LONDON WHIFFS

A PRODUCTION OF A PROGRESSIVE CIGAR FACTORY

How London Whiffs are made equal in quality to a 10c or 15c cigar and cost only 2½c . . . .

Fancy, stylish-shaped 10c or 15c cigars cost from 12 to 15 dollars per thousand more to make than

London Whiffs

A fancy, so-called, tasteless Sumatra wrapper is used on the higher grade cigars—not for good taste—but for good looks—

London Whiffs

Is not made good looking, but has the sweetest Connecticut wrapper obtainable, which gives a far superior taste to a cigar than any fancy Sumatra grown—thereby saving again $7.00 per thousand.

Now comes the fancy assorting of colors—fancy packing, fancy boxes—fancy labels—which is another expense from $8.00 to $10.00 per thousand, without adding one particle to the quality of the cigars.

London Whiffs

Are free from all these expenses, they are, of course, made plain—but what does the cultivated smoker care how fancy a cigar looks, after he is made aware that in the material lies all the secret in a good smoke.

London Whiffs

Are mild—very high in aroma, and, for a short smoke, the best substitute for a heavy Havana cigar. During office hours a

London Whiffs

will always take the place of a 10c or 15c cigar, without leaving the injurious effects of a heavy Havana cigar.

Just try them, $2.25 per 100.

Scudder-Gale Grocer Co.,
Peter Hauptmann Tobacco Co.,
Distributers, St. Louis.

Marcus Feder, Cleveland, O., Manufacturer.

THREE BOYS ARE ACCUSED OF BURGLARY.

Thought to Be Perpetrators of Recent Petty Crimes in the West End.

NEGRO LAD REPUTED LEADER.

Charged With Theft of Jewelry From Residence of Margaret Campbell.

James Adams. Fred Smith. Eugene Jones.

Freddie Smith, James Adams and Eugene Jones, three lads ranging in age from 9 to 15 years, who are locked up at the Eighth District Police Station, are thought by the police to be as bad a lot of youngsters as has been rounded up in St. Louis for a long time. Captain Joyce is positive that he has in them the gang which has been committing the petty depredations in the neighborhood for the last year.

Freddie Smith, who seems to be the leader, is the youngest of the bunch. He is a negro, 9 years old, and as black as the proverbial ace of spades. His home is at No. 2941 Olive street, but it seems he has not passed all of his nights there. A dry goods box often afforded him a resting place for the night before he was arrested. He has been in custody numerous times. Six months ago he was convicted for breaking into a grocery store with a crowd of boys at Beaumont and Olive streets and sent to the House of Refuge, where he stayed three months. Captain Joyce will make an effort this time to send him to the Reform School at Booneville until he is 21 years old.

"Jimmie" Adams is 11 years old. His parents live at No. 308 North Beaumont street. Eugene Jones is 13 years old. He lives with his mother at No. 2822 Lucas avenue. He is of a very retiring disposition and seems to have had less to do with any mischief than the other two, who are not behind on slang and thieves' vernacular.

For more than a year numerous small thefts have been committed in the neighborhood of Jefferson avenue and Olive street, but the burglary with which the boys are now charged is the most daring of any of the jobs. It is charged that they broke into the house of Mrs. Margaret Campbell of No. 2941 Olive street on July 12 and stole a gold band ring, a solitaire diamond ring, and a purse containing $75. A warrant has been issued in the case charging them with grand larceny.

"Freddie" Smith was arrested by Policemen Morris and Walsh of the Eighth District after a chase Wednesday afternoon and he admitted he knew something of the burglary. He said that Jimmie Adams did the job, for he saw him come out of the cellar. Afterwards, he said, he saw him with two rings. Adams was arrested and he implicated Eugene Jones, who was taken in custody. Adams declares that the negro told him he broke into the house and stole the articles. When his mother was about to catch him he turned the rings over to Adams. Adams says he gave the gold ring to his mother and sold the diamond ring to Jones for 15 cents. Jones, in turn, gave the ring to his sister, Irene, a young woman, who was wearing it when the police called at the house.

It was discovered yesterday that the house of Mrs. Ida Collinson of No. 2942 Olive street was entered and ransacked, but nothing more than a razor was taken. Mrs. Collinson said she saw a negro boy run out the house, who looked very much like Smith, but she is not sure he is the boy.

