The Drip of the Rain.

The stars have curtained their light
in clouds
And the moon has slipped from sight;
And only the sound of the rain is
heard
Through the fragrant summer night.
Over the sloping and moss-grown
eaves,
Drenching the lilies and sweet green
leaves,
Filling the night with its low refrain
Is heard the drip of the summer rain.

The darkness, soft as a velvet robe,
Shuts the cares of the world away;
And the south wind blows the slanting rain
Into sheets of silver spray,
And up through the darkness, warm and wet,
Comes the scent of pansies and mignonette,
Bearing the message of hope again,
In this peaceful hour of rest and rain.

'Tis a gracious gift that the night bestows,
For the summer shower brings
The dreams of peace, and a breath of balm
On the sweep of its dusky wings.
And the hearts that sorrow forget to weep,
On the shadowy border-lands of sleep;
And the voice of care and the sting of pain
Are lost in the drip of the summer rain.

Emma G. Weston in the Youth's Companion.

Laughter and Tears.

The car was almost due at the summit of the Gornergrat. The chill air from the glacier fields pressed a stimulating finger on the pulses. The ice of the surrounding glaciers was dull green and deep.

The Little Traveler, wound to the neck in a thick plaid shawl, stood waiting with her aunt. They were going down on the last car which made the trip that day. They had wished to spend the night on the top, for Elizabeth, the captain of this brief summer outing, had but to give the orders and Die Tante obeyed like a soldier.

But, alas, the money was lacking. They had added once and again the columns in their account book, and the result came ever the same with the tiresome inflexibility of mathematics. The two hungry sight-seers were at last enjoying Switzerland after months of longing. But their rule must be kept—so many marks a day, and prices at the tip-top houses have all the rarity of the altitude where they flourish. So this pleasure must be given up.

"For once I am almost satisfied," sighed Elizabeth. "It would be too glorious to see a sunrise here, too. We must be content with our half-loaf."

The electric car came slowly creeping up the steel way bringing noise, a disturbing element, a taste of modern improvement into these silent heights.

Elizabeth's green touring hat bore a puff of feathers on a quivering wire. Each time they trembled, if you cared for Elizabeth you must look to see if she, too, trembled. "One look, dear Aunt, one long look to fix this picture in my mind. How dull the four walls and the sewing will be after this feast of ice and snow. Just see how clear the air is and how near the other peaks look. I am going to that rock to look at the Matterhorn. There is time to spare. The car is not up yet, and it waits before going down again. Come."

The rose color of the afterglow on snowy summit defies the common sense. Even the solid fields of white, sloping down the channels between scaring peaks, these have a chilled sorcery of their own. Imprint the scene on our mind, Elizabeth. It will always stay. It is, as you say, so hauntingly beautiful and remote.

The dependence, the finiteness of daily life is the chain by which the spiritual delights must be confined. And no joy is sufficient to itself, even observation of the Gornergrat panorama. The little Swiss watch, a delicate toy, the price of which had shortened the pleasure trip two weeks, the watch pinned on Elizabeth's breast, continued ticking and ticking, leading time captive and leading Elizabeth and her aunt from the rock with its mighty outlook back to the little station. The car stood ready for the descent, with perhaps a thirty seconds to spare.

The morning of the same day George Werner, a young student, had arrived at Zermatt. His face was long by nature and now it was long from fatigue—and what else? Perhaps it was fatigue alone. He was always jolly in conversation, therefore he must be always happy. A smile came quickly to his face when he met a friend. When left alone it died quickly away. But always his interest in others was there.

Young blood must flow a little faster at seeing the noble view which is the heart's desire. George had dreamed of this hour, and now as he sat on the ascending car, here was reality. His reddish hair blew back from his temples, white from the confinement of study.

The summer was almost past, but near the summit there were no plants to mark the change of season by their brighter coloring. The stony bed of the new steel way was hardly adjusted, and barrenness ruled under foot.

