

ST. LOUIS is hot as blazes these days, but it takes great comfort from the alleged fact that, calorically speaking, conditions are worse in Chicago.

CAN the next Legislature drill more holes for pegs in our boasted Public School System? It can, and no doubt will; for there is always room for one more office with salary attachment in the sacred System, immune from criticism or objection.

THE papers tell of a man and wife in Switzerland worth \$10,000,000 in cold cash, and in the prime of life, with no children to vex, committing suicide. Now what do you think of that?

It is said that some of the railroads affected by the late two-cents-per-mile decision are reducing their service and seeking to make matters uncomfortable for the public. If true, what fools they are! They will be wiser later on, but their wisdom will have been dearly bought. The State is bigger than any combination of railroads in it.

At last, it seems we are going to have a currency system planned in the interest of the people rather than for the exclusive benefit of the money-brokers. The billions that have been grafted from the tax-payers are gone forever, but there is pleasure in the thought that an end has come to even this, and that the "national honor" is no longer bound up in the gratification of old cent-per-cent.

I HAVE some sympathy for our Congressmen detained at the broiling National Capitol by stress of public business that may not be deferred. But in their suffering and persistence lies the salvation of the country from grievous ill too long endured, and their tenacity will have its due reward. Though not exactly analogous, the situation recalls to my mind an old story. A certain blacksmith, who was quite a dog fancier, came in possession of a promising bull pup, which he set about training with care and diligence. He housed the animal in one corner of the shop, to have it always under his eye. One day, when the pup was a half yearling, the owner's father came into the shop and at the same moment a bright idea sprang from the brain of the son. "Dad," he suggested, "supposin' you get down on your hunkers and growl at the pup dog fashion? Let's see what he'll do?" The old man, too, was ready for the experiment. Down on his hands and knees he got and made for the pup with a warlike "g-r-r-r!" In a flash the latter had his challenger by the nose. This was something not anticipated, and "dad" wanted to cry quits; but the son, delighted with his pet's prowess, cried out, "Stand to it, dad! Stand to it! It'll be the makin' of the pup!"

I NOTE with not a little self-satisfaction the following editorial—or part of an editorial—from the Chicago Public. The same conclusions were reached by yours truly some years ago, but were not fittingly formulated and publicly set out. There is self-evident truth in every sentence of the editorial: "The iniquity of Privilege has suddenly become manifest to many who have hitherto been blind. Great concern is expressed by a number of defenders of predatory interests lest there be class legislation in the proposed exemption from prosecution under the Sherman act, of labor and farmers' organizations, as provided in the Sundry Civil Bill. These defenders of Privilege have not yet seen the danger of class legislation in the protective tariff, in franchise legislation, in inequitable tax laws, or in legalizing the natural resources. Perhaps they will in time. The only way to eliminate class legislation from the Sherman act is to repeal it altogether. Every line of it is class legislation. Under it a single individual, like Mr. Frederick Weyerhaeuser, for instance, owning thousands if not millions of acres of timber lands, may legally restrain trade in lumber by boosting the price or limiting the output, to his heart's content. But if a dozen small owners of timber lands combine and agree to do the same thing, they render themselves liable to fine and imprisonment, although the whole dozen may not be able to control the market to nearly the same extent as Mr. Weyerhaeuser alone. So far from being in any true sense an anti-trust measure, the Sherman act is a trust defense. It has been a red herring drawn across the trail to send trust hunters in a wrong direction. It was enacted by the same Congress that enacted the trust-breeding McKinley law. Anti-trust sentiment at the time was becoming strong, and so was popular suspicion that there was a close affinity between trusts and protectionists. Protectionists in Congress felt it necessary to do something to make it appear that they were not friendly to trusts, even though they had enacted a trust-breeding tariff law. The Sherman law was the result. It has served its true purpose admirably. It has caused much anti-trust energy to be fruitlessly wasted in demanding, or in honestly attempting, enforcement of that law. This same energy directed toward removing the privileges on which trust power is based, would have accomplished much toward abolition of trusts. As a means of postponing this, the Sherman law is a success."

Annapolis News.

