

Iron County Register

By ELI D. AKE.
IRONTON, MISSOURI

Boni grows desperate as his meal ticket vanishes.

Do you know what an "id-determinant-hypothese" is? Neither do we.

Now is the time for the patient Philinos to turn the other cheek to the sugar trust.

It was poor management to pull off a total eclipse where hardly anybody could see it.

With what is left of the million dollars, doubtless the earl of Yarmouth will be able to get on for awhile without a wife.

Nearly three billion people were carried by the railroads in 1907, some of them were delivered undamaged at their destinations.

A Denver girl has become the bride of a Pueblo chief who cannot speak English. Perhaps she will have a title among the Indians.

Thirteen women's clubs have voted not to trim their hats with the plumage of birds. That is a lucky number for the feathered songsters.

The Japanese have all they can do to look after their lives at home in a time of profound peace. They are getting automobiles by the cargo.

Argentine farmers just now are busy hauling a big wheat crop to market. Automobile drummers should pack their grips for South America.

A French inventor now claims to be able to send photographs by wireless telegraphy. What would a sudden wind storm do to Gov. Hughes' whiskers?

About the nearest thing we remember to living music heretofore has been the crying of a baby at 2 a. m. as the patient father walked the chilly floor.

Really, Count Boni is a man of spirit. He will make faces at the prince or do something equally dreadful if the latter dares to marry his former wife.

A moving-picture machine exploded in Canton and 300 Chinese lost their lives in the resulting panic. Civilization is dangerous unless one knows how to handle it.

Prince Helie de Sagan proves an costly a piece of bric-a-brac as did his cousin, the count, it will keep the Western Union and the Wabash humming to run the show.

The Chinese imperial telegraphs had net earnings during 1906 of \$645,537 on a working capital of \$1,232,000. Evidently the Standard Oil Company isn't the only thing on earth, after all.

Sixteen soldiers in Spain were arrested as plotters against Alfonso because they visited a newspaper office. They will get off scot free, of course, if they declare they called to whip the editor.

Ocean-going ships soon will be fitted with all the comforts of home. About the only thing that will be missed is the village feud and maybe steamship proprietors will be dragging that in next.

A Newark man was fined \$20 for laughing at a policeman. In most cities the majesty of the law considers itself sufficiently vindicated when it has beaten the misfitful one over the head with a club.

There is in Berlin an artist who is going to marry a widow with \$5,000,000. This is excellent. Now let some delightful address add to the gaiety by bestowing her hand and fortune upon some struggling poet.

A California architect predicts that we shall soon have 100-story buildings. If his prediction is verified it will be necessary for our fellow citizen to build some pretty tall stacks if they expect to keep us choking with smoke.

Science has harnessed the potato bug, as it were, and is making it do stunts in the interests of humanity. That is grand, sweet revenge for all the miserable hours it has brought to boys who had to "bug" taters' when the fishing in the branch was fine.

Defects of speech such as stammering are so prevalent in Germany that the government is said to have instituted a campaign against them by establishing a special department in the medical college of the University of Berlin, both for the cure of such impediments and for educating doctors how to treat them. Perhaps the suggestion is unkind, says the Baltimore American, but would not the trouble be more readily disposed of by going to the root of the matter and adopting a new language—one easier to get the tongue around?

Bee-stings, mustard-packs, and other uncommon remedies for rheumatism will have to take second place, in the matter of oddity, to a cure discovered in Australia. A whale, stranded on the beach at a health resort, had been cut open, and a freakish invalid plunged into the mass of blubber, remained there two hours, and found himself free from rheumatism when he crawled out. The incident seems to be vouched for, and although the prescription is more novel than enticing, probably many sufferers would like to catch a whale and try it.

Scores of handsome improvements in the new city of Manila are planned or partly in being. The Army and Navy club, which has thrived like a tropic plant, is soon to break ground for a handsome new clubhouse that will cost \$200,000 gold before it is completed, and the club has \$90,000 in cash and assets to start the work. The local lodge of Elks, which has become a popular American social club of the city, is to build a \$70,000 structure. These two buildings will be just off the Luneta and will mean an ornament to that attractive promenade.