But raise your eyes, George. There stand the monarchs of Switzerland. The eyes must be kept always open. He knows this, for when the lids shut quietly he sees many far-away things. Though the scenes shift in each one is a figure buoyant with life and sometimes wearing a plaid shawl and an Alpine hat which shades the blue eyes beneath. In fact, the familiar eyes are so shaded that when George looks into them the vision always fades; he opens his own eyes and sighs himself back into the present moment.

Life would be quite another thing if he might allow himself these visions. But they come without leave, and must be put aside. The question which had often risen to his lips was not the one he might ask.

Having an invalid mother and no money, a student may say, "Will you pass me the bread?" while his glances speak many gentle courtesies. But he may not say, "Will you share my bread?" when there is hardly enough for the mother.

Therefore sunshine is brightest when the eyelids curtain the eyes, Yet is a vision of fair possibilities not half as real as the rain against the window.

The car had arrived at the top. George stood on the station platform, contemplative. Before the pleasure of walking to the very summit he would watch the car go down again. When it should descend under the great red sun, the Polyphemus eye of the mountain world, the last link with Zermatt would be severed for the night.

He stood with his back to a large rock. When he arrived he had noticed two figures seated on it, and had idly thought of them as chance companions on the summit over night.

The Lilliputian bustle of departure as the car was prepared for descending amused him. How different this adjustable and particular start from the hurried stoppages and confused crowd of a city car.

A belated passenger was loudly summoned by the conductor. "One moment," came the answer as two ladies passed George, hurrying toward the car. It was Die Tante, with Elizabeth. At the sound of the voice he knew who it was, and yet his eyes needed proof. As Elizabeth passed him he laid a hand on her arm. She turned and recognized him.

Surely the snow fields lend a strange and radiant light to the eyes which behold them. Perhaps Elizabeth had sat too long on the great rock.

"But the car is going—now," came from her in gasps as if she were answering some question.

Two other passengers were to go down. Happily they were quarreling over the disposition of their satchels. Die Tante had hurridly attained a seat in the car and stood transfixed, a spirit of wonder at the unforeseen.

George found speech after several precious seconds had elapsed. He still kept his hand on Elizabeth's shawl where the blue stripe crossed the red one. The evening air from the glaciers was like wine.

"Elizabeth, the sunrise here will be so wonderful, so without compare," he eagerly said. Her advent had bewildered him. The reality was still part of his vision and, like the sunrise, wonderful beyond compare.

The car started with Elizabeth poised like a bird on the step. George grasped her hand to detain her.

"The beautiful mountain-tops. We must see them together," he cried, as the wheels moved. Even while he spoke the car gained speed, and he walked quickly beside it.

Instinctively he pushed her firmly on to the platform of the car, for safety, but did not relinquish her hand. Die Tante stood ready to jump off in case of need. Voices called to them in warning as the car gathered such headway that George was obliged to run.

All their past meetings and partings were in the clasp of his hand, and he would not let go. His hat far behind, he followed, like Merlin, unreckoning, on the gleam, on the light from her eyes.

"Ah love, I cannot," came from him without his wish.

Elizabeth bent towards him from the car. She had thought, thus far, only of the miracle of his presence. Now she realized that there was danger to face. For her to loose his hand was impossible, so firm was his hold.

For her to jump off—no. Yet if he were hurt! Never had his safety been so imperative.

There was no time to lose. "Get on, quick," she called, loud enough to conquer the noise of wheels and pulled him forward and up with all her strength.

George came suddenly to his senses. With a brave laugh and a firm foot he challenged the gods and gained the platform.

The bunch of feathers on Elizabeth's green hat quivered like aspens as he drew himself up, still holding her hand. If you cared for her you must look to see if she, too, trembled.

After all, three can live on very little if the austere spirit of self-sacrifice walk among them, and the tender hand of a new daughter to smooth the pillows in the sick room, is worth more than gold.—Margaret Jeannette Gates in Massachusetts Ploughman.

ORIGIN OF THE PEARL.

Secretion Formed for Defense, Thinks M. Seurat.

