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No. 110 T. Sherman Secretary.

AS TO HYMNS AND HIM.

The mournful hymn "Oh Where Is My Wandering Boy Tonight" as sung by the progressives is taken up by the Sioux City Journal much in the same spirit as the street Arabs catch the refrain of the Salvation Army's singing.

The Journal says:

"If there is to be a contest between Taft and Cummins for control of the Iowa delegation in 1912, the influence of the Des Moines Register and Leader will be on the side of Taft. The Journal does not make this prediction without reserve. It may be expected to hold only only in case something doesn't happen to cause Mr. Ingham to change his mind in the meantime. At any rate, the Des Moines Register and Leader, on the strength of its recent record, may now be counted for Taft, against Roosevelt La Follette, Bristow, Cummins or any possible rival for the presidential nomination. Does this surprise you? If so, it is because you haven't been reading the Des Moines Register and Leader lately."

WHAT IS A WOMAN WORTH?

Since the terrible destruction of life in the fateful Green Mountain wreck in which many a woman and child met a horrible death under the debris of crushed passenger coaches, remarks and rumor have become current that under the Iowa law no one could legally recover damages from a railroad for the loss of a life of a wife or mother; that while the principle of liability for damages to the dependents and relatives of an injured man was finally established that the right of recovery for the loss of a woman from the family lies entirely with the mercy of the railroad corporation.

Upon inquiry at the attorney general's office and elsewhere it appears that this story contains more of rumor than o fact. It seems that in law the question of damages for the loss of relation varies according to each and every independent case. It is governed largely by the common law, and by precedent A man does not have any proprietary right in a wife or mother and hence can have no right in court on that basis, but a husband or child may prove actual damage by reason of the loss of a wifell mother or chill or other female relation by reason either of the loss of companionship or of service.

It has been a very common practice among railroad lawyers and claim agents to represent that there is no provision in the statutes of Iowa regarding the recovery for death of a relation, which in fact is strictly true, but at the same time deceptive and doubtless when used is intended to scare claimants into easy settlements. The husband has practically the same legal right to recovery for loss of a wife as the wife for the loss of a husband, except that in the case of a husband, who is generally the wage earner, it is so much easier to prove the matter of actual dependency and of actual loss of support.

HADLEY'S PICTURE MESSAGES.

Governor Hadley of Missouri has one up his sleeve for the legislature of his state which, when he brings it forth this winter, seems destined to mark him as a genius among executives when it comes to getting what he wants out of the legislative branch.

Instead of sending special messages to the legislature concerning the conditions and needs of the various state institutions, the governor will call upon each institution to send representatives to Jefferson City who will deliver lectures, exhibit pictures and in some instances stereopticon views, setting forth conditions in this way, Governor Hadley believes, an infinitely better impression can be made upon the members of the general assembly.

As Governor Hadley looks at the matter, special messages touching the requirements of the state institutions, necessarily made up largely of figures, are not generally read and create little impression. As a rule, members of the legislature have no personal knowledge of state institutions. The new experiment need not entail any extra cost, since each institution must send representatives to the capital at stated periods, anyway, to appear before the appropriation committees. The state university already is at work prepairing for one or more of these lectures an dthe state food and dairy department not only promises a lecture, but one illustrated largely with stereopticon views. Thru means of this kind Governor Hadley believes the members of the legislature readily may acquaint themselves with the conditions and needs of each state institution, something not possible thru special messages and reports.

Great scheme. And if effective for a governor in dealing with state institutions, why not also in the hands of the president in getting before congress the needs of the country in various matters. The idea seems to suggest a new fiel1 for the moving picture machine. Possibly in this way and in due time messages from the president to congress might be popularized — even that.

A MARSHALLTOWN HEROINE.

A young girl died the other day who was a truer heroine than Jeanne d'Arc or Boadicea; for while heroism is great and notable at the head of charging armies under the eyes of a watching world is it greater tho unnoted when it bears uncomplainingly for three years the tortures of an agonizing disease smiling thru its pain, thoughtful of the weariness of others and heedful of their sorrows and their joys.