STOP EMIGRATION

JAPAN ISSUES ORDER PROHIBITING PASSAGE TO U. S.

WILL MAKE AN INVESTIGATION

No Passports Issued Pending Settlement of Discrepancy in Statistics.

Tokio—The delay in reaching a final settlement of the emigration question between Japan and the United States is due to differences between the two governments concerning statistics and minor details. Pending an agreement in this respect all emigration is being prohibited. The Japanese government in its memorandum of Dec. 31, maintaining the incorrectness of the figures presented by Ambassador O'Brien, which showed an extraordinary number of Japanese entering America since March, replied to the American memorandum with the Japanese figures showing a wide divergence.

No Passports Issued. The American memorandum of Jan. 25, couched in the friendliest terms, said that it appeared impossible to reconcile the discrepancy in figures and suggested the possibility of frauds. The Japanese government, determined to discover the exact cause of discrepancy, engaged last week in a comprehensive investigation to unearth possible frauds, and it is conceded that some cases have been discovered, but these are insufficient to explain the disparity.

This investigation has caused ten days' delay in the negotiations. The foreign office has pointed out, however, that while it doubtless would be gratifying to be able to write fits to the vexatious problem, it believes it best to clear up the statistics. In the meantime no passports will be issued to laborers. The fact that emigration is completely stopped removes an element of danger. The foreign office is confident of a satisfactory outcome of the question.

CHICAGO TO REMAIN "WET."

Saloon Men Get Twice as Many Signatures as "Dry" Advocates.

Chicago, Ill.—Chicago will remain "wet" for another year. The anti-saloon forces, which have been trying for several weeks to secure enough names to petitions to have the question of prohibition considered at the next election lacked 5,000 names at midnight, the expiration of the time limit of 60 days prior to the election.

The temperance forces secured only 50,000 names, while their opponents amassed 174,146 names to a petition to have the city decide by vote at the spring election whether saloons shall be closed on Sunday.

Capt. Will Forrest Dead. Memphis, Tenn.—Captain William Forrest died Saturday morning. He was a son of Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest, Confederate cavalry leader. Forrest was stricken with paralysis Tuesday night while at a box party given in his honor by the Daughters of Confederacy, at the production of "The Clansman." He was watching the portrayal of the part of his father when stricken.

Chinese Seize Jap Steamer. Shanghai—Chinese customs cruisers have seized a Japanese steamer laden with arms and other munitions of war intended for Chinese revolutionists. The steamer was at anchor in Chinese waters off Macao. It has been escorted by a cruiser and three Chinese gunboats to Canton. It is understood that the Japanese entered a protest against the seizure.

Chicago Woman Shot. St. Louis—Mrs. Kate Benson Fogarty of Chicago was shot at 8:30 o'clock Friday night by a highwayman at the corner of Sutton and Elm avenues, in Maplewood, St. Louis county, in an attempt to rob her. When ordered to hold up her hands Mrs. Fogarty backed away from her assailant and screamed, and the highwayman fired several shots at her, one of which took effect in her left leg, about eight inches above the knee.

Boy Kills Father. Chicago, Ill.—A father returned home Friday evening, discouraged after an all-day's search for work, only to be shot and killed by his son, who was also out of work. Then the son, in the presence of other members of the family, fired a bullet into his own head.

Two Perish in Mines. Pittsburg, Kas.—Two men met death in mines near here. Benjamin Bloomfield, a driver, was crushed by falling rock and Eugene Howell was whirled to death, his clothing catching in a cog wheel of some machinery.

Drive Negroes from Town. Montgomery, Ala.—After burning a negro hotel and wounding several negroes, a number of white people at Verda, near here, drove between 75 and 100 sawmill workers out of that place because of dissatisfaction with labor conditions. The fugitives have arrived here.

Walks 50,000 Miles as Trial. Rome—Signor Arnaldo Innocenti has walked 50,000 miles in order to prove the doctors were wrong in rejecting him for military service.

