MITCHELL DENIES GUILT

Oregon Senator Indicted For Land Frauds Issues Statement Declaring Innocence

VICTIM OF A CONSPIRACY

Declares the Indictment Must be Based Upon the Testimony of Self-Confessed and Convicted Land Thieves—What the Government Will Attempt to Prove.

Portland, Ore., Jan. 2.—The Oregonian yesterday printed the following authorized statement by Senator Mitchell regarding his connection with the alleged land frauds conspiracy:

"I am as innocent as a baby unborn of any complicity in any land frauds in Oregon or elsewhere. I assert in the most positive terms that the indictment must be based upon the testimony of self-confessed and convicted land thieves and perjurers, who have been offered immunity in case they meet the vindictive desire of Secretary Hitchcock and his agents, who have by their testimony involved me and others in the frauds.

"The prosecution officer, Francis J. Heney, filled the newspapers of the United States with press dispatches from Portland ten days before the grand jury met, to the effect that I was involved in the land frauds. I immediately left Washington for Portland to answer any charges made against me by the grand jury, and I wired Heney that I desired the privilege of going before the grand jury to answer any charges against me. On my arrival in Portland I made a similar request of the foreman of the jury.

"I was told by Mr. Heney that I could go before the grand jury. Upon my appearance there I was told by Mr. Heney that no evidence had been submitted to the jury against me. I then said that if there was no charge against me to anwer, I was ready to submit to an examination. I did so for two hours and a half, and answered promptly all questions, I was not advised as to what the charge against me was, and assured the jury that I was ready and willing to answer any other questions which either Heney or any members of the jury might wish to ask me, and especially did I desire the privilege of answering any charges that might be made against me by any witnesses.

"Having been assured that no such evidence, up to that date, had been submitted, I then remained in Portland for four days after that, and, receiving no word either from Heney or the grand jury, the latter being in session all the time, I left Portland December 31 for my place of duty in Washington.

"If an indictment has been returned against me, I am prepared to meet it before a trial jury immediately, and, in this connection, I defy the prosecuting officer to produce against me one particle of evidence worthy of a moment's belief which in any manner, improperly or criminally, connects me with any land frauds, or with any confessed criminals, and I shall demand a trial at the earliest possible moment.

"That there have been land frauds in Oregon I do not deny, but, speaking for myself, I do deny in the most positive and unqualified manner that I [illegible] in any wise, either directly [illegible]ly, connected therewith or [illegible]y benefit therefrom."

The Indictment.

[illegible]tment alleges that on March [illegible] George Sorensen, offered to [illegible]all, district attorney for the [illegible]ates in Oregon, the sum of [illegible] intent to influence the said [illegible]Hall in his official capacity [illegible]g on the indictments return[illegible] S. A. D. Putter, Horace G. [illegible]et. al., to defraud the gov[illegible]nt of land in township 11, [illegible]ange 7, east. The alleged [illegible] of Senator Mitchell and [illegible]tive Hermann with the al[illegible]piracy, dates back, it is said, [illegible] when Mr. Mitchell received [illegible]rom "a prominent attorney [illegible] introducing S. A. D. Put[illegible]esponsible business man of [illegible]

[illegible]rnment will, it is said, at[illegible]ove that Putter and Mitchell [illegible]ann were well acquainted; [illegible] was an ardent supporter of [illegible] the senatorial campaign of [illegible]that all of them have been [illegible] acquainted for years.

[illegible]he government alleges Put[illegible]o Washington on business [illegible] with the lands of 11-7 in [illegible]was at that time interested. [illegible] were held up in the general [illegible] and Putter thought that it [illegible] benefit to himself and his [illegible]go to Washington and see [illegible] be done to expedite them [illegible]efore he left Portland the [illegible] will try to prove that he [illegible]P. Mays and secured from [illegible] to Senator Mitchell, tho[illegible]cording to the government, [illegible]ady well known to the sen[illegible]ing at Washington the land [illegible]went, so evidence will be of[illegible]e office of Senator Mitchell [illegible]rsed with him in regard to [illegible] his claims taken from the [illegible]d list and put thru to paten[illegible] as [illegible] as possible. He told the senator, [illegible]t is alleged, that he had already sunk [illegible] large amount of money in the claims, [illegible]nd that Emma L. Watson, a hard [illegible]orking and honest girl, had also in[illegible]ested in them at his suggestion. It [illegible]as necessary for him to have some [illegible]fluence with the commissioner of the [illegible]eneral land office to secure recog[illegible]izance. The government will attempt [illegible] prove that he promised to make it [illegible]ght with the senator in the event that [illegible]e could secure the good will and as[illegible]stance of Mr. Hermann.

