

"Pine Knob" is the name by which Mrs. Roosevelt's Virginia farm, formerly known as "Pine Dealings," has been rechristened. It is a much more euphonious name, and is truly descriptive of the place. It is to be left to nature to beautify, and is simply meant for a place to get away from people. Only the family will ever be entertained at Pine Knob, in all probability. The President would not have even his family physician with him except for a day, and then evidently he is ready for emergencies, for he did not send for Surgeon-General Rixey until the day of his big wild turkey hunt. Then the Surgeon-General appeared on the scene, but his services were not needed, fortunately. He is splendid company, however, and the President likes him for that. Miss Alice Roosevelt has never been at Pine Knob. The Secret Service man and the stenographer were sent back to Charlottesville to loaf around that quaint old town until the President got ready to return to Washington.

Solicitor Penfield, of the State Department, has resigned, and it is said that the appointment of David C. Thompson, of Nebraska, to be Ambassador to Mexico has something to do with this sudden retirement of Judge Penfield. The resignation was made in Brazil, and a whole lot of shady things happened down there in which an attempt was made to mix Mr. Thompson's name. Judge Penfield, Solicitor for the Department, was sent down to investigate the reports. Solicitor Penfield is said to have made a report that would make good, racy reading, but which would offend Mr. Thompson at all, and that the Department of State didn't like it. However, it was thought that Minister Thompson needed a change of climate, so he got home for a time. He has been right through Washington, halting here for a day or two, but a visit to the White House was not scheduled. In a very short time it was announced that he had been appointed Ambassador to Mexico.

On the heels of this appointment comes the retirement of Judge Penfield, who simply "quits," giving no reason. It is said, however, that Judge Penfield was asked to resign by the Department to make a less sweeping report of the Brazilian imbroglio, and that he flatly refused to do so. In the face of this, the Department has appointed Judge Penfield on a report made by Thompson and his connection with the whole business. The President made the appointment. The Senate has not acted upon the appointment. It is stated that before it does act the Penfield report will be called for, and also all information concerning the charges against Thompson.

The members of Local Union No. 3, United Mine Workers of America, of Pittsburgh, have decided to give Miss Alice Roosevelt as a wedding gift a carload of the best coal that can be found in the anthracite region. This has been done in appreciation of her father's services in ending the great strike of 1902.

In brief here is what the Agricultural Department has been doing the past year:

Co-operative work with the Agricultural Experiment Stations of the several States and Territories has been extended. School-garden work has been encouraged in many ways, and 175,000 packets of seeds have been supplied to the work. The work has included the conducting of demonstration and diversification farms, and breeding to secure early and weevil-resistant types.

Single germ beet-sugar seed will soon be produced in quantities sufficient for field demonstrations. New varieties of corn, and new varieties of apples, and new races of corn and cotton have been developed in the laboratory of plant breeding. Valuable strains of tobacco have been obtained by hybridization. It has been shown that heavy seed produces better plants than light seed.

The growing of winter wheat has been extended into the southern portions of North Dakota and Minnesota, and new cereals adapted to the Southern States have been developed. A new date garden has been established at Yuma, Ariz., which is devoted especially to the cultivation of varieties from the Persian Gulf. The planting of grasses and binders has produced important results. The effort to cross lettuce gives promise of securing varieties over those now in use.

At the seed laboratory 9,264 germination tests and 1,415 tests for mechanical purity have been made. Of 740 samples of grain tested in the open market, 239 were found either to be adulterated or misbranded. The foreign explorations have resulted in the securing of many valuable varieties of wheat, and in the introduction of date gardens in Arizona and California, and also many important dry-land fodder plants.

The results achieved in combating diseases of orchard fruits have been especially gratifying. The cause of the blue stain of conifers and certain hard woods, which results in the loss of \$5,000,000 or \$6,000,000 a year, has been determined, and a simple method of stopping the growth of the fungus producing the stain has been discovered. Remedies for the disease of orange trees known as dis-bark have been invented, and the proportion affected in 1905, which was 40 per cent, has been reduced to less than one-tenth of one per cent. Disease-resistant grapevines are being developed and propagated.