Imagine if you can a girl of 14 healthy and happy, suddenly cut down by cancer of the spine; slepping for months upon hands and knees, living death in the flesh, tortured beyond the power of language to express but kindly, loving, gentle and without complaint, bearing her agony with silent tears for mother's sake, interested in those she knew, glad in their gladness, sharing their hopes and their sorrows. Imagine three years of all this and you have apprehended a gentle heroism higher than that of battle as God is higher than angels. No dead conqueror who has stained history red knew such conquest as she; for she had conquered pain, overcome self and risen above suffering.

And then she died uncomplainingly, bravely and hopefuly as she had lived; that is, gentle hands carried away with loving tenderness a wasted body and laid it in the earth. But the spirit which radiated its influence over a community shines on. Men and women are stronger for its light. The lesson remains, and thus the child lives on among those who knew her, helpful, teaching pateince, trustfulness and courage.

"Lay her I' the dust,
And from her fair and unpolluted flesh
Shall Violets spring."

Topics of the Times

Orville Wright declares that aviation is less dangerous than automobiling. Yes, to the public at large.

* * *

A high light of Columbia University says that a college course doesn't help a young man to make up his mind what to do in life. Just so it doesn't influence him to make up his mind to do nothing.

* * *

Chicago boasts of an increased hotel and restaurant capacity for the year of 10,000 persons. All very well if it isn't at the expense of home capacity.

* * *

Carnegie has an income of $25,000,000 a year. Where does it come from?

* * *

It is not too late yet to have a few Christmas tree fires.

* * *

It is reported that one of the leaders of the Mexican revolution is a poet. Perhaps that's why the revolution has been largely on paper.

* * *

If they are not fit to smoke, give them to the chauffeur.

* * *

The people of Medicine Hat talk of changing the name of their town. That must look like rank foolishness to the manufacturer who has paid out a million or two to advertise a brand.

* * *

Italy proposes to neutralize the aeroplane. If the law of gravity could be neutralized, that would be more worth while from the point of view of the aviator.

* * *

Hello, here are the January sales already.

* * *

Did you get something from somebody to whom you gave nothing? Or, worse yet, did you give something to somebody who gave you nothing?

* * *

If Los Angeles's dynamite crop keeps on thriving it may presently interfere with the tourist crop.

* * *

The red-haired man with a pink tie has his troubles.

* * *

The weather man did his share. His gift was among the best.

* * *

Better go on a light diet for a day of two before writing those New Year's resolutions.

* * *

Vaudeville managers are making overtures to "Doc" Cook. If they get him they should take the precaution to screen the stage before exhibiting him.

IOWA OPINIONS AND NOTES.

"Byers seems to have more strength than any other candidate for the vacant United States senatorship," remarks the Brooklyn Chronicle. "He is a man of good ability and consistent political record, and if elected would no doubt serve with credit to himself and usefulness to the state. We know of no good reason why he should not run or why the legislature should not elect him."

The Sioux City Journal suggests "it is a good thing that congress is in recess, for the opportunity is improvproved for every one to love his neighbor as himself."

"Would the interests like to have a senatorial primary this winter?" inquires the Hampton Chronicle, and goes on to answer its own query, "of course they would. They know that the bi gcities would absolutely control the situation as a primary during the winter would not bring out one-fourth of the rural vote of the state. The farmers and rural communities are the backbone of Iowa, and as they are well represented in the coming legislature they will no doubt see that the big interests do not slip one over on them in the matter of holding a state primary when it would be necessary to go several miles thru all konds of snow drifts to vote."

The Orange City Herald asserts that Senator Young "misrepresents Iowa in what he says and misrepresents Iowa intelligence when he supposes that any body in these days of newspapers will be fooled by his demagogic notions about protecting the farmer."

"If all former Iowans had money enough to 'come back,' how different things would be," says the Waterloo Times-Tribune.