The government contends that Mr. [illegible]tter then went to see Binger Her[illegible]ann, then commissioner, and talked [illegible] matter over with him. Hermann, [illegible]is alleged, did not see that anything [illegible]ld be done to the lands unless some [illegible]ion could be taken which would [illegible]ke the transaction of record [illegible] the [illegible]ce. Putter then got into [illegible]ck, it [illegible]leged, and went to the ho[illegible] Sen[illegible] [illegible]r Mitchell, the Dewey [illegible], and [illegible]d him of the alleged c[illegible]sation [illegible]ith Binger Hermann. T[illegible]mous Putter-Walson affidavits according to the government were then made in the hotel of the senator, and it is alleged that Senator Mitchell dictated the papers to his own stenographer, and had them delivered to Mr. Putter as finished. The affidavits, which it is asserted, certified to the settlement of the land and its cultivation, and the character of the persons making the filing were then, so the government will attempt to prove, taken to Mr. Hermann, who, it is alleged, took them under consideration.

On March 6, 1902, the government alleges Mr. Hermann wrote a letter to Senator Mitchell, stating that he had expedited the claims as per his request. This is the letter which was introduced in the first trial and over the identification of which both Senator Mitchell and Mr. Hermann were in doubt, and the letter which Commissioner W. A. Richards made his trip to Portland from Washington to identify. This letter said that Mr. Hermann had expedited the claims and that the clerk of the division would take the claims under consideration.

This, it is understood, was done, and on the following day the clerk recommended that they be returned to the local land office at Oregon City for further proof and investigation. The clerk recommended, it is stated, that the entries seemed to be fraudulent, and not according to law. These were the Davis lands in which it is alleged W. N. Davis of Albany and others were interested.

The Government Action.

The government will try to show that when Loomis received this money he wrote another letter to Hermann asking that something be done in the expedition of the land cases or at least that they should be considered. It is alleged here a report was sent to Hermann, calling attention to the alleged Loomis and Davis letter and asking that the lands be considered, but admitting that the laws had not been observed.

The report was dated March 7, but March 6, Mr. Hermann had ordered the claims expedited. When he saw the report made by Ogden, however, it is said he hesitated, and when Putter came to see him, it is alleged, he told Putter that he thought the alleged matter looked pretty bad and that he was afraid the claims would have to go back to the Oregon offices for further investigation. Mr. Putter, by this time, had expended, it is alleged, about $6,000 on the deal, and when he was told this, it is said, he went back to Mitchell. It is said he told the senator that his influence was necessary to influence Hermann to put lands thru. It is added that he told the senator that if the claims went back to Oregon they would be lost to him and all of the money he had put into them would be gone. At this time, the government will attempt to prove, Mr. Putter laid two $1,000 bills on the table in front of the senator, and it will also try to prove that he told Mitchell to take them.

The senator, it is alleged, did not wish to take all of the money, and, it is said, pushed one of the bills back, but the government asserts that Putter insisted that $2,000 was not too much, and that the money was taken by the senator. The government will offer evidence that Senator Mitchell told him he would do the best he could for him.

KANSAS TEACHERS NOMINATE

C. W. Butcher of Wellington Selected For Association President.

Topeka, Kas., Dec. 29.—The nominating committee of the Kansas Teachers' Association last night selected C. W. Butcher of Wellington for president of the association. About 900 teachers are present. Dr. Stanley Hall of Massachusetts lectured last night on "Evolution of the True Philosophy of Education."

A Long Swear-off.

Russell Sage thinks that smoking is a bad habit.