It seems that the negro had higher ambitions, according to the other two, for he wanted them to go with him on a bank-robbing expedition.

"The 'coon' wanted us to 'chigger' for him while he robbed a bank in the same house where the rings were stolen," said Adams, "but we would not do it. He said he would 'divy'. He's always got money 'stashed' away, and I know he's a bad lad."

MANY MILLS MAY CLOSE.

Steel Magnates Seeking to Improve General Iron Trade.

Chicago, July 26.—A conference of leading steel and Bessemer pig-iron interests of the country was held to-day in the offices of the Federal Steel Company in this city in compliance with a call issued by President E. H. Gary of the Federal Steel Company, President Schwab of the Carnegie Steel Company and Joseph G. Butler, Jr., representing the Bessemer Furnace Association.

The object of this conference was to go over the trade situation for the purpose of determining, if possible, on some plan to improve it. The plan contemplated is to cut down production by closing every blast furnace controlled by the interests mentioned for one month.

The subject was discussed at length, in an effort to reach absolute unanimity of all interests necessary to the success of the plan.

At noon the conference, at which practically all the steel and iron interests of the country were represented, adjourned until 10 a. m. to-morrow. President Gary stated that nothing was decided upon. Important action was expected to-morrow.

The Post this afternoon says: "Big steel and iron mills throughout the country are not going to shut down, for they can't afford to—they have too many orders on hand," was the statement made by E. H. Gary, president of the Federal Steel Company, just previous to the meeting of the presidents of the large steel companies this afternoon.

"I have not heard of the proposition to close all the mills of the country for a month. If such a proposition has been made it never came from the manufacturers. I will say positively that none of the Federal Steel Company's mills, other than those which are already closed, will be shut down. As I say, the times are too prosperous and the mills cannot afford to close.

"We have met, just as the railroad presidents meet, to discuss rates, so that fair schedules for roads and patrons may be obtained."

DETERMINED TO BE A BRIDE.

Girl Took Parent's Household Goods While He Was Absent.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Kansas City, Mo., July 26.—Annabell Ford, who has been her father's housekeeper for several years, concluded that she would accept the proposal of marriage made her by Harry Campbell, who had been courting her for a long time. Her father opposed the match, but the young people decided to go it alone without the old gentleman's aid.

Being thrifty and knowing her husband had little of this world's goods, Annabell bethought of a scheme whereby they might embark on life's sea in good shape and at very little expense, so, while her parent was absent at work, she loaded up all the movable furniture about the house, and had it taken to the house where she and her husband were to reside.

Annabell loaded the goods in the wagon herself, thereby saving another dollar. When the father returned home after work he found the home, save for another child of 19, deserted, and all that was movable gone. He also noticed among the published list of marriage licenses that of Harry Campbell and Annabell Ford.

NO CHANGE NOW.

Abolishment of the Department of Texas Is Not Contemplated.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

San Antonio, Tex., July 26.—For some time past efforts have been made to re-establish the Department of the Gulf in order to provide a berth for Major General Otis, the idea being to cut off a large slice of the Department of the East, and include in the new military zone the Department of Texas.

The plan, however met with so much opposition from the friends of Major General John R. Brooke, commander of the Department of the East, that the scheme seems to have been finally laid to rest.

On this subject Congressman J. L. Slayden received the following telegram to-day from Adjutant General Corbin: "The abolishment of the Department of Texas is not contemplated, so far as I am informed."

ILLINOIS CENTRAL MAKES A SHOWING.

President Fish Reviews the Operations of the System for Ten Years.

COMPARED WITH OTHER LINES.

Outlays on Maintenance and Equipment Made at Favorable Times—General Railroad Notes.

President Stuyvesant Fish of the Illinois Central has just issued an interesting review of the operations of that system for a number of years. He presents statistics showing the progress made in late years, its financial condition and its standing as compared with lines doing business in the same territory.

The changes and improvements now being made are noticed and commented upon. He says that after the payment of operating expenses, rents, taxes and all incidental charges, there will remain available in round figures $5,400,000, or 9 per cent upon the present capital of $60,000,000. On September 1 a 3 per cent dividend will call for $1,800,000.