The origin of the pearl in the shell of the oyster, or other bivalve or mollusk, has been the object of a considerable amount of investigation and speculation. Among the more recent studies of the subject may be noted those of M. Seurat recorded in the "Comptes Rendus." This naturalist finds that in pearl oysters from the Gambia lagoons, in the South Pacific, the pearls are due to a small worm—a sort of tapeworm. In cysts on the body and mantle of the oyster he has found true pearls surrounding a nucleus which he has shown to be one of these worms. Like other tapeworms, this one, concerned in the production of pearls, requires a second host in which to complete its development. And M. Seurat considers that the ray is the second host in this case, for he has found in the spiral intestine of this fish small tapeworms, which he regards as the adult form of the larval worm of the pearl oyster. The author has named this new species of tapeworm Tylocephalum margaritiferae. The view has been held that the pearl is a secretion formed, as it were, in self-defense for the surrounding and isolation of an injurious foreign body.

The Artful Squirrel.

You may find many a squirrel in the course of your tramp, but no two alike exactly in their method of attempted escape or concealment. The ways and means of the little rascals are legion. One may flatten himself out against a gray patch on the back of a tree trunk, absolutely motionless; and unless in your earnest, steadfast looking you can detect an ear or a shoulder in relief against the sky you might as well abandon search. Another may lie along a bough flattened at full length; but here the telltale ears are more easily silhouetted. Still another may crouch drawn up in a fork; and here the thing to look for is the fluffy tip of that little signal flag which always works and waves and jerks and signals so bravely when danger is not in the air. Or one may gather himself up in a bunch to imitate a knot or knob; and here he can very well tell when you have spied him out. He will catch your eye, even as you catch the eye of an acquaintance in a crowd, and will instantly limber up for headlong flight, leaping from tree to tree, till he vanishes over the ridge.—Field and Stream.

Denatured alcohol is used in a hat factory at Manchester, England. The manufacturers use the psirit, recover it, and redistill the produce in their own factory, and use it over again until it is used up.

FARM AND GARDEN

Keeping the skin of the work horses clean, enables them to sweat freely and thus is essential to their health.

The true type of a dairy cow is that which furnishes the most and best of any commercial products at the lowest cost.

If a dairy cow is properly fed and cared for she will do her best, but she will never do all that she is capable of without good care.

Do not undertake to keep too many hens at a time. A few well cared for is better than a large number left to look out for themselves.

Get rid of the surplus horses that are not growing into money. There is no advantage in keeping enough extra horses to eat all that useful ones earn.

It is rather poor economy to cram 50 cents worth of drugs down the throat of a sick chicken that would not be worth over a quarter, if it were well.

It is the hungry hog that is always looking for a break in the fence. It is the chicken-eating sow that should never be bred. Her kind will not pay for the raising.

Some people seem to regard it a pleasant surgical operation to "eat their heads off," and they feel it is not expensive to keep stock that will do that same thing.

Regularity costs no more than irregularity and it means much in the management of stock. Stock have no timepiece, but it wonderful how they can tell when feeding time is at hand.

The alfalfa business is yet in its infancy. There seems to be so many things that one can learn about it. This can be learned best by trying a small acreage, though it is too late to sow this year.

Without exercise, it is impossible for the muscles of young horses to develop, hence the necessity of a good-sized field for them to run in. If you would have horses with endurance, give the colts a chance to develop their muscles.

Good sense and docility as well as lack of sense and treachery are matters of transmission by inheritance. This is true of ailments, habits of action, disposition and all those things which go to make a good or bad horse.

The present day haying machinery has taken a great deal of sweat out of the business. In looking at some of the machinery manufactured for this purpose it almost makes one feel that it would be a pleasure to have haying the whole year round.

A cavalry authority in Belgium estimates that there are more than 8,000,000 horses in the world. There are 22,000,000 in Russia, while Germany and Austria-Hungary each has more than the British isles, where it is reckoned there are about 3,000,000.

It is usually the hired help that watch the clock that complain most of bad luck, hard times and lack of appreciation on the part of their employers. The kind who don't watch the clock have little time to complain, and even less inclination to do so.

Farmers and gardeners in the vicinity of Bennington, Vt., are sustaining large losses as the result of the inroads of Belgian hares, which are the offspring of pairs of these animals which were turned loose when this craze subsided some three or four years ago.