"I overheard one day," he said recently, "a conversation that delighted me. It was a conversation between a young man and his wife. He appeared to be a rather extravagant and lazy fellow. She appeared to be economical, industrious and ambitious.

"The wife was trying to urge the husband to give up smoking. She was pointing out to him how much, in the course of a year, he spent on tobacco. She was showing him that mentally, physically and financially he would be better off without his pipe.

"'But all great men have smoked,' he grumbled.

"'Well,' she answered, 'if you'll give up smoking till you're great, I'll be satisfied.'"

A Dangerous Affection

Professor Van Dyle, of Princeton, said in a recent address to a New York Sunday school:

"Errors of logic, inconsequent reasoning, are common to the young.

"A little Princeton boy the other day was walking with his mamma. As he passed the house of a friend he saw a dog playing on the lawn.

"'That dog is called Troy. Troy likes me, mamma,' he said.

"'How do you know Troy likes you, Charles?' the mother asked.

'Because, one day he tasted of me,' said the boy."

Spoiled Her Beauty.

Harriet Howard, of 209 West 34th st., New York, at one time had her beauty spoiled with skin trouble. She writes: "I had salt rheum or eczema for years, but nothing would cure it until I used Bucklen's Arnica Salve." A quick and sure healer for cuts, burns and sores. 25 cents, at McDonald & Mahood Co.'s drug store.

Speedy Relief.

A salve that heals without a scar is DeWitts Witch Hazel Salve. No remedy effects such speedy relief. It draws out inflammation, soothes, cools and heals all cuts, burns and bruises. A sure cure for piles and skin diseases. DeWitt's is the only genuine witch hazel salve. Beware of counterfeits, they are dangerous. Sold by all druggists.

The many friends of G. H. Hausan, engineer L. E. & W. R. R., at present living in Lima, O., will be pleased to know of his recovery from threatened kidney disease. He writes: "I was cured by using Foley's Kidney Cure, which I recommended to all, especially trainmen who are usually similarly afflicted." B. A. Morgan.

Constipation and piles are twins. They kill people inch by inch, sap life away every day. Hollister's Rocky Mountain Tea will positively cure you. No cure, no pay. 35 cents, tea or tablets. McBride & Will Drug Co.

CHADWICK SEES WIFE

Has a Conference With the Alleged Forger In the Jail at Cleveland

THEIR TROUBLES DISCUSSED

Mrs. Chadwick Tries to Imbue Her Husband With Belief in Her Innocence, but His Only Comment is "I Hope So"—Bail Furnished for Chadwick.

Cleveland, O., Jan. 1.—Sheriff Barry and Dr. Leroy S. Chadwick arrived yesterday from New York and drove to the county jail, where a bail bond was furnished for Dr. Chadwick's appearance in court next Tuesday, when he will be given a preliminary hearing. The bail bond was signed by Virgil P. Kline, counsel for Dr. Chadwick, and also by J. P. Dawley, counsel for Mrs. Chadwick. As soon as the formalities in connection with the bond were completed, Dr. Chadwick was admitted to the women's department of the jail, where he held a long conference with his wife.

Mrs. Chadwick fell in her husband's arms when she recognized him. Both wept convulsively for several minutes while clinging to each other. The two then sat down for a talk of an hour and a half.

Mrs. Chadwick tried to imbue him with her innocence of any wrong doing. His only response to these pleas was "I hope so."

The troubles into which both have been plunged were thoroughly discussed. The wife told the story interspersed by violent fits of weeping in which, at times, Dr. Chadwick joined.

"Don't believe these stories which the newspapers have been printing about me," she said. "They are all lies; every one of them. I have done nothing wrong. Believe me; trust me. Everything will come out all right in the end, and it will be seen that I have been guilty of none of these things the public charges me with. Don't think I deceive you; I will tell you the truth, and I tell you that all these reports are lies."

"I can only hope so," was the husband's answer.

"I have trusted you, and it is hard to believe anything; my mind is so confused. This has all been such a terrible shock, and I don't understand any of it. I want time to think of it. I do not say I won't trust you; only give me time to collect my thoughts. Ever since I heard of this trouble in Paris I have been bothered and my life has been made almost unbearable. I have been followed and hounded until I can think of nothing else. I am not the judge. I can only hope that everything will come out right as you say."