A summary showing the company's income and expenses for two periods, in averages, is as follows:

	Av. 30 yrs. ending June 30, '99.	Av. 10 yrs. ending June 30, '99.
Receipts from operation	[illegible]	[illegible]
Expenses of operation	[illegible]	[illegible]
Taxes	[illegible]	1,081,[illegible]
Net from operations	4,[illegible]	6,[illegible]
Other income	[illegible]	1,[illegible]
Total income	2,[illegible]	[illegible]
Fixed charges	2,[illegible]	4,[illegible]
Extra improvs. paid from income	[illegible]	298,740
Net for dividends	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dividends earned, per cent	2	2.31
Dividends paid, per cent	0.75	2

In comparing the work with other lines President Fish calls attention to the fact that many roads are now making liberal charges to operating expenses for maintenance of way and of equipment, while the Illinois Central has made outlays for these purposes currently during the last ten years, when both labor and materials were comparatively cheap.

The gross receipts of the Illinois Central for the years 1899 and 1898, as compared with those of other times, are shown in the following table:

	1899.	1898.	P. C. of
Illinois Central system	$ 19,[illegible]	$ 22,[illegible]	[illegible]
Chicago & Alton	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
C., B. & Quincy	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chi. & E. Illinois	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chi. & W. Mich.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
C., M. & St. Paul	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Chi. & Northwest	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
C., R. I. & P.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Louis. & Nash.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Mobile & Ohio	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
All R. R. in U. S.	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

TRAFFIC AGREEMENT.

To Be Entered Into by Santa Fe and the Iowa Central.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Topeka, Kas., July 26.—Traffic arrangements between the Santa Fe and Iowa Central roads, which will make the Santa Fe a factor in Iowa railroad business, will be effected within a few days. The negotiations have been pending for some time, and Santa Fe officials in this city state that the deal is practically certain.

Just what the details of the traffic arrangement will be is not yet known. However, it will mean that practically all of the business originating along the line of the Iowa road, destined for Chicago, the Gulf, or Pacific Coast, will be handled over the Santa Fe. Track connections are now maintained with the Iowa Central at Nemo on the Chicago division.

The Iowa Central is now being operated in connection with the Minneapolis and St. Louis road, and any arrangement entered into by the Santa Fe with the former line will apply indirectly to the latter. The Minneapolis and St. Louis road runs into Minneapolis and St. Paul.

SAN MARCOS EXTENSION.

Work on the Road to Commence Within Four Weeks.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

San Antonio, Tex., July 26.—Letters received here to-day from officials of the Missouri, Kansas and Texas Railway Company announce that the actual construction of the fifty miles of road from San Marcos to San Antonio will be commenced within four weeks. The M., K. & T. has four surveys into this city from San Marcos, and the announcement is now authoritatively made that construction on this extension will be begun immediately after the formal opening of the Shreveport Southern extension.

Vice President and General Manager Allen and Locating Engineer Finney are now in the State to attend the formal opening of the Shreveport Southern branch and the inauguration of the work on the San Antonio branch.

BURLINGTON DENIAL.

Officials Say They Will Not Build an Alaskan Line.

A dispatch was received from Denver, Colo., yesterday to the effect that the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad Company had filed articles of incorporation at Sterling, Colo., the previous day for the construction of several branch roads, including one in Alaska. The report is denied by the officials of the road in Chicago, who claim to be unable to understand where the story originated.

According to the Denver dispatch the contemplated road in Alaska is to run from the head of Valdez Bay along the Lowe River bottom and Dutch Valley and Keystone Canyon to Thompson Pass. Such a project would mean the first step toward building a road in Alaska, and the construction and operation of the enterprise would be of interest not alone to railroad men, but to the public in general.

Central of Georgia Earnings.

For the fiscal year which ended June 30 the Central of Georgia showed the largest gross earnings in its history. At a large meeting of the directors held in Savannah recently, it was shown that the company had earned 3½ to 4 per cent on the first incomes after charging off $200,000 more than the year before for the purchase of a new road and for permanent improvements. It is stated that Southern holders of the first income have recently come together in an agreement that unless the full 5 per cent interest is declared on the incomes in August the court will be asked to adjudicate the matter and give the bondholders representation on the Board of Directors as well as appoint an accountant to watch after their interests in the future.

An Unsettled Argument.