Looker-On In Iowa

Manson, Dec. 27.—It is reported that Secretary Wilson finds more encouragement in his work along the line of "scientific' farming in the southern states than in the west. Certain it is in the south corn culture and incidentally hog raising is just now a study in earnest. Raising cotton and nothing else was the southern planter's idea of how to make money. Now it has all changed, and raising corn in the south one land valued at $25 an acre is becoming serious corn competition fot the farmers in the western corn belt land. The Iowa farmers to meet this competition have got to raise the average number of bushels to the acre, or his land will be less in price. It requires no particular wisdom to announce that if the world's supply of corn is increased, and a proportionate demand does not increase in the same ratio, lower prices will prevail. Not only do we find the south tremendously increasing its acreage and output, but even the New England states are "waking up." The writer as a boy worked many a long day in a Connecticut corn field, and knows what it means to make an acre of corn pay anything after the cost of fertilizers is taken into account, but they, too, are going into "scientific" corn raising.

"The Hartford Courant" the other day printed a brief account of the Worcester corn contest inaugurated by the Bowker Fertilizing Company, wherein a prize of $500 was awarded for a 162-bushels acre against another of 133 bushels, the decision being based on the nutritive value of the product—the crib-dry rating as determined by scientific tests. The chief prize was a special, there being others of lesser sums. L. S. White of Collinsville, captured the second of the general prizes, getting $75 for his showing. Secretary Wilson has seen fit to commend the contest, as have others high up in agricultural matters. What will interest farmers chiefly is the difference between fully matured and ripened corn as against that gathered earlier in growth and which must of necessity shrink greatly in the drying, there being a large percentage of moisture in the under-ripe product. The contest will surely mark a new era in corn culture in the east if not in the west, if growers take heed to the fact that it is possible to harvest corn that will show 75 per cent water and cob, whereas the standard for crib-dry should be about 12 per cent. In time the yield per acre will be governed entirely on this basis, rather than by the amount of bushels of partially cured and ripened, which are greatly inferior in food value."

* * *

Not a thousand miles from Albion is a hotel run as a sort of farm house that feeds people when they drop in. There is no bill of fare, no table girl waiters, no serving of separate dishes to each guest. Everything is placed on a long extension table, the dishes passed help yourself and pass it to your neighbor. Not very much "style" but oh Lord think of trying to eat everything that is passed to you. Just to see how it will look on a printed bill of fare, the "menu" of an ordinary meal served at this farm hotel—in fact its what we had for dinner one day last week, is given below:

FARM HOUSE HOTEL.
Dinner.

Relishes — Relishes
Cold slaw — Soup
Home-made chow chow.

Meats
Boiled fresh pork

Vegetables
Boiled Potatoes — Boiled Turnips
Mashed potatoes — Boiled Carrots
Escalloped potatoes — Sweet Potatoes
Boiled onions

Cranberry sauce — Apple Sauce
Baked apples
Preserved ground cherries
Apple butter

Pastry
Apple pie — Pumpkin pie — Cake

Coffee — Tea — Milk

And it was all cooked exactly as mother does it. Another thing, this dinner, and its as good every day and traveling men get acute dyspepsia that make the town regularly, was all the Iowa farm product excepting, the cranberries, sugar, coffee and tea.

* * *

He was a pretty nice sore of a man, even if he was a Yankee and had some things to learn. It was in the smoker and he had two traveling men and one farmer for seat companions and a listener in the seat behind. Hear him: "I suppose my father in New York state feeds and milks more cows than there are in this county. Pocahontas county papers please copy). My father furnishes the Waldorf and Astoria sixty quarts of bottled milk each day. He has three big silos on his place, don't suppose you know what they are out here—just then the train passed a Pocahontas farm yard and standing out in broad relief was a big forty-foot high, painted red silo—they are something like your railroad tanks, to keep green corn stalks cut up in. My father's barn is all cement floored and every pound of manure is saved and carted out on the fields. Yes, your land is going up in price. I know of a piece of and near Marshalltown that two years ago sold for $38 an acre, and it just been sold again, a whole section for $235 an acre. That's going some. And before this scribe could interview this cheerful Yankee, the train whistled for Manson. Still if one's a good listener be learns much. Who's the lucky Marshalltown man that has lately sold a whole section for $235 an acre?

A P Thayer

Anti-Trust Law That Stings.

[Hampton's Magazine.]