After an hour's conversation Attorney J. P. Dawley held a conference with Dr. and Mrs. Chadwick.

The doctor then went to the turnkey's room, where he met Emil Hoover. The man grasped his step-son by both hands and they went away talking.

STOLE THE COUNTY SEAT.

Raid Made During Blizzard and Records Captured.

Sioux City, Jan. 2.—Bangor, county seat of Walworth county, South Dakota, was the scene of a county seat raid during the great blizzard last week. Thirty men from Selby, fifteen miles away, invaded Bangor in the dead of night, during a terrific storm, when the air was full of snow, and the mercury nearly frozen, captured the records of the county, loaded them onto sledges and hauled them back to Selby.

The two towns have long been rivals for the county seat, and last fall the election on the question, resulted in a nominal victory for Bangor, Selby starting a contest which is still pending. The case has reached a point where possession would count as ten points in the law, and the Selby people decided on a bold move. Adopting Japanese tactics they made the assault just when it could not possibly have been expected.

The town of Bangor was fearful of such a move, and had planned to repulse an assault. But the attack was too cleverly made. The assailants approached from different directions, captured the court house after midnight, tied up the watchman, and then took their time to pack up the records. It took three hours for this, but it was accomplished without a suspicion getting abroad of what was doing.

The storm raged more fiercely than ever when the vandals started on their return trip to Selby, but they were fully prepared for it, and before noon the next day they were at home. A court house was established in a business building, where people having public business may present themselves. The new county officers, who come into office after January 1 are largely Selby men. People who decline, meantime, to do business at Selby, are at liberty to leave it undone. Selby is ready to defend its claim at any time or place, as the pugilists say, and Bangor, wild with rage, declares if the courts do not give it the final victory, it will take the records by violence, even tho it causes a civil war in the county.

QUIET IN BUSINESS WORLD.

Dun & Co. Report Customary Reaction After Holidays.

New York, Dec. 31.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade today says:

Holiday week brought the customary quiet conditions in the business world, inventories and preparations for annual settlements monopolizing attention, except in some branches of manufacture, where immediate deliveries were required. Severe storms also interrupted communication and transportation, particularly in the west, but on the whole the elements were helpful, for drouth was broken in the Pittsburg region. By this resumption of a boating stage on the river, shipments of coal were made possible, and the coke output restored to normal volume.

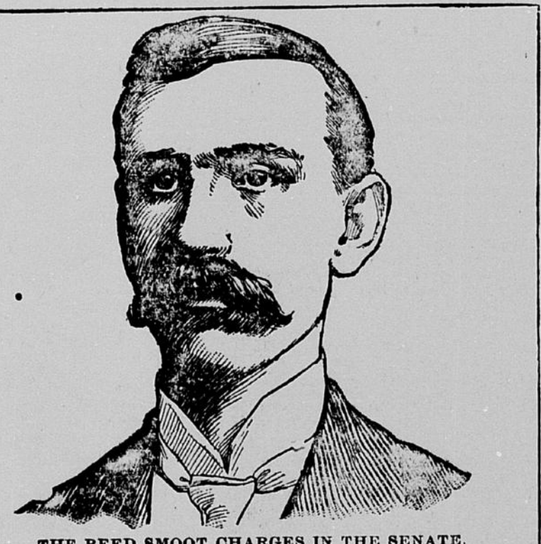
Annual reviews indicate that the year has made a much better showing than seemed possible at the outset, the second half comparing very favorably with the first six months and the amount of business on the books of leading industries promises still further improvement in 1905. Traffic returns of December indicate that the gross earnings of the railways were 7.2 per cent larger than in the previous year and foreign commerce for the last week, at this port shows an increase of $1,543,163 in exports and a very large gain of $3,819,225 in imports as compared with 1903.

Buoyant sentiments prevail in the iron and steel industry. Quotations are not only fully maintained but in many instances further advances marked the last days of the old year. The industry on a whole is in a remarkably strong position as compared with the close of last year.