The optimistic calculator had obtained a permit to ride on the engine and was talking to the engineer. He was one of the fellows that think the wages are high enough, the times good enough and the work easy enough for all, says the Pittsburg Post. This was, of course, owing to the fact that he had never worked himself and he did not know what work was. The engineer had informed this philosopher that they received 3½ cents per mile, and as they were running 80 miles an hour then, he reminded the knight of the throttle that he was making about $2.80 per hour, or $28 per day, and that if he lived for forty years and was able to hold his job he would have earned by that time over $10,000. The engineer, who belonged to the union, spoke up and said that he had been running for twenty-two years at the same rate of wages, and was $154 in debt. While the optimist was scratching his head the engine jumped the track and all on board were killed, so the argument was not settled.

Bridge Arbitrary Dream.

A sensational article in an afternoon paper yesterday made announcement that the Terminal Association was about to build a palatial union freight depot along the line of the Poplar street tracks, in honor of the abolition of the bridge arbitrary. It might have added that parlor chairs and electric fans would be provided for consignees awaiting the arrival of their cars.

It was caused by an innocent, but misleading "sticker" used by the Hoosac Tunnel Fast Freight Line, which reads: "Mark and ship our freight, Hoosac Tunnel Line, to Union Freight Depot, St. Louis, Mo." Then crossslice at one end: "Through Missc. Car, New York to Union Station."

This would convey the inference that the merchandise was billed through from New York to St. Louis, but such is not the case. This freight line uses the West Shore and Wabash between New York and St. Louis, and when the article above referred to was shown to Assistant General Freight Agent P. W. Coyle of the Wabash, he glanced at it, and said:

"This is all a mistake, so far as the bridge arbitrary is concerned. The Wabash bills its freight from New York to East St. Louis, just as it has done for years, and there turns it over to the Terminal Association or transfer company, if it is destined for St. Louis. Any carload may come through without being opened, but that has no bearing on the bridge arbitrary. It must be paid as usual."

Statements of Earnings.

The following railways reporting gross earnings for the second week in July showed an increase as compared with the corresponding week last year:

Northern Pacific	$ 48,[illegible]
Increase previously reported, 44 roads	[illegible]
Total increase, 45 roads	[illegible]
Decrease previously reported, 15 roads	[illegible]
Net increase, 60 roads	$[illegible]

The following roads reporting for the third week in July showed increases:

Denver and Rio Grande	$[illegible]
Rio Grande Western	[illegible]
Wabash	[illegible]
Wheeling and Lake Erie	[illegible]
Total increase, four roads	$[illegible]
Increase previously reported, one road	1,[illegible]
Total increase, five roads	$[illegible]

The following showed a decrease:

Wisconsin Central	$[illegible]
Decrease previously reported, one road	[illegible]
Total decrease, two roads	$[illegible]
Net increase, seven roads	$[illegible]

B. & O. Protected Train.

The experiments of the Baltimore and Ohio Railway Company to test the atmospheric resistance in impeding the motion of a fast running train were in the main quite satisfactory. With an engine, tender and six cars, with all external projections and obstructions removed, the company's ordinary fifty-seven-ton engine with 78-inch driving wheels and 20x24-inch cylinders, ran from Baltimore to Washington, forty miles in thirty-seven minutes and thirty seconds. The five miles between Alexandria Junction and Trinidad were covered in two minutes and fifty-five seconds, or at a speed of 102 miles an hour, a distance of 20.1 miles, part up grade, was covered at an average speed of 78.6 miles an hour. The B. & O. people claim that this is the world's record of railway speed.

Texas Rate Problem.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Houston, Tex., July 26.—Local railway men are taking much interest in the report that a revision of Texas interstate rates is to be made. The Shreveport rate is a proposition that will not down, though railroad men are making every effort possible to solve the present difficulty.

The railroad men have little hope of practical assistance from the Railroad Commissioners of Texas, Arkansas or Louisiana, since each set of commissioners is inclined to do the best it can for its own State.

The New Shreveport Line.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Dallas, Tex., July 26.—J. W. Chatham, general passenger agent of the Sherman, Shreveport and Southern Railroad, and his chief clerk, F. M. Schoonover, were in Dallas to-day on business relating to the opening up of the new connecting line to Shreveport. It is announced that the first freight train will be run through to Shreveport next Saturday, and the first passenger train on Sunday.

