitutional. In that case it was necessary to go back to 1885 to find a law that would stand the test of the Constitution, and the election was held under that law.

MINOR TOPICS.

Although young Mr. Burnett Y. Tiffany, of New York, has an allowance of $34,650 a year to live on, he does not consider the sum sufficient for his personal expenses, and he has sued his father's estate for his full share of the income. To the frugal Westerner this young man's ideas as to what he needs to sustain life are interesting, especially as he says he has no bad habits, does not drink or gambie, and is surely very economical. His rent costs him $1,500, his three servants "and a man" another $1,500, his clothing $12,000, and his board $6,000. For carriages and traveling expenses he needs another $6,000, and for "other expenses necessary to comfort" $7,500 he thinks a reasonable estimate. He does not say which of these items he considers too small; possibly he thinks they might all be increased. And surely it does look as if the young man should have more than a miserable $12,000 a year to spend on clothes. A Tiffany should not be obliged to go in rags; and those little comforts that cost $7,500 should be accompanied by decent wearing apparel. To be sure, there are hosts of young men in New York who are doing very well on what he gives his "three servants and a man," and they work for that; but they have not his needs, for they have not his idleness. The courts should see that young Mr. Tiffany is properly taken care of.

A British peer has written a book of advice to young men in the form of letters to his son—a la "Self-Made Merchant," Lord Chesterfield, et al.—on the subject of how to succeed. He says that the only line of action for a poor nobleman is unlimited extravagance. A dangerous game, but he should be thanked for not advising marriage with an American heiress. That is being overdone.

Novelist Jack London has been arrested in Japan for taking photographs of important fortifications. He only wanted the picture for an American paper, but the Japs were afraid he would sell it to Russia, hence the trouble. The novelist's remarks on the occasion of his arrest would, no doubt, prove an interesting addition to his latest book, "The Call of the Wild."

Tailors and modistes say that automobile clothes are to be much worn during the coming spring and summer. To wear them it will not be necessary to have an automobile, any more than yachting caps require yachts, golf stocking presuppose the ownership of a bag of sticks, or a silk hat and a frock coat argue that the wearer is possessed of more than two shirts.

"Plodding wearily through the snow, with seemingly no idea of where he was or what he was doing, Bicycleman —— found an old man last night," begins a thrilling story in a valued contemporary. Cannot the city administration do something to keep the bicycle police from wandering about that way without any idea of what they are doing? It is an outrage.

A Jersey City man who made a record by playing on the piano twenty-six hours without stopping has been challenged to an endurance contest by a Newark man. The trial is to take place in the latter city, where it is said a gang of whitecappers is being organized to lynch the contestants before they can start the trouble.

The latest fashion in dogs, says a Paris cable story, is for Pomeranian Loulous. The name, for all its spelling, has a suspiciously American sound, and in the photograph the dog bears a strong resemblance to the common poodle of commerce with an abnormal hirsuite development. To be in style, get a loulou.

An eminent English physician says: "The human stomach works better when slightly stretched—just as the lungs work better with deep inhalations." That means, eat till you are full, in spite of the health faddists who tell you to leave the table with an appetite for more. This is good news.

A Chicago school teacher complains bitterly that more attention is paid in Illinois to raising pigs than to raising children. Well, every State has a right to its own taste in these matters. And what is the foundation of Illinois's greatness, anyhow—pigs or babies?

A New Orleans paper protests against putting the bodies of white men and negroes in the same morgue. So the poor colored brother who hoped that death would end his troubles and that all would be equal after the great change is fooled, after all.

An Iowa schoolmistress went to a dance, and a member of the school board tried to have her discharged as a consequence. But she fought the case and was vindicated, and now all the schoolma'ams in Iowa can trip the light fantastic to their heart's content.

Emperor William has talked into a phonograph for future generations, and the cylinder will be kept at Harvard. The well-known idiosyncrasies of the talking machine will serve as an everlasting reminder of the Kaiser's recent throat trouble.

St. Petersburg dispatches say that Russia is delaying war until the Czarina recovers from her attack of earache. What an acute sense of hearing she must have if she expects to be disturbed by the guns on the Yellow sea!

William Winter says that in New York there are more than forty theaters in which people are merely sawing wood. That is not so bad, provided they are following out the rest of the proverb and saying nothing.