George Dun Buys Toledo Times. Toledo, O.—The Toledo Times, the only daily morning paper in the city, has been sold by the Scripps-McRae Syndicate to George Dun, owner of the Daily Citizen, an afternoon penny paper.

Train Robbed in Chicago. Chicago—Two masked and armed men boarded a through freight train on the Chicago & Alton railroad in the suburbs of Chicago, held up the brakeman, conductor and a stockman and made their escape.

SUPPLYING THE SNOWBALLS.



SCORES CORTELYOU

CULBERSON CHARGES SPECULATING BANKS WERE AIDED.

ASKS FOR AN INVESTIGATION

Declares That Wall Street Financiers Received More Than Their Just Share.

Washington, D. C.—Senator Culbertson of Texas, Democratic leader in the senate, charged on the floor of the senate Thursday that Secretary of the Treasury Cortelyou had violated the law in six respects in his handling of the finances during the panic.

He demanded that the secretary be called on to furnish the senate with all correspondence between his office and the New York banks that would show whether he had supplied funds to the New York banks only for relief through them of the Western and Southern bankers, or for use in speculation.

Secretary Cortelyou, according to Mr. Culbertson, violated the law by depositing money in New York banks for speculative purposes, giving them a greater share of the funds than their combined capital permitted.

New York Banks got One-Tenth. With only one-sixth the total capital of all the banks in the country the New York banks got one-third of all the public moneys between August and December, said Mr. Culbertson.

Mr. Culbertson said that Secretary Cortelyou had also broken the law by issuing the Panama bonds when they were not needed for canal expenses by excluding private bidders and accepting only national bank bidders for the bonds by using the proceeds for the bonds for other than canal expenses, by issuing 3 per cent certificates when they were not needed to meet government expenses, and by allowing banks to issue notes on these certificates instead of on registered bonds.

Aoki to Be Privy Councillor. Tokio—The appointment of the Viscount Sino Aoki, ex-ambassador to Washington, as privy councillor will be officially announced Thursday. The position of privy councillor in the Japanese government corresponds to that of the members of the cabinet of the president of the United States.

Black Hand Wrecks Store. Greensburg, Pa.—Because Samuel Letsovic ignored letters demanding \$2,000 from members of the Black Hand Society a dynamite bomb was exploded under his general store near here early Wednesday, wrecking the building and causing a loss of \$20,000.

Torpedo Fleet Joins Warships. Punta Arenas, Chile—The six American torpedo boat destroyers arrived at this port to join the battleship fleet. They will coal here and proceed through the Straits into the Pacific with the battleships. The boats are in the best of shape after their long trip and all on board are well.

Retains Saloons. Brookfield, Mo.—By a majority of 104, this town decided in Tuesday's election, as it has done for 20 years past, to retain saloons. There are four here. Linn county recently went "dry," so that Brookfield is a lonely oasis for those afflicted with thirst.

Sultan's Fourteenth Child. Constantinople—The sultan of Turkey became the father of a princess, who received the name of Samieh. His majesty, who is in his 66th year, had previously seven sons and six daughters.

South Africans Aroused Over Speech. Cape Town—The unfortunate juxtaposition of the names of Cecil Rhodes and Paul Kruger in a speech recently delivered in Johannesburg by General Smuts, the Transvaal colonial secretary, has irritated Dutch South Africans.

Rear Admiral Ackley Dies. Washington—Rear Admiral Seth M. Ackley, United States navy, retired, died here, aged 62. He was at one time commandant of the naval stations at Olongapo and Cavite.

Creditors File Petition. Chicago—An involuntary petition in bankruptcy against Heath & Milligan, one of the oldest and largest paint manufacturing firms in the state, was filed in the federal district court here following a conference of creditors of the concern.

Independent Confederates. Waco, Tex.—Pat Cleburne Camp, United States Confederate Veterans, adopted a resolution strongly objecting to soliciting the government for pensions for Confederate soldiers.

COMMISSION NOT NECESSARY.

Recommendations from Hospital Authorities May Free Thaw.