Work on Frisco Extension.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Denison, Tex., July 26.—Large gangs of men with scrapers and teams have begun work on the Frisco extension from Red River south to the Washita, in the Territory. Bridge gangs and a pile-driver force crossed the river to the north to-day. The Frisco is putting on new men and teams every day.

Personal and Current Notes.

—S. T. McLaughlin, general freight agent of the Baltimore and Ohio Southwestern, was here yesterday.

—Assistant General Passenger Agents Taylor of the Wabash and Chesbrough of the Vandalia, who attended the meeting at Indianapolis to fix rates for "home visitors" from Illinois points to points in Indiana and Ohio, say that the rates given last year were reaffirmed.

—The Georgia, Southern and Florida has announced that the Thomasville Short Line, running from Tipton to Thomasville, is ready for business.

—A large and powerful express passenger engine has just been completed by the shops of the Pennsylvania at Altoona. It will be known as class E-2, and if its performance is satisfactory more will be built of the same type. The driving wheels are eighty inches in diameter, the cylinders 26x26 inches and the firebox is unusually long and wide.

—Eastern Illinois earnings for the second week in July increased $3,110 over the corresponding period of last year.

—The Chicago Great Western Railway Company's annual report for the year ended June 30, 1900, was made public yesterday. It shows gross earnings, $6,721,037; net earnings, $2,230,814, an increase of $390,592, an average net earning per mile of $2,400.

—The Davenport, Rock Island and Northwestern has decided to build this year from Davenport to Galesburg, Ill., and later to Peoria.

—Members of the Anti-Cigarette League have taken it upon themselves to show the chief officials of Chicago railroads just how injurious they believe cigarettes to be to the minds, bodies and morals of men. It is said that they will call upon these officials and try to induce them to issue orders prohibiting employes of the roads from smoking cigarettes. Miss Lucy Page Gaston is foremost in the movement.

—Excursion rates at a fare and one-third for the round trip have been granted by the Central Passenger Association roads for the following occasions: Farmers' National Congress, Colorado Springs, Colo., August 21 to 31; United Order of True Reformers, Grand Fountain, Richmond, Va., September 4 to 11; National Association of Life Underwriters, Saratoga, N. Y., September 11 and 12.

Sultan in Good Health.

Washington, July 26.—In reference to a dispatch purporting to come from Constantinople, stating that the Sultan of Turkey is in bad health, the Imperial Ottoman Legation at Washington states that there is no truth whatever in the dispatch; that, on the contrary, his Majestey never was in a better state of health than at present.

The Curse of the Centuries.

(DR. COOK.)

Like leprosy of old, Contagious Blood Poison was for ages supposed to be incurable. This ancient idea is not yet altogether extinct. It still exists in the minds of many old fogy physicians, who continue to salivate their patients with potash, mercury and other dangerous mineral mixtures, which, instead of forcing the disease out of the system, drives it deeper in, where it lies dormant for a time, and then breaks out again in the form of some frightful skin, blood or bone disease.

I Cure Blood Poison to Stay Cured.

I challenge the medical world for a case of Contagious Blood Poison, in any stage, hereditary or contracted, that I cannot positively cure, never to return, in from sixty to ninety days. My treatment for this disease is indorsed by the best physicians of America and Europe. It is purely vegetable in composition and perfectly harmless in effect. More than 2,500 men, many of whom had tried Hot Springs and numerous specific remedies in vain, have been completely and forever cured by me during the past year.

I also cure to stay cured VARICOCELE, STRICTURE, NERVOUS DEBILITY and all reflex complications and associate diseases and weaknesses of men. To these maladies alone I have earnestly devoted 25 of the best years of my life. Physicians having stubborn cases to treat are cordially invited to consult with me. I make no charge for private counsel, and give to each patient a bond contract in writing, backed by abundant capital, to hold for my promise. Is it not worth your while to investigate a cure that has made life anew to multitudes?

If you cannot call at my office, write me your symptoms fully. My home treatment by correspondence is always successful. Address all letters to

COOK MEDICAL COMPANY, 610 OLIVE STREET, ST. LOUIS, MO.

ITALIANS CAPTURED.