OHIO ASSOCIATIONS TO UNITE.

State Organizations Plan to Form a Central Body.

Columbus, Ohio, Dec. 29.—The executive committee of fifteen associations of Ohio teachers, superintendents and examiners met yesterday to organize a central body. Oscar Chrisman of Athens presided. The organization represented included the Ohio State Association of School Examiners, Ohio Township Superintendents' Association, Ohio College Association, Ohio Teachers' Federation, Ohio Library Association and Ohio County Institute Instructors.



THE REED SMOOT CHARGES IN THE SENATE.

The charge that Reed Smoot of Utah, by reason of his connection, as an apostle, with the Mormon church, is unfitted to retain his seat in the United States senate, is attracting widespread attention, especially since the sensational evidence concerning the methods of the church was brought out by the senate investigating committee. Mr. Smoot is a wealthy man who professes to have no sympathy with the theory of plural marriage.

A GREAT INVENTION

Barclay's Telegraph Typewriter In Use for a Week Proves a Great Success—What it Means to the Western Union Telegraph Company.

Chicago, Jan. 2.—The end sought by hundreds of inventors has been attained. The typewriter telegraph at last is a reality—a proven success. Nothing more important has been known to the telegraph world since Edison introduced the quadruplex than is this apparatus, which is the product of the brain of John C. Barclay, assistant general manager and electrical engineer of the Western Union Telegraph Company, and for many years one of the Western Union officials in Chicago.

For two weeks the instrument has been in use on the New York-Buffalo circuit. Within the next month or so it will be working on the Chicago-New York circuits. Before 1905 is six months old every big trunk line of the telegraph system of the Western Union will be equipped with the new device.

All sorts of improvements may be made in the Barclay machine, but as it stands today it carries out every claim of the inventor. Any person who can manipulate a keyboard can operate it—can, by simply touching the keys, print a message at the other end of the wire. Knowledge of telegraphy is not essential. Accuracy of transmission is dependent only on accuracy in touching the keys.

Hundred Words a Minute Easy.

The inventor says the speed of the typewriter telegraph is limited only to the speed at which a person can manipulate the keys of a typewriter. One hundred words a minute is easy. A few days ago, without making any particular attempt to "speed up," a man at a typewriter in Buffalo, sent 324 messagees to New York in four hours. There was not an error in any one of these 324 telegrams. Capitalization, punctuation, and every detail of spelling was followed absolutely.

The Barclay apparatus is extremely simple in its operation. The sending operator manipulates a typewriting machine which is "in the circuit." This is not a synchronious system, but the sending of the signals preserves the proper relation of the sending and the receiving apparatus. At the receiving end the messages are printed in page form on ordinary telegraph blanks, the blanks being fed to the receiver as they are needed. A detailed description of the devise is withheld, until patent rights abroad, for which application have been made by Mr. Barclay, are granted.

Effect on Morse Operators.

Mr. Barclay believes that his invention will go a long way toward eliminating the Morse operators. Other men who are high up in the telegraph business do not think as he does. The new machine unquestionably will bring about one of the greatest economies the Western Union Company has had in a score of years, for with it one man can do what four now are doing, and these four the most expert in the business.

In times when there are no weather disturbances on the circuit the service will be practically automatic. There will be no necessity for receiving operators other than a general supervisor to see that everything is going all right. That the use of the system will be restricted to trunk lines is almost certain. There would be little economy in introducing it on local wires.

Company Owns the Invention.

One of the queer things about the new invention is that it will not bring 2 cents of profit to Mr. Barclay unless the Western Union Telegraph Company chooses to be generous to him. His device may be worth millions of dollars to the corporation, but he does not own it. Because he is the employe of the company and is under agreement to give all the products of his brain to his employers this, the greatest, of his inventions, is the property of the corporation. He has worked out his idea on the time of the company and they own it.

NAN PATTERSON REFUSED BAIL.

District Attorney Jerome Refuses Two Offers of $50,000 Bail.