Matteawan, N. Y.—Doctor Lamb, superintendent of the state hospital for the criminal insane, said Thursday that, after 20 days or so, if it is his belief that Harry K. Thaw is sane, it will be within the province of the hospital authorities to so certify to the court and recommend his release. A commission in lunacy or other proceedings would not be necessary, he declared.

The physicians at the institution are not making observations of Thaw as yet, as they feel that he has not recovered from the excitement caused by his recent trial for the murder of Stanford White. He is considered a model prisoner by the physicians and on account of his good behavior has been allowed certain special privileges.

Jumped from Sixth Story. New York—During a fire that destroyed an important eight-family apartment house of the west corner of West Seventieth street and Columbus avenue early this morning, Margaret Landon, 21 years, jumped from a sixth-story window and was instantly killed. Twenty of the fifty persons in the building were overcome by smoke, but were rescued by firemen. Of these three are in a serious condition. The fire originated in the basement and burned through the building to the roof within a few moments.

Marine Disasters Heavy. Berlin—Official statistics show the loss of 34 steamships and 82 sailing vessels, with the drowning of 639 persons, during January. Minor mishaps befell 419 steamships and 217 sailing vessels during the same month. The figures are not confined to German vessels, but include all concerning which any information was obtainable.

To Ask Thaw's Transfer. New York—At a consultation of attorneys for Harry Kendall Thaw Wednesday it was decided to apply at once to the state lunacy commission to have Thaw transferred from the Matteawan asylum for the criminal insane to some private asylum. Immediately after the conference Littleton left for Washington. He will continue his trip to Florida and will be away for about three weeks, as he says he needs rest.

Forrest's Son Stricken. Memphis, Tenn.—While witnessing a stirring drama in which his father was made a figure, at the Lyceum theater Tuesday night, William M. Forrest, only son of the late Gen. N. B. Forrest, was stricken and removed to his residence. His son was summoned from St. Louis, because of fear that the malady would take a serious turn.

Black Hand's Modest Demand. Millville, N. J.—John Bailey, who operates a saw mill at Balleystown, three miles south of Millville, is alarmed over a "Black Hand" letter he received. It demands that Bailey leave \$50 in the butt of an old tree, designated on the Spring Garden road. He is given two weeks to comply with the demand or suffer "death in a peculiar manner."

Home Defender Under Bond. New Cumberland, Pa.—John Probst, the war veteran confined in jail for a month for defending his home in Wormleyburg, with a shotgun against the encroachments of the Pennsylvania railroad, which was going to seize a part of his back yard, has been discharged by Judge Sandler under \$500 bail to keep the peace.

Burr McIntosh a Bankrupt. New York—Burr McIntosh, former actor and lately a photographer, with a studio at 44 West Thirty-ninth street, where he publishes also the Burr McIntosh Monthly, has filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy.

Lone Widow is Murdered. Middletown, Md.—Mrs. Jane Bowers, a widow living alone, was murdered at Pleasant Walk, Frederick County. Her body, which had been mutilated with an ax, was found in her home.

Brewer's Family Slain. London—The little Buckingham village of Fawley was shocked by the discovery of a quadruple murder. The scene of the tragedy was the residence of F. H. Holmes, a wealthy brewer.

Son of Gen. Forrest Dies. Memphis, Tenn.—Capt. William M. Forrest, son of Gen. Nathan Bedford Forrest, the Confederate cavalry leader, who was recently stricken with paralysis while witnessing a play, has died.

NEWS OF CONGRESS

DOINGS OF PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIVES AT WASHINGTON.

BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED

Concise Report of Measures Introduced and What Action is Taken on Them.

Pass Omnibus War Claims. Washington—The session of the house of representatives Friday was devoted almost entirely to the consideration of the omnibus war claims bill which was passed after considerable discussion. It carries a total appropriation of \$315,000. A ripple of excitement was caused by Mr. Macon of Arkansas, who, in the course of the debate, defended the senate against what he said were aspersions cast upon that body by Mr. Payne of New York, when he predicted that the senate would load the bill down with a number of unmerited claims. A number of private claims bills also were passed.