Immigration Situation on the Borders Grows Worse.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

El Paso, Tex., July 26.—The immigration situation at this port and along the border not only falls short of improvement as time goes on, but day by day the conditions grow worse.

Notwithstanding the fact that the force of guards has been materially increased along the river, daily occurrences demonstrate that the number is not sufficient to prevent smuggling and contract immigrants, collected in Juarez, from crossing the border and scattering into the interior.

To-day customs inspectors captured fourteen Italian immigrants, who had crossed the border and boarded a northbound Santa Fe train, which was about to depart. These immigrants were sent back to Juarez, Mexico.

The statement comes from Durango and Chihuahua, Mexico, where there are several thousand Chinamen, that hundreds contemplate returning to China, and are drifting this way to take advantage of the exclusion act and get free transportation.

RAN AWAY FROM LAWSUIT.

Frank Ayers Disguised Himself as a Woman.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Kansas City, Mo., July 26.—Frank Ayres of Fort Collins, Colo., who was arrested at Union Passenger Station in woman's garb and held for investigation, told the truth to Chief Hayes.

A. A. Moody of the Moody-Warren Commercial Company, of Fort Collins, was in Kansas City yesterday and read of the misfortunes of his fellow-townsman, and he hastened to the police station to give what aid and comfort he could. He said Ayres had told the truth. He is a bonafide bolster and lived on his own small farm near Fort Collins, a simple, untutored man. One night he boarded the Colorado Southern train at Fort Collins to buy an evening paper. In dismounting he caught his foot in some way and was dragged a considerable distance. He was found the next morning lying beside the track, unconscious. A severe sickness followed. Shortly after his recovery a lawyer induced him to bring suit against the railroad company. Ayres paid $5 for preliminary costs and a short time afterwards the lawyer wanted another $5 fee and intimated that Ayres would have to pay the court costs. Ayres brooded over the matter, and, in his simple ignorance, he saw in the courts an omnipotent creature seeking to rob him of his and property in court costs. He prepared papers deeding his property to his wife, and, disguising himself, ran away from the lawsuit he had begun. Ayres will return to Fort Collins.

BODIES IDENTIFIED.

Two Wisconsin Young Men Found Dead Near Savannah, Mo.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Savannah, Mo., July 26.—For several days our authorities have been receiving numerous telegrams and letters from fond mothers and fathers inquiring that a description of the two young men found dead Sunday morning last along the track of the Chicago and Great Western Railroad, about two miles south of this city, be sent them at once.

The bodies were identified to-day, after the arrival of John Shilliam, Chief of Police of Platteville, Wis. Mr. Shilliam recognized one as his son Willie, and the other as Henry Speth, both of Platteville.

Shilliam was 21 and Speth 19. They had been in Dubuque, Ia., for several weeks, where Shilliam had been working at the butcher's trade. The two young men, in company with a third one, left Dubuque on a southbound train on the Chicago and Great Western at 12:20 on the morning of the 17th of this month.

They arrived in Oswego, Ia., early that morning, and Shilliam called at the residence of his grandmother, who lives there, and there met his mother, who was visiting, and took breakfast with them.

When the young men left Oswego the authorities have been unable to find out. The third man is known, but so far nothing has been heard from him, and his whereabouts is unknown to those interested. It is still the belief here that the young men were murdered.

A. O. U. W. Grand Lodge.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

El Reno, Okla., July 26.—The Grand Lodge, A. O. U. W., of Oklahoma and Indian Territories, finished its work here to-day. The officers elected for the ensuing year are:

A. Nicodemus, grand master workman; J. W. McLaughlin, grand foreman; Harry Donath, grand overseer; T. K. Tingle, grand recorder; J. E. Sater, grand receiver; Doctor G. R. Westfall, grand medical examiner; J. S. Allen, grand trustee. The next meeting of the Grand Lodge will be held at Enid, in August, 1901.

Abundant Cotton Crop.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Hot Springs, Ark., July 26.—The indications are that the cotton crop in this section will be the most abundant of many years unless too much rain interferes with its future growth. The plant looks good. In fact, it is growing almost too fast.

There have been heavy rains in this vicinity within the last three weeks, which have brought the crop to that point where it will not take much to damage it.

Suicide at Nokomis.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Nokomis, Ill., July 26.—Mrs. Alfred Geist, a well-known lady of this city, committed suicide in her rooms at the Belvedere Hotel here to-day by shooting herself with a revolver. Domestic trouble is the cause assigned.