New York, Jan. 2.—When Nan Patterson was informed Saturday that District Attorney Jerome would not accept bail for her pending a new trial on a charge of murder of Caesar Young, she is reported by her father and lawyers to have said: "I have been friendless so long that I cannot understand why when people offer bail for me as high as $50,000 Mr. Jerome insists on persecuting me by keeping me in prison. What object would I have in running away and where would I go to? My future lies in New York, where I expect to live and work and help support my parents, who have sacrificed what money they have saved for the costs of my trial and the few necessities which I feel I have to have, but which the prison authorities do not furnish free.

"I have spent all my own money since I was first locked up and I am obliged to look to my father for the small outlays absolutely necessary here. Rest assured, however, I shall pay him back in good time."

Two offers of $50,000 bail have been made to Miss Patterson, one by May Irwin and another by three prominent citizens of Fairmont, W. Va.

Animals on the Sea.

A scientist has made many interesting observations on the behavior of wild animals aboard ship. Those species whom one should naturally think would not object to a sea voyage are the most restless. The polar bear, he says, is the only one that takes to the sea, and is quite jolly when aboard ship. All others violently resent a trip on water, and vociferously give vent to their feeling until seasickness brings silence. The tiger suffers most of all. He whines pittifully, his eyes water continually, and he rubs his stomach with his terrible paws. Horses are very bad sailors and often perish on a sea voyage. Oxen are heroic in their attempts not to give way to sickness. Elephants do not like the sea, but they are amenable to medical treatment. A good remedy is a bucketful of hot water containing three and a half pints of whisky and seven ounces of quinine.

He Wouldn't Dictate.

[Washington Post.]

"Near my home over in Virginia," says the business woman, "there is a small Baptist church where every Sunday a colored man called Uncle Rastus preaches. I have always suspected that Uncle Rastus doesn't know how to read, tho he won't confess it. I am sure his eldest daughter selects his texts for him, but I wouldn't dare tell him I think so. He came to see me the last time I was at home, and I promised to send him a new Bible from Washington. His last name is Robertson or Robinson, and when I asked him how I should address the package, I inquired how he spelled his name. Uncle Rastus wasn't to be caught by any such transparent trick as that.

"'Well, Miss Betty,' he said, 'I ain't a-going to tell you how I spells it. You jes' spell it the way you likes best. I certainly ain't a-going to distate to a lady.'"

Expects to Find Out.

I did hear tho, of a small boy who was somewhat seriously upset in his beliefs by the discovery that Santa Claus was a myth, says the Washington Post. His Sunday school teacher told me about it. She was teaching the class the creed and Master George grinned the whole while. After the Sunday school was dismissed he walked home with the teacher and she reproached him for the grin.

"The other boys didn't do that way," she said.

"They're babies," said George, "I used to be, but I know better now. Bob Jordan told me how he found out Santa Claus was just your father and mother. I ain't found out yet who God is, but I bet I do before long."

Greatly In Demand.

Nothing is more in demand than a medicine which meets modern requirements for a blood and system cleanser, such as Dr. King's New Life Pills. They are just what you need to cure stomach and liver troubles. Try them. At McDonald & Mahood Co.'s drug store; 25 cents; guaranteed.

A Life at Stake.

If you but knew the splendid merit of Foley's Honey and Tar you would never be without it. A dose or two will prevent an attack of pneumonia or la grippe. It may save your life. B. A. Morgan.

Real Cause of Wrecks.

[Frederick Upham Adams in the Success Magazine.]

I will make a statement which will be challenged, but which cannot be disproved. The abnormally heavy locomotive, now the standard on American railroads, is the positive cause of a large percentage of railroad accidents, most of which are charged against other factors of equipment or service. The craze for powerful locomotives set in about 1878. Prior to that time the average locomotive weighed from twenty-five to fifty tons. Our roads were planned for engines of this type and weight. The railroads, switches, bridges, viaducts and other features were in conformity to the medium weight locomotive. It was discovered that there was an economy in big freight engines, hauling a large number of cars, and thereby doing away with trainmen. It was also discovered that the greatest source of safety in case of the inevitable collisions was a car so solidly constructed that it would smash thru weaker ones.