National Bank Reserve Bill. Washington—Representative Gronna of North Dakota introduced a bill to regulate national bank reserves. It provides that banks which are now allowed to deposit three-fifths of their reserves in reserve center banks shall reduce that deposit to one-fifth and keep on hand the other four-fifths. Many banks which are now allowed to so deposit one-half of their reserves shall retain their entire reserves for immediate availability.

Financial Speech by Culbertson. Washington—A financial speech by Senator Culbertson of Texas and the passage of a bill providing for a government exhibit at the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition were the chief features of interest in the proceedings of the senate Thursday.

Mr. Culbertson gave the results of his analysis from the recent report of the secretary of the treasury on the Panama canal bond issue, in order to substantiate his contention that national banks of New York City were unduly favored by the secretary in the disposition of public funds, and had violated the law by issuing those bonds.

Indian Appropriation Bill. Washington—Political speechmaking came to an end in the house Thursday and actual consideration of the Indian appropriation bill was resumed. A bitter fight was waged on the proposition to abolish non-reservation schools and the subject was discussed throughout the afternoon. The question was raised by the offering of an amendment by Delegate Smith of Arizona to restrict the appropriation for collecting and transporting Indian children at school to the state in which they live.

Want Northern Pacific to Explain. Washington—A resolution was introduced by Senator Heyburn, calling upon the president to furnish information concerning the Northern Pacific Railway Co.'s alleged negotiations in taking over the property of the Northern Pacific estate and placing on it a value many times in excess of its actual cost. The president is required to inform the senate whether any investigation of the doings of the company has been made.

Customs Inspectors' Pay. Washington—Senator Hopkins from the committee on commerce reported a bill to raise the salaries of customs inspectors at New York, Boston, Philadelphia, San Francisco and New Orleans to \$6 per day.

Pleads for Tariff Commission. Washington—Senator Beveridge of Indiana Wednesday delivered an appeal to the senate to adopt his bill providing for a non-partisan tariff commission, a plan which he declared conformed to modern and business ideas on this subject. He spoke for an hour and a half, receiving the careful attention of senators and a large audience in the galleries. There were present many delegates of commercial bodies, now in session in this city. Following Senator Beveridge's address, several democratic senators spoke briefly on the general subject of tariff.

Labor Amendment Introduced. Washington—Representative O'Connell of Massachusetts introduced a bill Wednesday to amend the act entitled "The interstate commerce law and to enlarge the powers of the interstate commerce commission," approved June 30, 1906, as follows: "That nothing contained in the act shall be so understood or construed as to apply to trade unions or any labor organizations formed or organized for the purpose of regulating wages, hours of labor or other conditions under which labor is to be performed."

Thinks Time Has Come. Freeland, Pa.—Impressed by the prediction of a fortune teller that he would die in 1908, Peter Rosinko, an aged citizen of this town, although dangerously ill with pneumonia, refuses to take any medicine or nourishment prescribed by his physician.

Leap Year Nuptials Fail. Pittsburg, Pa.—Pittsburg's first leap year marriage ended in a tragedy when John Hull, aged 47, a well-to-do bookkeeper, on the North Side, put a bullet through his brain just before the time for him to leave work for home.

No Votes for Swedish Women. Stockholm—King Gustaf, in opening the first parliament of his reign, said no bill conferring on women a parliamentary vote was to be expected during the present parliament.

NEWS OF MISSOURI

DOINGS OF PEOPLE'S REPRESENTATIVES AT WASHINGTON.

Mrs. Hinkle Has Recovered. Benton—Mrs. Cora Hinkle, in jail here to answer to the charge of poisoning her husband, has fully recovered from her collapse and now insists that she be allowed to confer with her father, James Liddle, held as an accessory to the killing. This demand has been refused. The date of the preliminary hearing has not yet been fixed. It may be delayed until Thomas Duvall, under arrest at Percy, Ill., is extradited and returned here.