In securing a good supply of eggs the inborn tendency of heavy laying is an important point. It is a tendency which goes in certain strains the same as in certain families of cattle, and without it no amount of skillful care and feeding will produce the best results.

The largest individual wool clip ever grown on the American continent was shipped from Billings, Mont., to a Boston firm. The clip weighed 1,500,000 pounds, and forty-four cars were required to carry it. The owner refused an offer of 24 cents a pound for the wool.

Let the farmer who wants good colts select the best grade mares and breed them annually to one good type of horse. Of course, the quality of the dam always has more or less influence upon the progeny, but no matter how good or how poor the mother, the best sire obtainable is none too good.

Indiana has a fertilizer law which is aimed to protect the farmers and gardeners within her borders. It provides that fertilizers offered for sale shall not only bear the inspection label of the state chemist, but shall give the percentages of the ingredients which they contain, so that the purchaser may tell at a glance what he is buying.

From observations made with a number of hens it was found that in every instance the eggs were moved every day and did not remain in the same part of the nest more than three days. The thorough manner in which the hen turns the eggs may well furnish us a clew to the most natural treatment of the eggs when under the artificial conditions of the incubator.

There is one thing in favor of the compressed air system of water works not always to be found in the gravity system. One can control the pressure and can elevate the water to be used in any part of the house and the boiler and pipes can be located in a frost proof place in the cellar. There should be more complete systems of water works on farms. The best is none too good.

In Missouri, where sheep or domestic animals are killed or maimed by dogs, the owner of such animal may recover against the owner or keeper of such dog or dogs the full amount of damages, and the owner shall forthwith kill such dog or dogs; and for every day he shall refuse or neglect to do so after notice, he shall pay and forfeit the sum of $1 and it shall be lawful for any person to kill such dog or dogs.

Cotton is king of the exports of the United States, according to a statement issued by the department of commerce and labor. The total value of the raw product sent out of the country in the last fiscal year is placed at $400,000,000, exceeding by far the value of any other article of merchandise shipped from our shores. The export of breadstuffs aggregated $136,000,000, those of provisions $211,000,000 and those of iron and steel manufactures $161,000,000—so it may readily be seen what a lead cotton has on its rivals. Europe is the principal consumer of raw cotton, and Japan also takes a great quantity of the unworked product.

A suggestion which has been made by a number of experiment stations, and one that will at least be seconded by the stations of all states, is that agriculturists should send samples of noxious weeds to their respective state experiment stations with a view to securing a scientific and reliable analysis of them and such suggestions as will prove helpful in their destruction. The state officials in charge of this line of work are always ready and willing to render assistance to residents of the state in the manner indicated.

A recent bulletin issued by the Iowa experiment station on the subject of alfalfa culture condenses the good points of this valuable legume as follows: It yields from two to three times as much as clover and timothy and is at the same time a more valuable hay. It is rich in protein. For hog pasture alfalfa has no equal. It is superior to any other crop for enriching the soil. Alfalfa fed in conjunction with corn will make most economical gains. The bulletin further states that the growing of alfalfa is entirely feasible for the north half of the corn belt and even more northerly latitudes, provided care is exercised in the matter of getting it started. Interest in growing alfalfa is bound to increase as its merits become better known.

The Tussock Moth.

The Province of Quebec is threatened with a plague of the tussock moth, which is very numerous in the region of Montreal and attacks many kinds of trees. The authorities are fighting the pest by destroying their nests. This insect is some years very abundant in the Northern States. The nests resemble white patches of cobweb and contain hundreds of eggs which will hatch in the spring.

Pure Bred Poulty on the Farm.

When you have made up your mind to raise thoroughbred poultry instead of mongrels, determine also to keep only one breed, one color and one type. This is very important on a farm where arrangements are not usually found for keeping poultry separate. Very often a complete reorganization of the poultry appliances will be necessary. It is perfectly obvious that, however valuable and pure bred a stock may be, it cannot be kept so unless certain things are observed.

Fascinating Tree Work.