Workingmen's Bryan Club.

The Workingmen's Bryan Club is preparing to organize branches in every ward in the city during the coming campaign. Everybody is familiar with the excellent work done by this club in 1896. The regular meeting of the club will be held at No. 604 Market street this evening at 8 o'clock.

WAITERS AT PIASA HOTEL WALK OUT.

Sessions of the Chautauqua Assembly Enlivened by an Incident Out of the Routine.

PERFECT WEATHER PREVAILS.

Attendance Has Been Largely Increased by Campers—Mrs. A. E. Shipley and Dean Alfred Wright Lecture.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Chautauqua, Ill., July 26.—A strike enlivened the situation here to-day and for a time attracted considerable attention. Just before the rush of the noon hour began at the Piasa Spring Hotel a number of the waiters "walked out," announcing that they did not care to work, but preferred to visit the various halls and listen to lectures. The news of the strike quickly spread through the assembly grounds, and scores of Chautauquans began to prepare for a fast. A number of the society young ladies offered their services as waitresses, but other waiters were secured to take the place of the strikers and dinner was served on time.

Perfect weather increased the regular attendance, a number of campers arriving from Jerseyville and East St. Louis.

At 8 o'clock the Reverend Doctor F. M. Van Treese of Lebanon, presiding elder of the Alton M. E. District, led a devotional service in the Tabernacle. Miss Tandy of St. Louis took up the day's kindergarten work at the same hour, and Professor M. E. Johnson rehearsed the chorus class in the cantata "Queen Esther," which will be given by the Chautauquans on August 10. Then followed the lectures of the day, the principal ones being on "What Constitutes Good Society," delivered before the Woman's Council, and "An Hour With Our Short-Story Writers," before the Round Table Class, by Mrs. A. E. Shipley of Des Moines, Ia.; "Biblical Doctrine of the Holy Spirit," before the Ministers' Institute, and "What Helps the Church and What Helps It Not?" both by Dean Alfred Wright of Boston.

This afternoon the Reverend Doctor P. S. Henson, pastor of the First Baptist Church at Chicago, delivered his well-known lecture on "Fools," the lecture which made Doctor Henson as well known on the lecture platform as in the pulpit.

To-night the Lyric Ladies of Chicago sang their way into the hearts of the Chautauquans by their concert in the Tabernacle. The quartet is composed of Mrs. Minnie Paton Beaumont and Misses Nellie Clara Quick, Catherine Jones and Gertrude Sprague. Miss Mary Thompson of Pontiac, Ill., appeared with the quartet.

To-morrow the Reverend Doctor A. A. Willits of New Jersey will lecture on "Sunshine," and the Blatchford, Kavanaugh and Roney's Boys' Concert Company of Chicago will give a recital in the evening.

An excursion up the Illinois River was given the Chautauquans following the programme of the afternoon by Captain James Robinson of the steamer Golden Gate.

To-morrow Professor and Mrs. James Primrose Whyte of Lake Forest University will arrive. They will remain several days. To-morrow evening they will give a lecture recital on "National Life in Song." Professor Whyte will also occupy the Chautauqua pulpit on Sunday evening. Professor Whyte was formerly a professor in Shurtleff College at Upper Alton.

WACO ICE PLANT DISASTER.

Boiler Explosion Causes Two Men to Die Horrible Deaths.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Waco, Tex., July 26.—The explosion of a boiler at the big ice plant of the Waco Ice and Refrigerating Company wrecked the plant and killed two men. The dead:

Watt Dorsett, ice puller, aged 25, white; leaves widow and child.

Henry Mercer, negro fireman, aged 40; no family.

The explosion occurred at midnight and alarmed everybody in the vicinity of the factory, which covered a block of ground near the Cotton Belt freight depot.

The machinery department of the plant was torn to pieces and is a huge pile of rubbish. The costly ice machinery was wrecked, and the damage will reach $75,000.

The cause of the explosion is a mystery. Henry Bush, the engineer, was putting everything in order to turn over the watch to his relief, who came on at 12:30, and had just inspected the boilers, finding nothing to indicate an accident. He was down in the well, oiling the pump, when the explosion took place, and escaped without injury.