A dispatch states that a woman in New York is getting great results in curing disease by hypnotism. It is not stated, however, whether her method consists in hypnotizing the sufferer or the microbes.

The author of the song, "Just Because She Made Dem Goo Goo Eyes," is now an inmate of a New York lunatic asylum. And yet some people insist that there is no such thing as providential retribution!

THE HUMORISTS.

Solomon's Poor Showing.

"Do you think Solomon was really the wisest man that ever lived?"

"Gracious, no. There is nothing in the Bible to show that he was even half as rich as Mr. Rockefeller."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Of Course, She Was Jealous.

Tess—George told me how much he paid for my ring. How much do you think it was?

Jess—I don't know, but it doesn't look to be worth it.

Tess—Worth what?

Jess—What he told you he paid for it.—Philadelphia Press.

What a Blow.

Miss Antique—I can trace my descent for the last hundred years.

Miss Custique—So long as that! You surprise me. You don't look a day over sixty.—St. Paul Pioneer Press.

Brutal Inference.

"Is there any way to make a woman stop talking?" asked the newly married man.

"Yes," answered the home grown sage, "but somehow a man hates to hit a woman with an ax."—Pittsburg Dispatch.

Singular.

"Uncle," said the high-school young man, "is 'politics' singular or plural?"

"Sonny," was the reply, "in de paht of de country whah I come fu'm dey's sing'lar, mighty sing'lar."—Washington Star.

Wisely Chosen.

Mr. Short—Can I believe it—you will really marry me?

Miss Tall—Yes, I always make my own dresses, and, as we are both the same height, you will come real handy when I am cutting and fitting. —New York Weekly.

References Required.

The Customer—Here, waiter! Take my order, please.

The Waiter—'Scuse me, sah! But Ah must just inquiah if yoh reco'nised de Grand Confederated Union ob Colored Gentlemen Help? —Brooklyn Life.

STORIES THAT ARE TOLD.

Real Estate and Medicine.

A good story is told on Representative Hearst, of New York, who took a spin around to several States before settling down to his congressional duties and fanning off the presidential bees which buzz around his bonnet. One of his colleagues says that while young Mr. Hearst was sidetracked in Atlanta, Ga., he was confined to his room a short time with a slight ailment, and Editor Howell and some of the other Georgia and Atlanta President makers determined that a physician was necessary. A hurry-up messenger was sent out, and soon landed a dispenser of pills and potions, who was far more interested in booming Atlanta real estate than in his profession. However, the real-estate physician answered the call and, with satchel in hand, hurried to the hotel and was ushered into the suite of rooms occupied by Mr. Hearst, who had simply a case of "I-am-awfully-weary." The physician felt his pulse, diagnosed the case and prescribed a few pills, and was about ready to depart when Mr. Hearst's attendant asked how the pellets should be taken, as no directions had been given.

"Yes, yes," said the doctor, whose mind was taken up with sale of city lots and real-estate booms, "one-third down, and the balance in six and twelve months, with interest."—Washington Times.

A Good Sign.

There are signs, though, that never fail, as everybody knows. The seal-brown gentleman who tends my fire has one which makes betting on the next election unsportsmanlike and removes it to the sure-thing class. He put in a solid hour last Monday working over the grate. The fire refused to burn.

"I was jes' a-trying a 'sper'ment," he said, at length. "I knowed it wouldn't work. I named this yere fire wrong. I started it with this New York paper an' I named it after the gentleman that writes the paper. You kin see he certainly is a loser. This time I names your fire right."

He patiently arranged kindling and coals again and set a match to the paper beneath.

"Now," he said, as he put the blower on, "you git down to work, Mr. Roosevelt, an' burn."

And "Mr. Roosevelt" burned all morning without further aid.—Washington Post.

With "Damnable Iteration."

When the present second assistant secretary of state, Alvey A. Adee, was third assistant the writer was an employe of the State Department. Answering a ring on the telephone, the following colloquy ensued:

"Adee."

"A. D. what?"

"Spell it, please."

"A."

"Yes."

"A."

"Yes."

"A.——"

But here the receiver was indignantly hung up.—Saturday Evening Post.

Even the Angels Would Run.