Grafting and budding young trees is fascinating work for ladies, and we know several who can do a good, neat bit of work. Quick, precise movements are requisite and the ladies pick it up readily. Every boy should learn the process. One Massachusetts farmer's son recently applied for work on a California ranch. "We have plenty of farm help," said the owner, "but I wish I could get a man who understands grafting and budding. If you can do that I will pay you high wages and board the year round."

Saving the Corn Fodder.

While the selling price of hay has in the past, as a rule, largely determined the value of corn fodder, the time is at hand when, regardless of the price of hay, such a system of handling the corn crop should be adopted as will put an end to the enormous waste which is annually witnessed in practically all of the corn belt west of the Mississippi river. A more careful and sensible handling of the stalk and leaves of this important cereal plant will mean the addition of many acres to the farm area. The hitherto wasteful methods which have prevailed in this respect have without doubt been due to the existence of large farms, relatively cheap land and that system of handling the crops which marketed the products of the soil in the shape of the grain itself rather than in the more condensed form of butter, pork and beef. However, with land values steadily increasing and more and more time being devoted to dairying and stock raising, a condition has arisen which practically compels more thrift and care in the handling of this most important farm crop.

Sowing of Winter Whea.

At the proper time for seeding, winter wheat is sown, using the press drill. Unless Hessian fly is to be fought the wheat is drilled in about the middle of September. This method of treatment accomplishes two things, the plowed land will take up more of the rainfall than unbroken stubble, and it will store it up for the use of the wheat crop. The early plowing and subsequent disking and harrowing make a fine, well-compacted subsoil free from large air spaces and give a fine, loose surface. Such a seed-bed is ideal for wheat. The moisture stored up enables the young plants to make a good, vigorous start and to develop a strong root system before freezing weather stops the growth. They are thus much better able to withstand the rigors of winter.

The fourth year, after the wheat crop is harvested, the soil is treated just as for the oat crop. If the land is in fairly good shape, the rotation is repeated by putting into the corn the following spring. If the land shows that it is running down in fertility, it is seeded in the fall to grass, if the season is wet enough, sowing the grass about the last of August or the first of September. Fall plowing gives a crop that first year, thus saving the loss of the land for one season. If too dry for fall seeding, the land is sown to grass the following spring. The land is thus left in grass from two to five years, when it is again broken up and put under cultivation.

ON TO WASHINGTON.

"Dr. H. W. Wiley, chemist of the Department of Agriculture, proposes to inaugurate a series of experiments to determine the effects of alcohol on the human stomach."—News Item.

Mrs. Philip P. Wilcox, a slender little woman, weighing scarcely 100 pounds, is the village blacksmith of College View, Neb. She learned her somewhat unusual trade from her husband.

Having taken up the work at first for pleasure, Mrs. Wilcox found her health steadily improved with the exercise, and decided to keep the little Wilcox blacksmith shop open one summer while her husband was away working in the railroad shops. Her success was so marked that she has kept at the work ever since. She can shoe a horse as well as any other blacksmith in the country, though she admits this is one part of the work which is a little distasteful to her.

Mrs. Wilcox was a teacher before her marriage, and now holds a teacher's certificate. She said: "There is more money in blacksmithing. If some of those poor, overcrowded teachers would try this business once they would never go back to the school room again. I'm bringing up my girls the same way. The eldest is an expert bicycle repairer now and the younger two are also good at the business. The oldest girl has a bank account that she earned from bicycle repairing."

One day a farmer led up a mettlesome young horse to be shod. Mr. Wilcox went forward to take charge of the animal, but its owner shook his head.

"If you don't mind, Phil," he said, "I'd rather Mrs. Wilcox would do this job. The colt seems to have a weakness for her. He nearly kicked the shop down when a man tried to shoe him down in Lincoln a few weeks ago, but when Mrs. Wilcox did it before he acted like a lamb. She charms them some way. Maybe it's the way she talks to them."

Mrs. Wilcox stroked the horse for a moment on the nose, and, talking gently to him all the time, began the work, the animal offering no resistance whatever, though he had laid back his ears threateningly at Mr. Wilcox's approach.

Noting the look of surprise caused by the ease with which she wielded a heavy hammer, Mrs. Wilcox smiled. "It's not so much strength," she said, "though of course I'm a hundred per cent stronger than I was when I began this work. It's more in knowing just how, and, perhaps, in really enjoying it. You'd be surprised to know how much genuine pleasure I get out of this work."