We have had some good growing rains the past week. Two or three fights the past week, but no one badly hurt. One fellow is wearing a patch, where he was hit by a rock. Elmer Loyd sold 140 cases of beer the past month. Clarence Castle, the new beer man, sold forty cases. The beer sells at \$3.25 per case. More than \$465 worth of beer went out of this town in five days, and many who bought have little bread. John S. Benson returned to his home in St. Louis Sunday. He is feeble and the hot weather is trying. James L. Castle spent the 4th at Poplar Bluff with kindred. Arthur Brewer was in Poplar Bluff on the 4th. Ben Johnson, Lucian Kelley, Gus Lotz, Josie Faris and Jennie Hubbard are going to St. Louis to-day (Monday) to seek employment. Dobbs & Castle will shut down their mill at Annapolis this month, because of the scarcity of logs. Gus Funk will soon have his hay barn, in front of town, completed. It is about 40x60 feet. Weddings are all off for the present. Seems to be an awful hard job to get a marriage license. John T. Webb, Ida Loyd and her son, Richard, and Ed Loyd and wife went to Black river fishing Thursday. On their way out on the rough road going down the hill on Funk Branch, all of them fell out of the rig except Ed Loyd's wife. She staid in the wagon until the team had run a hundred yards or more and then got out uninjured. The others were all badly bruised. The rig was a total wreck and things were scattered along the way for a mile or more. They got another wagon and went on as if nothing had happened. James Chatman, Perry Allen and Earnest Brewer and their families spent the 4th at James Brown's on Black river. D. A. Worley and family spent the 4th of July at the picnic in Des Arc and report a good time while there.

Belleview Items.

The Fourth out here was very quiet; a few of our people went to Arcadia, others to Bismarck, while many remained at home. While to many the Fourth always brings forth opportunities for a "real good time" and much happiness, often, ere the sun sets on that eventful day, gloom is cast over many a home, because of some serious accident. Such was the case when young Mr. Huff was accidentally drowned in the lake at Iron Mountain, shortly after noon on the Fourth. Wm. Boring started out last Wednesday with his thresher, his first run being at E. E. Chambers', who had something over 200 bushels of wheat; next he threshed for Auburn Edmonds, whose wheat made 138 bushels from eight acres—17 bushels per acre. This is the best yield per acre we have heard of so far. The quality of wheat, so far as we have been able to ascertain, is first class. Mr. Boring certainly does first class work with his thresher, and is getting all he can do. We are reliably informed that he has ordered a self-feeder attachment for his thresher, which he is expecting to arrive within the next few days. R. E. Johnston last week, also, ordered, and brought from the R. R., a new separator, which he will use, as he already has a traction engine. Houston McColl will open school at Peora, July 14th; he is a good teacher, and we predict for him a very successful and pleasant term of school. E. E. Chambers last Saturday sent three loads of wheat to the Ironton Manufacturing Company, Ironton, for which he received 90 cents per bushel. Mrs. Patterson and daughter, Minnie, spent the Fourth with Mrs. Cora Stephens. It is reported that the measles are prevalent at Caledonia. Otis Stephens, of Graniteville, was in town Saturday after medicine for his wife, who is sick. Dr. Meadow made several trips to East Fork last week. J. T. Patterson is now writing insurance for the American Fire Association. The Belleview Valley Bank is doing a thriving business. The President and Cashier are both very accommodating, which has much to do with the success of any bank. Herbert Smith and wife are now in St. Louis, and will probably not return before September. Louis Bartlow was in town Saturday. Mrs. Hodges, of Lesterville, visited friends in the valley last week. Roy McClurg, of Bismarck, visited E. E. Chambers last week. Herman Roehrs has purchased a new buggy and harness. Glen Smith and William Stephens were in St. Louis a few days ago. Mesdames Anna Logan and Eva Hatley were in Graniteville Wednesday. The Baptist Ladies' Aid gave an ice cream supper in the Masonic Hall Tuesday night of last week. The receipts were something over \$15.00, we are informed. As a result of the very dry weather which has prevailed over this locality since early in April, meadows and oats are almost an entire failure, while potatoes have been very materially damaged. Corn, though very much retarded in growth, will make a fair yield, if we should get plenty of rain through July and August. To-day (Monday) we are having a slow, steady rain, the first in two weeks, and it is hoped that we may get a ground-soaker. Roy Sizem filled his regular appointment at the M. E. Church Sunday.

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Next Week!

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