In the Congressional seed distribution nearly 35,000,000 packets and packages of seeds and more than 230,000 grapevines, plants, and bulbs have been sent out. Speaker Cannon has a novel way of helping Lanyon and his friends out. Some bill of minor importance was up the other day for final passage. The Republicans voted for it in a murmur, and the Democrats against it in good, round tones. The Speaker's eyes twinkled, as he announced, "The boys seem to make the most noise, but the years have it and the bill is passed."

Reed Smoot, in a speech at the annual banquet of the Salt Lake Convention, Club of the 29th inst., defied the movement to deprive him of his seat in the United States Senate. "I have heard somewhere," said Mr. Smoot, "I believe in the public mind, an organization called the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, that I do myself. They have been looking for something to find personal against me, and I am going to give them something to-night. I hope to live and to bring back of the canteen."

Senator Smoot was preceded by Capt. F. D. Ely, of the 29th inst., stationed in Salt Lake, who advocated the re-establishment of the canteen. And so Joe Blackman loses, in spite of his attempt to show that the Post Office Department was in league to defeat him. The old days are indeed over. "In my old Kentucky home, I-a-a-w-a-y," Judge Thomas H. Paynter

was nominated by the Democrats in the Kentucky Legislature to succeed Blackburn, with six votes to spare. Senator Blackburn, who stood game, accepted his defeat like a soldier, and in a speech before the Legislature on the first ballot, which settled one of the most fiercely contested Senatorial elections in the history of Kentucky, pledged his loyal support to Senator-elect Paynter. Senator Blackburn has represented Kentucky in the House or Senate for nearly 25 years, with a brief intermission in defeat in 1870, and it means the beginning of new things down there in the Democratic Party. This is the first time that the Democrats have ever turned Blackburn down. It may not be generally known, but Blackburn has generally chosen to wear a gray business suit in the Senate Chamber, a real Confederate gray. His is the only Senator from the South who will do this in all probability.

Postmaster-General Cortelyou made public the following statement on Tuesday, regarding the claim made by Senator Blackburn of Kentucky, that some of his private mail was tampered with: "Referring to the investigation made by the Post Office Department to ascertain the facts in the case of the handling of mail at Frankfort, Ky., the report of the Post Office Inspector has been received. It shows that the misplacement of the mail was the carelessness of clerks in the Frankfort Post Office. No evidence that the mail was tampered with designedly in the Frankfort Post Office or elsewhere was found."

The extent of Government encouragement in the building of country roads is shown in a report just issued by the Office of Public Roads of the Department of Agriculture. In the last year 21 roads were built by the Government, and the total mileage of roads in the country is the purpose of the Department to build the best roads possible out of the most available material. In this, sand, stone, shale, burnt clay, sand-clay, shell, gravel, and marl were used.

A comparative statement of cost is given, which shows that macadam roads have a maximum cost of 98 cents, and an average cost of 55 cents per square yard; sand and clay roads cost 9 1/2 cents, burnt clay, 20 cents, and shell, 25 cents per square yard. Of the object lesson roads built, three were in Ohio, one in Illinois, three in Missouri, one in Kansas, two in Washington, one in Texas, one in Louisiana, and seven in Florida.

In the Mississippi delta the lack of suitable building material has attracted much attention. It is believed that it is to be solved by the burnt clay or "gumbo" process, which is described in detail in the different sections of the report. A road was constructed at Clarkesdale, Miss., with such success that the county board has appropriated \$25,000 to continue the work.

To build up the Engineering Corps of the Department, the plan has been adopted to employ each year a number of graduates of engineering schools, at \$50 per month and field expenses for one year, after which they may be promoted. Complete statistics as to the cost of road in each County in the country are being prepared and will be available during the year.

There are 38 bound volumes, comprising a thousand petitions in the Reed Smoot case which will be filed with the Secretary of the Senate as soon as the committee submits its report. The petitions are being collected in New York. The names of more than 1,000,000 women have been affixed, pleading with the Senate to take a stand in the name of the Republic. Before the report is submitted to the Senate the committee will endeavor to obtain the exact language of the test given by the subject, and the character of the oath which she subscribed while a boy. Several witnesses have sworn to having taken this oath, but the exact wording is not known. The committee has taken Smoot himself, when on the stand, and refused to repeat the oath as he remembered it. The first oath taken, according to one witness, imposes an obligation on the subject to be true and honest, to deter one from gossiping among his neighbors about it. As near as the witness can remember, the oath was administered in the following words: "You, and each of you, do solemnly promise and vow that you will not reveal this first token of the Aaronic priesthood, and that you will not reveal the name, sign, and penalty. Should you do so I agree that my throat be cut from ear to ear and my tongue cut out by the sword of the Lord."