"Down in Thomas county, in my State," said Representative Griggs, of Georgia, "there lived an old lady—a motherly old soul—who believed that she was inspired to write hymns and psalms. She wrote and wrote, and every week the editor of the county weekly was forced to make some excuse for not printing her effusions. He did manage to use a little of it in 'poetry' for funeral notices and the like. The good old woman, finding that she could not get any one else to hear her inspired words, forced the negro house girl to sit all Sunday afternoon and listen to her read them. This was in slavery days, and the girl got so tired of her Sunday punishment that she ran away. When she was caught and brought back the girl said that she didn't want to run away, but could not stand to hear old mist'ess read her poetry. 'She made me sit nearly all day Sunday an' listen to her,' said the girl, 'an' the hymns and psalms she had been writin' all de week was 'nuff ter make de blessed angels run er way from home.'" —Denver Times.

Decent People Wouldn't Come.

Senator Clapp, of Minnesota, is a great campaigner and is constantly called upon to make speeches in his State. Last fall he was asked to go to a town called Erin Corners, which is not far from his home town, and make a political address. Erin Corners is a Democratic hamlet, with no Republicans living within its limits. Clapp is a Republican.

He got to the village and found the town hall packed with Democrats. He tried to talk and they howled him down. He tried again and was howled down again. He tried half a dozen times and each time was compelled to stop because of the noise and disturbances in the hall.

He was just about to quit when an old man who had worked as hired man on the farm of Senator Clapp's father came up to the platform and said: "Don't mind them, Mose. They're a lot of loafers and rowdies. None of the decent people would come."—New York World.

INDIANA EDITORIAL NOTES.

The Bedford investigations are as full of theories as Sherlock Holmes, but there the resemblance ends.—Terre Haute Tribune.

There is no special reason why Hearst demonstrations should not continue to be pulled off in Indiana so long as Mr. Hearst continues to have the price.—Logansport Journal.

Congressman Landis couldn't stand it any longer to keep off the band wagon. The band wagon is the most popular vehicle in America to-day, or any other day—Anderson Herald.

Russia and Japan might at least be polite enough to ask Korea whether she would prefer a wreath of immortelles and smilax or just a simple and chaste knot of crape.—Kokomo Tribune.

A detective in Illinois hung himself because he could not unravel a crime. If the detectives on the Bedford case were to follow his example, Bedford would almost rival Chicago in its list of suicides.—Elkhart Review.

When it comes to getting out of political prominence precipitately there is probably not another man in the United States who can locate the exit more accurately than Tom L. Johnson, who recently also ran for Governor of Ohio.—Lafayette Courier.

Bedford people are doubtless getting weary of the murder theories that have been developed and exhausted by all classes of people since Miss Schafer was murdered. What they want is the murderer and not so many theories.—Seymour Republican.

Germany admits that the United States has gained a great diplomatic victory in Manchuria. Many of that kind of compliments will be taken as an evidence that Germany is pulling for the Roosevelt administration, and it might prejudice the Russian vote against the President when he comes up for re-election.—Lafayette Journal.

The colored race cuts somewhat of a figure in the United States outside of the servant, the stevedore and the jockey classes. There are 30,000 capable colored school teachers employed in this country, 300 practicing colored lawyers, and 800 reliable colored physicians in the Nation. There are very many colored preachers, some of them eloquent speakers and highly educated divines.—South Bend Tribune.

The metropolitan papers of four States have special correspondents and artists in Bedford to unravel the mystery of the Schafer murder. They are not doing much at unraveling, but they are spinning an endless yarn about the case. The murderers are all taken into the confidence of the officials and the dectectives, along with the rest of the public. It is the American way of paying homage to mystery.—Fort Wayne News.

"Eventually we shall win—when we deserve to win," said Samuel Alschuler in an address to the Chicago Democratic Club. This is well said. Victory will come when the party proves itself worthy of being crowned with victory. Fitness to be intrusted with the management of the greatest governmental machinery in the world is to be established by placing in control of the party machinery men of known probity of character, of practical sense and judgment, of unquestionable capability and integrity, and of genuine devotion to the public welfare. And this must be general—not merely in spots.—South Bend Times.

An Anecdote of Thomas B. Reed.