St. Louis Convict Pardoned. Jefferson City—Governor Folk issued a commutation to Fred C. Tucker, convicted in St. Louis in December, 1906, of grand larceny, and sentenced to the penitentiary for two years. Under the terms of the commutation, Tucker was released immediately. Clemency was recommended by Judge Hugo Muench, before whom Tucker was tried, and the circuit attorney.

Smokestack Kills Owner. Louisiana—Charles H. Foreman, proprietor of Foreman's greenhouses on North Ninth street, was instantly killed by the falling of the brick smokestack of the greenhouses, which had just been destroyed by fire. His brother, Claude Foreman, was also struck and badly injured, and it is feared will lose the sight of both eyes.

St. Francois to Vote on Saloons. Farmington—County court ordered an election to be held in St. Francois county March 7 to determine whether or not the county will adopt local option. An effort was made to have a separate election held in Farmington, but the census will not permit.

Brookfield Votes "Wet." Brookfield—Brookfield went "wet" at the local option election by a majority of 104. The campaign had been waged vigorously by the Anti-Saloon League and the opponents of local option for several weeks. The city has not been "dry" for twenty years.

St. Louis Convict Drops Dead. Jefferson City—Bud Lofton, a negro convict in the penitentiary, serving a sentence of 15 years for murder in the second degree, fell dead in one of the cell buildings at the prison. His death was due to heart failure. He came here in May, 1903.

Youthful Burglars Confess. Columbia—Mode McCabe and Shannon Hopper, youths 20 and 17 years old, were arrested on a charge of robbing the University Co-operative store last week. Both boys confessed. They are sons of respectable parents, but have been reading dime novels.

Folk Honors Requisition. Jefferson City—Governor Folk honored a requisition from the governor of Illinois for the return to that state of William Graham, wanted in Macon county to answer to a charge of forging a bank check.

Excise Receipts Take Slump. Jefferson City—Excise Commissioner Mulvihill of St. Louis paid into the state treasury the fees of his office for the month of January, amounting to \$6,825. The collection for the preceding January were \$14,421.

Saloons Win at Sullivan. Sullivan—After a spirited contest here, the city council decided in favor of the saloons and granted them licenses for a period of six months. The town has been dry since the first of the year.

Naval Academy Cadets Chosen. Mexico—Oliver Bagby of New Haven, Mo., and John M. Palmer of Troy were selected by the examining board here as cadets to the United States Naval Academy at Annapolis.

Local Option in Johnson County. Warrensburg—Johnson county, of which Warrensburg is the county seat, voted for local option by a majority of 1,100. Warrensburg had already voted separately in favor of local option.

Farmers Killed by Train. Martinsburg—E. R. Carter and Joe Byers were struck by a train at Benton City, just west of here and killed instantly. They were well-to-do.

Henry C. Chinn Is Dead. Canton—Henry C. Chinn died here. Until a short time ago, he was editor of the Canton News, and for many years one of the best known newspaper men in North Missouri.

Padded Pay Rolls Charged. St. Joseph—Experts set to work upon the books and accounts of the city, following the charge of graft, are said to have found padded pay rolls in the lighting department.

Rodman to Be Freed April 10. Jefferson City—Gov. Folk granted a commutation to Mayo Rodman, who is serving a 25-year sentence in the penitentiary for second-degree murder. He came to the prison in March, 1903. Under the commutation granted, Mayo Rodman will be released from the penitentiary April 10, 1908.

Missouri Woman, 110, Dies. Rolla—Mrs. Christopher Deem, 110 years old, died at her home near Yancy Mills. She was said to have been the oldest woman in Missouri.

Grip Threatens Hadley. Jefferson City—Attorney General Hadley has been confined to his home, warding off a case of grip. At one time it was feared pneumonia might intervene, but he has thus far escaped that danger. Gen. Hadley contemplates a trip to the south as soon as he is able to travel.

Boulder Kills Miner. Aurora—James Poston, a young miner, was instantly killed in the Co-man mine by a huge boulder falling on him. He leaves a wife.

STILL DO NOTHING

REPUBLICANS FAIL TO PROTECT PEOPLE'S INTERESTS.

And the Taxpayers, by Their Votes, Seem to Be Willing That Trust Monopoly Be Prolonged—The Political Situation.