Dorsett was at work near the boiler-rooms, and received the force of a stream of hot water, scalding him so that he died. Mercer was killed instantly, his head being blown from his body and his legs and arms were broken to pieces. The company will rebuild at once.

WANTED TO MARRY BUT COULDN'T.

St. Louis Couple Tried in Vain to Get a License Here and at Clayton.

MOTHER'S CONSENT REQUIRED.

Parent Was Too Tired to Make the Trip, So Mamie Stierman and Sebastian Bihl Have to Wait.

"I will never forget this day; no, not as long as I live."

This was the declaration of Miss Mamie Stierman, who lives on the Clayton road near Boyle avenue, at Clayton, yesterday afternoon just after she had been refused a marriage license by Clerk Peter Wetzel.

Miss Stierman was plainly discouraged. She said she had obtained her mother's consent to marry Sebastian Bihl, a molder, living in their block, but the hard-hearted marriage license officials would not believe her statement, saying that they were from Missouri and she would have to show them. She and her fiance went to the St. Louis Courthouse, but Clerk Filley was obdurate, saying that Mrs. Stierman would have to appear before him and testify to the young woman's age.

Nothing daunted, the young couple set out for Clayton, reaching the license office there just at closing time. They did not succeed any better with Clerk Wetzel than with Clerk Filley, although Mr. Wetzel promised to issue the license any time in the course of the night, provided they returned with Mrs. Stierman.

Bihl left his fiancee at Clayton with Louis Fry, one of his chums, and started after Mrs. Stierman. But the old lady was weary after a day's toil and refused to go to Clayton, despite the young man's pleading. She told him to wait until some other time.

Disconsolate, Bihl went back to Clayton and the trio, after walking around the Courthouse several times, gazing wistfully at the marriage license office, returned to St. Louis.

"We have the consent of the old folks," said Bihl to a Republic reporter. "I have known Mamie for six years and have been her steady for two years. Mamie is 18 and I want them all to understand it. We will get married yet, don't you forget it."

J. N. Truitt Dead.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Springfield, Ill., July 26.—J. N. Truitt, prominent as a Republican leader in Central Illinois, died at his home in Hillsboro at an early hour this morning. He had been ill only a short time, and his death was unexpected. Mr. Truitt is survived by his widow and a daughter and a son, Doctor J. N. Truitt.

ABSOLUTE SECURITY.

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Must Bear Signature of

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FOR HEADACHE.
FOR DIZZINESS.
FOR BILIOUSNESS.
FOR TORPID LIVER.
FOR CONSTIPATION.
FOR SALLOW SKIN.
FOR THE COMPLEXION

Price 25 Cents. GENUINE MUST HAVE SIGNATURE. Purely Vegetable. Brent Good

CURE SICK HEADACHE.

Mr. Richard Harding Davis, the American young man who is known on two continents as a war correspondent and novelist, is now in Pretoria. He is sending weekly letters to ***The Sunday Republic*** from the capital of the Transvaal.

If you want to know how the Boers impress a sturdy American, read his letters. You will find them interesting as literature. They also present a picture, made on the spot, of conditions in a quaint and picturesque town, whose people have been making a brave fight against a powerful enemy.

Mr. Davis tells about the ***dignity*** and ***devotion*** of these people who have made ***homes*** for themselves in the ***wilds of the Dark Continent.*** Their attitude appeals to this bright American. He likes their ***resolution,*** their ***endurance*** and their faith in the ***righteousness*** of their cause. Perhaps, in all his service as correspondent, he has never had quite uch an experience as he is having now. He saw the fighting in the brief war between the Greeks and Turks. He served among the heroic war correspondents in the Spanish-American war. He wrote about the celebration of the Queen's Jubilee, and he attended the magnificent ceremony of the coronation of the Czar of all the Russias.

The war between ***the Briton*** and ***the Boer*** has not been viewed by Mr. Davis from one side, as is often the case with war correspondents who follow one army throughout its journeys and its contests. He has seen battles from the ***British*** side, and now he has gone to the Transvaal and is looking over the ground from the ***Boer*** standpoint. What he says has the double value of being the expression of a man who has weighed both sides.

The Sunday Republic is presenting these letters in its attractive Magazine. Look for the Richard Harding Davis letter in next Sunday's Republic.