There are several other vows, including the vow of vengeance, which is in this language: "That you, and each of you, do promise and vow that you will not reveal to any person, and will not attempt to reveal to any person, the names of the inhabitants of the earth." The last witness to take the oath was a young man, who swore that he took this obligation: "And we ask Thee, God, the Eternal Father, to avenge the blood of Joseph Smith, and to avenge the blood of the innocent." It has been brought out in the testimony that the test oaths have never been changed, and for this reason it is desirable that the exact words employed be known, so that the Senate may understand the obligations Senator Smoot assumed.

Here is a fit-for-all proposition from Representative Grosvenor, of Ohio: He believes that if the railroads can save \$10,000,000 a year by withdrawing all the passenger lines, they will be \$10,000,000 better off. The Government has 600,000 miles of railroads, and he proposes to let the States take over the profitable lines in a legitimate and practicable effort to bring this about, whether it be in connection with railroad rates, State aid, or other matters, or whatever or whoever may burden the consumer or producer, under or unjustly, for extortionate gain.

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The ordinary legislator, and his name is legion, has a legal panacea for every ill. If he had as much honesty as assurance, the title of his bills would be: "An act to make men do business on earth as if it were in heaven, a commendation devoutly to be observed, let us not forget the effect of the Pope's bull against a comet and the beating of tom-toms by the aborigines on an eclipse."

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Senator Gallinger of New Hampshire, and his wife, had a very narrow escape from death the other night. They were on their way to the home of Dr. E. Johnson. It was a misty, rainy night, and as they alighted from the front end of the car, which had been carried by a horse, the horse stepped on the top of the car, and the Senator's wife, and from beneath it saw his wife,

who seemed bewildered, almost under the advancing car. He struck forward to reach her, but only succeeded in reaching her, and only to find that she herself was thrown some 12 feet away by the impact of the car. Both were cut. Mrs. Gallinger about the head, so that she had several stitches taken, but they picked themselves up and went to the dinner party, where Dr. Johnson sewed up their wounds and from his boot took the Senator's hat. It is not little matter, however, that Mr. Gallinger is largely responsible for having feathers placed on the Washington street cars. He fought for them manfully upon the streets, and the United States Senate a few years ago, and now he thanks his lucky star that he did so, for had it not been for his hat, he would have been ground to powder under the ponderous wheels of one of our largest electric cars.

They're after him, so they say—Mr. President of the Canal Commission Shonts. President Shonts is connected in a peculiar way with the Overland Road Company, and it is said to give up his holdings, and so has been very severely criticized. This has cut him deeply, for he is the kind of man whose motto is "I will do it, and I will do it, and I will do it." He certainly expects to take into the New York office exactly the same tactics, for he has about the same power to order. Whether he has the same power to enforce looks to be another proposition. "I intend to jump into the job and do my level best," he said. "I intend to try to get the directors of the nettle and keep it. I suppose there are plenty of knucklers, but I don't care. I am absolutely independent, and will try to do good work for the government, and that is what I am going to try to give."

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Mr. Bonaparte received in an exquisite costume of black lace over rose satin. The skirt was trimmed with flounces of lace that once belonged to Mrs. Patterson. The character of the lace was formed of lace sent to Mr. Charles J. Bonaparte's mother by King Jerome. She wore the handsome diamond and pearl ornaments which were the property of King Jerome to Mme. Patterson-Bonaparte.

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Here is what Representative Bowersock, of Kansas, thinks about several things: "I have long criticized and seriously objected to the making of so many laws, and I have long contended that men are not to be made by laws, but by the habits of the people. The last witness to take the oath was a young man, who swore that he took this obligation: 'And we ask Thee, God, the Eternal Father, to avenge the blood of Joseph Smith, and to avenge the blood of the innocent.' It has been brought out in the testimony that the test oaths have never been changed, and for this reason it is desirable that the exact words employed be known, so that the Senate may understand the obligations Senator Smoot assumed."