LAUNCHING BY ELECTRICITY.

Ingenious New Mechanism Used at a British Shipyard.

The launching of the new British battle ship Agamemnon, which took place on June 23 at Delmuir, Scotland, was marked by the use of ingenious new mechanism, says the Literary Digest. In particular, we are informed by a writer in Engineering, that the old type of dogshores was replaced by an electrical arrangement connected to a series of interlocking levers, which release the triggers that hold the vessel until the signal is given that all is ready for launching. Says the writer:

"Two separate triggers were placed on each side, each fitted with magnetic reply gear to indicate on the launching platform that the mechanism had worked satisfactorily. The whole gear was controlled by means of a miniature steering wheel and standard placed on the launching platform, and so adjusted that when the Countess of Aberdeen, who performed the ceremony, gave the wheel one complete revolution, the triggers were released and the vessel was free to run down the ways. A powerful hydraulic ram was placed at the forward end of the sliding ways on each side of the vessel, the cylinders being coupled to the same supply pipe to insure equality of pressure. These rams were for the purpose of giving the vessel a start if she had not moved directly the triggers were released; but in this instance they were unnecessary. The drags for checking the 'way' on the ship after she had successfully taken the water were formed of chain cables, three piles being arranged on each side to come into play at suitable intervals. The total weight of drags employed was about 600 tons, and their action in bringing the ship to rest was in every way satisfactory. The total time taken from the strat until the vessel was actually clear of the ways was 1:51."

The writer says further:

"The particular berth upon which the Agamemnon was built was specially prepared for the laying down of a vessel of the largest and heaviest type, great care having been taken in the piling in the area. Nearly 1,000 pitch-pine logs, each 40 feet long and 12 inches square, were driven vertically into the ground, with cross-ties on their tops, the total quantity of timber used in the preparation of the berth amounting to about 80,000 cubic feet."

SCHOOL STUDIES.

I was just thinking of "Stub" Williams. Remember him? He sat on the front seat and was the dumbest thing that ever went barefoot. About all he could do when called upon to recite was sweat and look as expressionless as a pumpkin pie. He couldn't spell; he could scarcely read; he knew nothing about geography, and he always said that grammar "ain't no use." His father was another "Stub," and went to law with the school authorities because they forced him to send his boy to school. The old man is dead. Heard of the other "Stub" last week. He went through our town in his private car. His grammar isn't much better, but when he speaks the superintendents of three big railroad systems take notice, and he can sign his name so that they can read it at the bank. You never can tell.—Cincinnati Post.

Bliss for the Baggage Smasher.

"So you long for the time when the airship will be a commercial reality?"

"Sure," answered the baggageman with some enthusiasm. "Think of droppin' off a trunk at a way station from a height of about two miles!"—Louisville Courier-Journal.

"WHEN THE LEAVES BEGIN TO FALL!"

—St. Louis Republic.

POLITICS OF THE DAY

The Cost of Living.

Bradstreet's index numbers of prices for October show the highest point reached since 1896 and indicate that the cost of living has advanced nearly 50 per cent since July 1, 1896. The advance since October, 1905, has been 3.8 per cent, so that prices are still rapidly advancing. As the index numbers are based on every necessity except rent and approximately agree with those issued by the R. G. Dun Co., they are much more reliable than the figures issued by the Bureau of Labor for partisan purposes.

The following thirteen groups of commodities with the index numbers at different dates will be of great interest to all, but especially to those with incomes that do not fluctuate with prices and are therefore 50 per cent worse off than in 1896:

	July 1, 1896.	Jan. 1, 1906.	Oct. 1, 1905.	Sept. 1, 1906.	Oct. 1, 1906.
Breadstuffs	$0.0524	$0.0808	$0.0783	$0.0733	$0.0758
Live stock	.1855	.3035	.2965	.3125	.3180
Provisions	1.3619	1.8652	1.7927	1.9297	1.9573
Fruits	.1210	.1392	.1892	.1994	.2507
Hides and leather	.8250	1.2150	1.1400	1.1909	1.1900
Textiles	1.5799	2.5408	2.5550	2.4935	2.4942
Metals	.3757	.7010	.6300	.7534	.7728
Coal and coke	.0048	.0072	.0064	.0069	.0073
Oils	.2082	.2088	.2089	.2895	.2935
Naval stores	.0402	.1039	.1070	.0994	.1022
Building materials	.0716	.0803	.0874	.0894	.0902
Chemicals and drugs	.6607	.6987	.7017	.7083	.7083
Miscellaneous	.2150	.2945	.3467	.2015	.2877
Total	$5.7019	$8.3289	$8.2298	$8.4428	$8.5480

The political significance of these index figures is that this enormous rise in prices of nearly 50 per cent has entirely occurred since the passage of the present tariff law, with its trust-fostering and monopoly-producing consequences. And yet the Republican leaders say "Stand pat and let the trusts and monopolists continue to plunder you."

Moving the Crops.

Wall street is having its annual trouble of tight money, although the administration has loaned the Wall street and other national bankers over $150,000,000 of the public money without interest. As interest rates are very high, both call and time money bringing 6 per cent and over and has been even as high as 30 per cent for a short period, it will be seen what a great profit the bankers are making from this enormous loan of the public funds. As nearly all the banks of the country keep an account with one of the New York banks, when there is a slack demand in the country these deposits of the country banks with the New York banks are greatly augmented, for the reason that the Wall street banks pay interest of 2 to 3 per cent on daily balances. But when the farmers begin to market their crops, the wheat and other produce buyers begin to use their money on deposit with the country bankers and also borrow of the banks they do business with enough money to buy the products the farmers are selling. This crop movement compels the country banks to draw upon their deposits in the Wall street banks and at other monetary centers and immediately the Wall street bankers begin to howl they must have more money to move the crops.

As the Wall street bankers loan their surplus money to the stock speculators they are compelled to "call" these loans made to brokers and others, so that the deposits of the country banks can be returned to them. Instead of Wall street banks furnishing the money to move the crops they are merely returning the money of the country banks to be used for that purpose.

The real cause of the periodical Wall street money squeeze is that the bankers and their chief customers are loaded down with railroad and industrial stocks and bonds, for which no market can be found at remunerative prices. The public with money to invest have found other investments more safe and profitable and as there is a constant further issue of stocks and bonds, the amount controlled by the Wall street interests is increasing. Many of these stocks are "pure water," that is, there has been no actual investment of the money they represent, but interest is paid on them, or is expected to be paid on them in the near future.

There is plenty of money in the country to carry on all legitimate business, but under the Republican policy of tariff protection and loaning the surplus public money to favored national banks, which naturally finds its way to Wall street for use, because the profits are greater there than elsewhere, there has grown up an era of trust and corporation inflation, by issuing vast amounts of stocks and even bonds, which have to be financed by Wall street.

The bankers are now joining in a movement for a change in the banking law, so that they can issue more notes based on assets, and unless the people of the country pay heed and instruct their representatives in Congress to be careful of legislating in the interest of Wall street, they will find the money power provided with another instrument to bleed them. There are already too many laws which allow the few to benefit at the expense of the many.

The Cause of Prosperity.

What a blessing it has been to the American people that the fathers of the Republic insured free trade in the United States. If each State in the Union could enforce a tariff tax against the other States, or any one of them, how hampered commerce would have been. Every State line would have been a string of custom houses and collectors of tariff taxes would have searched everyone who wanted to go from one State to another, as is the case in the European States to-day. Free trade between the States has been the most potent cause of our marvelous internal commerce and of our prosperity, in spite of the drawback of the high tariff, that imposes such an obstacle in our trade with foreign nations.

Until the constitutional limitations restricting taxation are removed the Federal government is virtually compelled to raise the necessary revenue by tariff taxes, and internal revenue taxation, or resort to the method of direct taxation apportioned according to the population. Such a direct tax would be unequal taxation and no party has advocated imposing it, either in lieu of other taxation, or to constitute a part of the Federal taxes.

erated and to settle how high or how low the tariff wall shall be is of the

Therefore the tariff taxes and internal revenue taxes are virtually the sole means of raising the necessary revenue to support the government. The question of the relative percentage of tariff taxation is therefore a perennial issue that cannot be easily obliterated of importance to the American people.