As it has been proved beyond contention, both by evidence and admissions, that the tariff has fostered trusts and still protects them from competition, why should the tariff not be reformed, so as no longer to protect the trusts? The answer to this question can only be, that the majority of the American people desire to prolong this trust monopoly when they elect representatives to congress and members of the state legislatures, that vote for United States senators to represent their states in the national legislature. From various causes the majority of the voters have decided that they are willing to be plundered by the trusts, although they were opposed to being plundered by the railroads. At least, that is where their preference for Republican policies have brought them to. The people have been fooled once more into believing that a Republican congress would protect their interests under the lead of Roosevelt, the reputed trust and corporation buster. The last congress, after prolonged discussion, was forced by public opinion to pass the railroad rate bill, which was supposed by many to would compel the railroads to charge reasonable rates. That was the theory of President Roosevelt and the Republican leaders. The Democratic leaders in congress told the people the law was entirely inadequate to reform abuses, but Mr. Roosevelt turned the tide of real reform by accepting a bogus amendment to the bill, for fear the Democrats should have the credit of aiding the people.

The railroad rate law did do some good things. It abolished the free passes, it compelled the railroads to publish their rates, so that every one can know what the rates are and all shippers be on an equal footing. It gave the interstate commerce commission a little more power, but not enough power to make unreasonable rates reasonable. Many of the states, mostly Democratic ones, however, have taken the rate question in hand and lowered passenger rates within the state boundaries against the protest of the railroad managers, who declared that to do so was virtually to confiscate their property.

With regard to the industrial trusts the situation is still more deplorable, for the federal government has accomplished nothing that has reduced the price of one of the necessities that the trusts produce. It is true President Roosevelt has taken to himself the title of trust-buster, and Senator Knox, when attorney general, did successfully prosecute the combine of the Northern Securities company, but the railroads that composed that combine still charge the same unreasonable rates, and in fact have increased some of them, notably the rates in lumber.

A Republican congress is in session and virtually doing nothing, and the Republican leaders declare their intention of doing as little as possible, except to pass the appropriation bills and adjourn in time to round up delegates to the Republican national convention, where more promises will be made, with no more intention of keeping them in the future than in the past.

If so many eyes were not blinded by partisanship, and the trusts and corporations did not supply campaign funds, there would be a revolt against this stand-pat program, but such partisanship and corruption, aided by Democratic divisions for the control of the party, may again give the stand-patters another lease of power. Was there ever such a political mess offered to the American people when such important matters for their welfare should be demanding their attention?

Beef Combine Finances. The poor old beef trust that Roosevelt and Garfield investigated and found was only making about a dollar a head on the cattle it killed, seems to have become more prosperous since the Republicans have been trying to control it. At the annual meeting of Swift & Co., held a few days ago, which corporation is said to be part of the beef combine, President Swift said: "The past year has been one of our largest as relates to volume, and profits are quite up to the average." The balance sheet presented showed a surplus of \$15,200,000 after paying a dividend of seven per cent and adding additional property value of over five dollars to each share and charging off to depreciation over \$1,600,000.

Still with this showing a Republican congress continues to appropriate the money to pay the expense that the trust should pay of inspection of cattle and meat that Swift & Co. and the other members of the beef combine deal out to the American public.

Republican Disagreement. It would seem to be as difficult for the bankers and congress to get together on a currency bill as it is for the Taft and Foraker partisans to agree on a division of spoils in Ohio. The currency commission of the American Bankers' association met a few days ago and rejected all the various asset currency plans now before congress, and declared the Aldrich bill to be "impracticable, unwise and financially unsound." The Fowler bill was also reported to be more likely to "unsettle rather than improve financial conditions." As all these Republican doctors cannot agree on the palliative treatment for the patient, the only thing to do is to call in the Democratic doctors.

The army is said to be in a bad way under Republican management. The men will not re-enlist and many of the officers are indignant at the favoritism shown. The only chance for a square deal for the army and navy is a Democratic victory and send the long-haired men and short-haired men to the rear for a while.