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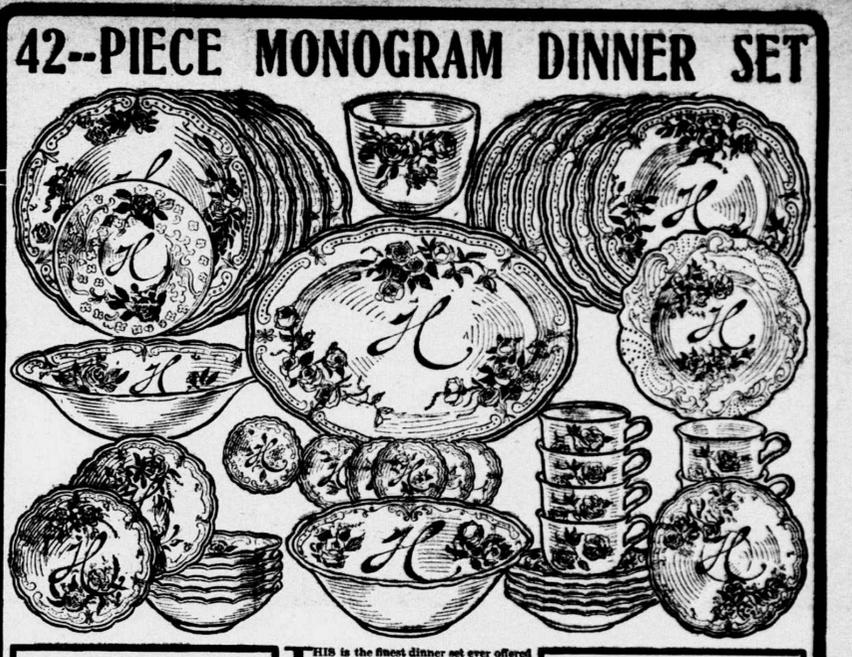
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When she began to talk in a loud tone, Secretary Barnes told her he would be obliged to turn her out of the Executive Office. She replied that it was a public office, and that she guessed she could stay. So saying, she sank into a chair, whereon Secretary Barnes summoned a couple of White House police, and each of them took an arm and began to hustle Mrs. Morris out. She was escorted to the east entrance, where she was hustled into a "hurry-up wagon" and taken to Police Headquarters, where she was locked up till bail was furnished.

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on railroad passes, most of the mileage has been pure "swivel." But the fondness of the members, for this "pick-up" was illustrated last year, when the House voted itself double mileage on account of the extra session, although there was no interval between the extra and the regular session. In response to a vigorous outcry in the newspapers, the Senate reluctantly declined to concur in the action of the House, and the mileage grab was closed.

Miss Alice Roosevelt and Mr. Nicholas Longworth will be married Saturday, Feb. 17. The ceremony will take place in the East Room of the White House, and Light Rev. Henry V. Satterlee, Bishop of Washington, will perform the marriage ceremony. It is said that there will be only relatives and friends present at the notable wedding, and that official society will cut no ice at all, which is all right. There will be few bridesmaids, if any. Miss Roosevelt has no very warm personal friends, and it is said that she rather prefers not to have any wedding. You can just rest assured that there will be no trills or furbelows about this wedding.

At a meeting of the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce it developed that the members are as far apart as to the character of the bill relating to the rate-regulation question that finally be reported as they have been from the inception of their deliberations on the subject. Without taking up any specific proposition, the committee devoted two hours to a discussion of the general topic. It was practically determined that every bill that is presented will be considered with great care in turn. This work will, of course, involve many weeks of slow deliberation. Thus it appears not unlikely that the committee will not be prepared to report any bill until possibly the House has disposed of the question.

It never rains but it pours! Here all the Eastern trunk lines are cutting off the passes of members of Congress, and keeping those gentlemen in Washington when they'd much rather be traveling at corporation expense, and then along comes a kid member from Texas with a bill to add to the expense of being a member of Congress.

It provides for a reduction from 20 cents to 6 cents in the mileage paid to Senators and Representatives. The sum annually appropriated on this account is \$10,000, an average of about \$400 for each man. The mileage is supposed to represent the traveling expenses of the lawmakers, and it is necessary to attend sessions of Congress. The price of railroads, when traveling was done by stage coaches, and frequent talk of night had to be made at taverns. In recent years, when nearly all the members of Congress have been riding

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