To haul these heavy cars at high speed required engines of increased size. The mechanical world was surprised when the seventy-ton locomotive was announced. Then it went to eighty, then to ninety, and there was much acclaim when the 100 ton monster was turned out of the shops. A passenger locomotive which does not weigh 100 tons is now considered out of date. To meet the trrific impact of these monsters, the size of the rail has been slightly increased, but we still hold them to the ties by the primitive method of spiking them down. What is the consequence] The rails spread on a curve and sometimes on a straight piece of track, and a disastrous wreck ensues. Such accidents have increased at an alarming rate.

It is an open secret that hundreds of accidents are charged against misplaced switches when the cause should read "ripped up switches." It seems impossible to construct interlocking switches which are safe against the well nigh resistless impact of 100 or more tons of metal hurled forward at a speed of seventy miles an hour. The tracks and switches are too weak for the locomotives. There is no doubt in the world about it. There is not a railroad man in the country who does not know that this statement is absolutely true.

Imitating Familiar Sounds.

Baltimore Herald.

"That man can imitate perfectly the jingle of money," said, in a tone of eulogy, a young woman.

"Well, what of that?" objected her companion. "That ought not to be hard to do."

"Try to do it."

The objected after summoning into his mind the sound of jingling money, tried. "R-r-r-tat-tat," he went. "Br-br-bra-ra-ra. Chk-chkk-chk." Then he smiled apologetically, for he had failed. Not by the further stretch of the imagination could it be said that he had utter a sound that resembled money's jingle in the least degree.

"I knew you couldn't do it," said the young woman. "It is amazing how many simple sounds there are that we can't imitate, try as we will. There is, for instance, the sound of a person walking, the sound of a typewriting machine in operation, the sound of running water, the sound of a breaking dish. You can't imitate those commonplace noises, and I doubt if any one in the world can. Our vocal capacity seems to us large, but it is really limited enough — as limited as that of many animals, and much more limited than that of certain birds. That is why I honor a man who has extended his vocal capacity sufficiently to imitate the pleasant, silvery sound of money's jingle."

Control of Ownership.

[Review of Review.]

The notion that such legislation as the president asks for would undermine the value of railroad securities and disturb business conditions—altho industriously propogated by certain newspapers under corporation influence—has very little claim to credulity. There is no disposition in any influential quarter to do injustice to the holders of railroad property. The wiser sort of railroad men and the more intelligent newspapers of the country are well aware that the immense rapidity with which the transportation interests of this country have been coming under the control of a few people is the principal factor in the disturbance of confidence and affords the chief argument against railway amalgamation. Competion can no longer be trusted to regulate the railroad business, and the country will not allow so vast a power to go unregulated as that which will belong to the guiding spirits in the railroad world. Inevitably the people of this country will take over the railroads and make them public property, or else they will subject them to constant but just and reasonable oversight and control. To take the railroads over as public property could not be accomplished without a period of serious agitation that would provike extreme controversy, and would certainly unsettle values and lead to depression, if not to panics, in the market for railway shares and securities. President Roosevelt, therefore, points out the way to avoid disturbances in the value of railway properties. Moderate public oversight and control will insure for a long period to come the private ownership and management of the American railroad system. A stubborn resistance of such public oversight and regulation on the part of railway men will precipitate almost at once a movement for public ownership that will make the "magnates" unhappy.

Clock to Run 30,000 Years.

A radium clock, which will keep time indefinitely has been constructed by Harrison Martindale, of England, says the Scientific American.

The clock comprises a small tube, in which is placed a minute quantity of radium, supported in an exhausted glass vessel by a quartz rod. To the lower end of the tube, which is colored violet by the action of the radium, an electroscope, formed of two long leaves or stripees of silver, is attached.

A charge of electricity, in which there are no beta rays, is transmitted thru the activity of the radium into the leaves, and the latter thereby expand until they touch the sides of the vessel, connected to earth by wires, which instantly conduct the electric charge and the leaves fall together.

This simple operation is repeated incessantly every two minutes until the radium is exhausted, which, in this instance, it is computed will occupy 30,000 years.

A Question of Science.

The Rev. Silas C. Swallow said the other day, according to the New York Tribune:

"I remember when I was a student at Wyoming seminary, a farmer came to Kingston to visit his nephew, whom he was educating.