There seemed to be no character of court proceedings into which ex-Speaker Reed could not infuse some humor. The writer once watched him through a session of a trial whose testimony was as entertaining as a table of steel-rail production to a pieman, yet Mr. Reed often found opportunity for a play of his temperamentally prompted wit. It was during Mr. Reed's career as a New York lawyer, when he returned after so many years to the practice of his profession. The witness, Mr. Reed's client, was being cross-examined as to some tedious details relating to a $14,000,000 pool, out of whose operations arose the cause at trial. The witness had been one of the largest contributors to the pool, and his desirability as a client can be further inferred from the fact that his financial affairs were of a magnitude to warrant his testifying his inability to say, without reference to his books, how much "within a million or two," he had contributed to the pool.

Mr. Reed had objected to one of the cross-examiner's questions as "being possibly a little too leading, your Honor."

"But," said the opposing counsel in excuse, "the witness is 'unfriendly.'"

Mr. Reed turned slowly to the speaker with a puzzled look, and then drawled, in a tone of mild surprise; "Do you find him unfriendly? Why, I have found him most friendly."

The numerous and distinguished counsel on both sides had sudden occasion to hide their faces behind documents, and it was a minute or so before the judge, the folds of whose silk gown were curiously agitated in the meantime, said, "Counsel are delaying the proceedings; we will continue."

Mr. Reed alone appeared not to be in the joke.—Edward W. Townsend, in Harper's Weekly.

Testimony of Experts.

"As a rule I don't place much confidence in the testimony of paid experts," said a Philadelphia lawyer of wide experience, in discussing the Bechtel case. "I have a particular aversion to medical experts. The men who constitute the average jury pooh-pooh such testimony. They don't understand it, and don't want to. They are simply confused, and they don't pretend to consider it. The only case I remember in which expert testimony has cut any figure in recent years was in a divorce suit. I was counsel for the defendant. A witness, a servant girl, had testified to having seen certain actions through a keyhole. I called as a witness a well-known professor of mathematics, who swore on the stand that under the circumstances it would be impossible to see through the keyhole what the witness had sworn to. He proved this mathematically, or rather geometrically, and as the jury trying the case happened to have on it a couple of men who were cranks on the subject, my client won the case. But the testimony of experts, as a rule, isn't worth the price."—Philadelphia Record.

"Elevating the Stage."

With Maxine Elliott entertained by Mrs. Roosevelt at the White House and Ethel Barrymore among the elect invited to Mrs. Astor's ball, no one will deny the rapprochement between society and the stage.

"Isn't is refreshing and encouraging!" cried a member of the Professional Women's League to the dozen of American censors of things theatrical, "actors and actresses will soon be all the rage in drawing rooms. Will it not elevate the stage?"

"I think myself," Mr. Winter is reported to have answered, "that it is somewhat more likely to do so than pounding the daylight out of a dramatic critic."—New York Mail and Express.

Students Sell Themselves.

A new custom has arisen among needy college students on the Russian Caucasus. According to a Baku newspaper, they sell themselves in the matrimonial market. Local tradesmen, proud of receiving a scholar into the family, compete for the honor of having a student son-in-law. The bids average $1,500. With this money the prospective bridegroom is able to complete his studies and obtain a government appointment.—Detroit Tribune.

THE DRIFT OF POLITICS

Members of the Republican State committee in a number of the districts have notified Chairman Goodrich of the selection of men for appointments as members of the State advisory committee. The selections made to date are:

First District—David Kronenberger, Evansville.
Second—Oscar F. Shryer, Bloomfield.
Third—Newland T. De Pauw, New Albany.
Fourth—Lucien Cravens, Madison.
Sixth—Owen L. Carr, Rushville.
Ninth—John L. Wingate, Wingate.
Eleventh—Albert C. Bearss, Peru.
Thirteenth—James H. State, Elkhart.

With the exception of Mr. Carr, of the Sixth, and Mr. Wingate, of the Ninth, all the members of the advisory committee so far named are new men, who have not hitherto been identified with the State organization. Secretary Sims is now in correspondence with the committeemen from the Fifth, Seventh, Eighth, Tenth and Twelfth districts to secure their recommendations and it is expected that the entire advisory committee will be made up within a few days.

The new State executive committee will, in all probability, not be named until the next meeting of the State committee, which will be held some time the latter part of this month. The State chairman selects the members of the executive committee as his cabinet. Mr. Goodrich has not, as yet, indicated his intentions in this respect. The members of the old executive committee are: Warren Bigler, of Wabash; Henry C. Starr, of Richmond; Walter M. Schmitt, of Evansville; Elmer E. Crockett, of South Bend, and Sidney W. Cantwell, of Hartford City.