The original pretense for the high protective tariff was to encourage infant industries, but the tariff laws before the civil war were very moderate in comparison with the present law and yet the infant industries conducted by individuals have now grown to be gigantic corporations, but still demand protection. The further pretense is now made by the Republicans that the high protective tariff is necessary to protect the wage earner and increase his wages. But this pretense is shattered by the fact that the cost of living has increased much faster than wages have under this Republican system and the wage-earners are revolting against the Republicans, having discovered their prosperity is not enhanced by the plundering of the tariff protected trusts that high protection has fostered.

But the great argument of our modern standpat statesmen is that to revise the tariff would upset the present prosperity. But in fact we have prospered in spite of the drawback of protection and chiefly because of free trade between the States which has produced an enormous traffic from one State to another without the blighting influence of high taxation.

If the tariff was so revised that instead of protecting the trusts, the rates were fixed to produce enough revenue to run the government, honestly and economically administered, how far greater our prosperity would be. Our trade with other lands and theirs with ours would be vastly extended and instead of the trusts selling cheaper to foreigners than to our own people we would have the choice of the markets of the world to buy and sell in.

With free raw material our manufacturers would compete in every market and instead of the cost of living being nearly 50 per cent higher than it was ten years ago and wages being less than 20 per cent higher—a clear loss of 30 per cent to the wage-earners—the two would so adjust themselves that the workingman and those with fixed incomes would participate in the prosperity that is now monopolized by the trusts and the few at the expense of the many.

Cautious Words.

Farmer Wilson, who hangs on to the position of Secretary of Agriculture with the vigor of a professional Republican officeholder, in spite of scandals and semi-scandals in his department, gave out a statement on Oct. 22 about the proposed meat merger that shows he is growing cautious with age. He said:

"We have a bureau of corporations, whose agents are especially charged with looking into matters of this kind.

"We have a Department of Justice whose machinery was designed to be used in just such a case as this.

"We have our own Attorney General to talk to grand juries.

"We have grand juries to listen and to indict.

"We have petit juries.

"And we have penitentiaries."

It is true "there is a bureau of corporations," but the public has been kept absolutely in the dark about what it has discovered about the trusts, except upon the notable occasion when it gave publicity to the business of the beef packers. That report did not give promise of great results in its investigation of other corporations and the absurdity of the result arrived at seemed to discourage the bureau and President Roosevelt from giving further publicity to trust doings.

It is true "we have a Department of Justice," but the results so far achieved by the great array of lawyers employed there, have not electrified the country by getting even one guilty trust magnate in stripes.

It is true "we have our own Attorney General to talk to grand juries," but perhaps such efforts would have been more effective if addressed to petit juries and in urging the court to enforce the provision for imprisonment of the guilty trust and corporation managers instead of fining a soulless corporation which has evidently no effect in hindering crime.

It is true "we have grand juries to listen and indict," and "we have petit juries," but with all this paraphernalia of the law the results have been meager and unproductive and no trust, or combine, or corporation, has reduced its exorbitant prices, or ceased from plundering the people.

It is true "we have penitentiaries," but so far there is no trust magnate, however vicious, or no corporation manager, however strong the evidence against him, that is confined in those penal institutions as a punishment for breaking the statute in such case made and provided.

It is true this strenuous administration has boasted of "doing things," but it has been like the idle vaporings of other boasters—but words, words and not followed by deeds. Under these circumstances it is hardly likely that the oscitating doors of the penitentiary will cause this new candidate for trust honors and illegal gain to fear what the present administration will do to it.

Reason Disclosed.

Wedderly (time 11 p. m.)—Yes, sir, I'm right here to tell you that since I married my home is a perfect heaven on earth.

Singleton—Huh! That accounts for it, I suppose.

Wedderly—Accounts for what?

Singleton—Your being downtown so late. I never heard of a man who was in a hurry to enter heaven.