"The farmer had no urban polish. His tea, when it was brought, was very hot, and he poured it in his saucer, to his nephew's great mortification.

"Finally unable to restrain himself, the nephew was so rude as to say:

"'Uncle, why do you pour your tea in the saucer?'

"The old farmer looked up in surprise. Then he said in a loud, hearty voice:

"'To cool it, to be sure. The more air surface you give it the quicker it cools. These here modern seminaries don't teach much science, do they?'"

A Little Hero.

In the Woman's Home Campanion Commander Booth Tucker of the Salvation Army relates the following pathetic incident which happened at one of their Christmas dinners:

"The pathos of such gatherings can easily be imagined. At the Grand Central Place, New York City, last Christmas day, a bright-faced little lad attracted our attention. He had come to receive a basket for his family. He seemed a manly little fellow, and waited without murmur, holding fast to his precious ticket. There were five other children in the family, all younger than he, and he was twelve. Father had had his foot injured six weeks before by molten lead being spilled on it. Work was none too plentiful anyway, but now he was unable to do it if it was to be had. Mother? No, mother couldn't work either. She'd been laid up for some time with rheumatism.

"'Dear me, that is bad,' sympathized somebody. 'Who then looks after the family?'

"'I take care of the family, ma'am,' he answered brightly. 'I does the housework, washes the children and looks after things.'

"'You're a brick,' declared the one addressed, 'but,' as a sudden thought struck her, 'who will cook the dinner for you today?'

"And he answered with a smile, but seriously: 'I will, ma'am.'

"God bless him and the others like him."

He Milked a Cow.

John Barrett, United States minister to Panama, who has been minister to Siam and Argentina, and commissioner general for the Louisiana purchase exposition, had a unique experience during the late political campaign. While speaking in a New England town he made the assertion that he knew well what it was to work on a farm.

A young farmer in the crowd made skeptical by the speaker's faultless Prince Albert coat, immaculate shirt front, pale-gray trousers and shining tile, shouted out:

"You work on a farm? Bet yer never milked a cow in your life."

"I take your bet," said Barrett; "I will put up $100 against the same amount that I can milk a cow faster than you can."

The dare was accepted. The democrats raised a purse of $100 to match Barrett's $100 bill. Two cows were brought around.

At the cry of "Ready! Go!" the milk rattled into the bottom of the pails, and Barrett's pail was full first, the meeting winding up in a blaze of glory.

When He Works.

Opie Reed, the novelist, recently attended a press club reception given in honor of F. Hopkinson-Smith. The author of "Col. Carter of Cartersville" was surrounded by a group of women, who felt it a great privilege to come into the presence of a real literary lion and were making the most of the opportunity.

"When," inquired one of them, "do you write your delightful stories?"

"I am a very consistent worker," answered the artist-engineer-author; 'my literary work is done regularly between the hours of 11 and 2 o'clock." There was a murmur of polite "Ohs!"

"And when, Mr. Reed," said one of the group, turning to the author of "The Kentucky Colonel," "do you do your work?"

Running his fingers thru his thatch of brown hair, the tall humorist solemnly responded: "Between anxiety and necessity—invariably!"

Then Mr. Smith began to talk of the difficulties of lighthouse building.

AN Efficient Board of Health.

New York Press...

"You must have a remarkably efficient board of health in this town," remarked the stranger. "Composed of scientists, I presume?"

"No, sir."

"Physicians?"

"Not much. We don't allow doctors or undertakers on our board of health."

"Then what sort of men have you appointed?"

"Life insurance men."

Commenting on this interview American Medicine says:

"Who better than life insurance companies has reason for taking a serious interest in public sanitation? They profit by every advance in medical discovery and progress and they reap the most direct advantage from every lessening in the death rate."

Hark Luck.

While on a visit in New York the other day ex-Senator David B. Hill met an old time acquaintance and asked him how he was 'getting along." The gentleman complained that he was in "hard luck," and said:

"Things have been going very badly with me lately. The fact is, if I were Lazarus, and the Lord said, 'Come forth,'I would come fifth."—New York Times.

Coughs and Colds.

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