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Secretary Sims, of the state committee, called attention yesterday to the fact that the law extending the terms of county and judicial officers, which has been declared unconstitutional by Addison C. Harris, does not affect county assessors, and that the county organizations will act accordingly.

"The county assessor's is a statutory office," said Mr. Sims, "and the law in question applies only to constitutional offices. The terms of county assessors were extended by the last Legislature, but by another act, the constitutionality of which is not questioned. Letters will be sent out to the county chairmen calling their attention to this fact, lest they be led into error by the question raised as to the validity of the law extending the terms of other county officers."

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Democratic State Chairman W. H. O'Brien, of Lawrenceburg, who was in the city yesterday, is inclined to doubt whether the constitutionality of the county officers' act can be successfully attacked.

"A few years ago the Legislature extended the terms of township trustees," said Mr. O'Brien, "and the Supreme Court has passed on the constitutionality of that act, holding it to be valid."

When the attention of Republican State Chairman Goodrich was called to the point raised by Mr. O'Brien he said that he believed Mr. O'Brien had been led into error by failing to consider that the office of township trustee is a statutory office, which is absolutely within the jurisdiction of the Legislature.

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Chairman Goodrich left last night for Chicago, where he went to look after some arrangements for Indiana's representation at the national convention in June.

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The plan to be followed by Randolph county Republicans in dealing with the situation arising out of the question as to the validity of the act extending the terms of county officers is that candidates will be nominated as usual this spring, and then, if the Supreme Court should hold the law constitutional, the candidates will be certified on the ticket two or four years hence, as the case may be. Thus, the candidates who are successful in the primary this year will not be subjected to the necessity and uncertainty of making another fight for nominations, but will receive the reward earned this year. The primaries in the county will be held March 1, the same date as the Eighth district congressional primary.

A friendly suit to get the question into the courts will be instituted as soon as possible in Randolph county, and it is expected that a decision by the Supreme Court will be secured within sixty days.

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Major W. W. Ross, editor of the Evansville Journal-News, was in the city yesterday to attend a meeting of the board of trustees of the institution for the deaf.

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Active Republican workers, to the number of eighty-four, representing every ward in the city, met last night at the jail to further the organization in the interest of Sheriff Robert Metzger, who is a candidate for the Republican county chairmanship. Speeches were made by several of the leaders and an hour was devoted to an informal discussion of the primary campaign. The affair was rounded out with a lunch.

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County Attorney David L. Bishop, of Anderson, was in the city yesterday seeking information concerning the law passed by the last Legislature governing the publication of county legal notices. He called at Republican state headquarters while in the city.

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Republican state headquarters, by the way, was in a state of siege by telephone yesterday. The publication in yesterday's Journal of Mr. Harris's opinion on the county officers' law attracted widespread attention and from all quarters of the State inquiries were poured into headquarters from county officials, prospective candidates and persons identified with county organizations.

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Will H. Whittaker, superintendent of the Indiana Reformatory at Jeffersonville, was in the city yesterday to see Governor Durbin regarding a requisition for one of the paroled prisoners of the Reformatory who has violated his parole in Colorado. Mr. Whittaker was formerly secretary of the Republican State committee, and he called at headquarters to extend congratulations to his successor, Mr. Sims.

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Sherman Harding, of Elwood, was a visitor in the city yesterday, and called on a number of local party leaders.

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Among the thirty or forty Democratic editors gathered in the city for the meeting of their State association there was a notable absence of Bryan enthusiasm. A prominent member of the association expressed the opinoin that there are not over three Democratic editors in Indiana who are not heartily tired of Bryan and Bryanism and are anxious to turn to other leaders and other issues, if isms are essential to Democracy. Whatever the attitude of the masses of Indiana Democrats toward the prophet from the Platte region, it is apparent that if they read their party organs they will read no praises of the presidential candidate of 1896 and 1900.

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William L. Penfield, of Auburn, who recently announced his candidacy for the gubernatorial nomination, is now on his native heath in the Twelfth district, and is lining up his forces at home, preparatory to entering upon an aggressive campaign for the nomination.

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L. G. Rothschild, of this city, one of the deputies in the office of the attorney general, has unearthed an interesting political relic, in the form of a letterhead of the "Harrison Hustlers," an organization of young Republicans formed in Connersville in the campaign of 1888. Mr. Rothschild was the vice president of the "Hustlers" and his souvenir is taken by his friends as a good explanation of his political activity since he located in Indianapolis—he began "hustling" early.

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Henry A. Barnhart, of Rochester, one of the well known Democratic editors—and, it may be noted, entitled to recognition as a trust magnate, inasmuch as he is at the head of the recent combination of independent telephone companies—was at the Grand yesterday. Though a Democrat Mr. Barnhart occasionally finds something good to say of a Republican, and he is saying several complimentary things concerning his friend, Rome C. Stephenson, of Rochester.

"Mr. Stephenson," he said, "will be a candidate for the Republican nomination for joint senator from Fulton and Wabash counties, and he ought to get the nomination, which is equivalent to the election. He is the kind of a man who would be a credit to the district, even though a Republican, and since it is practically assured that a Republican will be elected from our district, I hope to see Mr. Stephenson win."

Mr. Barnhart says that the activity in the joint senatorial race is the only thing of a political nature that is attracting much attention in Fulton county at present.

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Democratic State Chairman O'Brien announced yesterday that the Democrats had filed a third suit contesting the constitutionality of the apportionment act of 1903. This suit was filed in Ripley county. When asked the object of bringing further suits when the two Circuit judges had already decided in favor of the Democratic contention and the cases were now en route to the Supreme Court, he explained by saying that in Ripley county the apportionment could be attacked on slightly different grounds, and the Democrats purposed to overlook no chance for knocking out the act.

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Henry Sherman, of Westport, who represented Decatur county in the House during the last session of the Legislature, was here yesterday to attend the Farmers' Congress. He is a candidate for renomination as representative and says, of course, that he expects to win.

"I have been patting myself on my back all week," he said, in speaking of the recent decisions that the apportionment act is invalid, "because I was one of the few Republican members of the Legislature who voted against that bill. I will not say that I opposed the bill because I believed it was clearly unconstitutional, but I was against it because I believed it was unjust to several districts in the State."

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J. W. Barlow, of Shelbyville, former superintendent of the Shelby county schools, who was at the Statehouse yesterday, says that the Democratic judicial fight in his county is waxing warmer every day.

"The Democrats are now so divided between the Ray and Morris factions that they can never get together, no matter which side wins in the primary," he said. "Of course the Republicans are well satisfied with that situation, and I think it is a foregone conclusion that a Republican judge and prosecutor for the circuit will be elected."

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V. K. Officer, of Madison, one of the deputy revenue collectors for the Lawrenceburg district, was at the English last night.

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Some little agitation has been started for a special session of the Legislature to pass a new apportionment act in event the Supreme Court sustains the decisions of Judges Artman and Downey that the act of 1903 is unconstitutional, but Governor Durbin announced yesterday that no special session will be called. The Governor stated that at no time had he any thought of convening the General Assembly in special session. The apportionment of 1897 is a fair one, in his opinion, and it will stand until the next regular session of the Legislature, if the act of 1903 is knocked out.

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A special to the Journal from Muncie says:

"In an interview Walter L. Ball, for eight years senator from Delaware county in the State Legislature, announces that he would not be a candidate for any political office at the coming election. He said that he would not be a candidate for the office of mayor of Muncie, and that he had no political aspirations at present. He said that a person that had held political office as long as he had should retire in favor of some one else. Senator Ball has been strongly talked of as a candidate for mayor of Muncie. When asked if he would be a Republican candidate for the nomination for lieutenant governor he said that he had not considered the matter at all.

"Dr. W. J. Baird, of Albany, at present the representative from this county in the State Legislature, has announced his withdrawal from the race for the Republican nomination. This leaves three other candidates—Oliver Carmichael, present representative and colleague of Mr. Baird, C. A. McGonagle, a Muncie attorney, and Lewis G. Cowing, a well-known farmer. Delaware county has two representatives in the Legislature."

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"Hamilton county is now enjoying her biennial contest for nominations for county offices," says a Noblesville dispatch. "The county primary will be held Tuesday, Feb. 16. The contest is not as spirited as usual as there is not so much at stake and not so many candidates.. Township conventions are now being held over the county for the selection of delegates to the various con