Canada has a new anti-trust law that makes the utmost penalties of our Sherman act look like an engrossed endorsement for superior moral character. As an object lesson to us, the Canadian government is starting a fight against the United Shoe Machinery Company, which our congress, state legislatures, and department of justice have repeatedly given up as one impregnable combination.

Under this new Canadian law, six citizens may go to any court and charge that any trust is oppressing or overcharging the consumer. If they make a reasonable showing, the court orders the department of labor to investigate. The complainants name one, the trust a second, and the government the third member of a commission to do the investigating. This commission may call for persons and papers, administer oaths, and look up folks who don't obey or who perjure themselves. If it finds the trust unlawfully enhancing prices, it can suspend any tariff duties which protect the trust's product! Think what that would do to our sugar trust, steel trust, lumber trust, rubber trust, and all the rest of them!

The commission, if it finds that a bad trust is the owner of patent rights which enable it to increase prices and promote monopoly, may issue a sweeping order suspending or abrogating all these rights. That is the provision under which it is expected to bring the shoe machinery trust to time. The shoe machinery trust, as you will remember, has come nearer than any other combination ever formed to maintaining a world-wide monopoly, and it has done this thru a wonderful system of buying up patents and suppressing invention.

The minister of labor for the dominion is now proceeding vigorously against the shoe machinery trust under this remarkable law. He expects to drive the trust out of Canada, and to bring competition in. If he succeeds, he will give our American trust busters a valuable lesson.

Where the Railroads Stand Now.

[Collier's.]

In the railroad rate hearing at Washington, Mr. Brandeis demonstrated by witnesses that there is a science of efficiency, a science of reducing costs; that it has been applied in a large number of the most important industries of the United States and Europe, and that it has resulted in increased wages to the laborer, increased profit to the employer, and lower to the consumer. That the proof was complete and satisfactory is shown by the following utterances from the two members of the interstate commerce commission who sat as judges in the matter:

Commissioner Prouty—Mr. Brandeis, you can hardly add anything to your case by calling the representative of some other industry and showing that these same principles have been applied there. It is perfectly evident that if they have been applied in one case they can be applied in another analogous case. If the railroads were to show, in answer, some facts which tended to prove that they could not be applied to railroad operations, then you might desire to go further; but it seems to me you have made out your case now as far as it can be made out. . . . [Pages 3387-3388.]

"Commissioner Clements (sitting as chairman)—Of course this thing could be carried on and on almost indefinitely with respect to different lines of business.

"Mr. Brandeis—It could, indeed.

"Commissioner Clements—And when you have shown that fact and what you have done with respect to several kinds of business, and the details of it, so far as it may be helpful to any extent, does not that illustrate the possibilities in all lines of business just as well as if you were to call them in other cases?

"Mr. Brandeis—It does to my mind absolutely ....."

The significant point here is contained in the words of Commissioner Prouty:

"If the railroads were to show, in answer, some facts which tended to prove that they (the principles of efficiency) could not be applied to railroad operations ...."

That is precisely the point. The railroads have offered no evidence in rebuttal of Mr. Brandeis's proof. Obviously, if they continue to ask for higher rates, they must show either (1), that the railroads have already put the science of efficiency into practice, or (2), that there is something in the nature of railroading which makes the adoption of the science of efficiency impossible in that particular industry. The railroads do not claim the first; in the second lies their only opportunity. Before they can in good faith ask for higher rates, and before the interstate commerce commission can in fairness grant them, the railroad managers must show that there is something inherent in their business which prevents them from doing what has already been done in the Bethlehem steel works, in the Panhard automobile factories, in making concrete, in Mr. Frank Gilbreth's contracting business, in the manufacture of cotton, and in other similar industries.

Chief Justice Stories.

The recently appointed chief justice is a pretty good story teller. He was formerly a Louisiana sugar planter and this is one of the stories attributed to him:

Two negroes on a Louisiana plantation became involved in a row with another Ethiopian who was handy with a gun. The two started to run just about the time the bad man began to shoot. The fleeing ones had proceeded about a hundred yards when the following dialogue occurred:

"Sam, you hear dat bullet?"

"Yes, I hearn it—two times."

"How you mean two times?" asked the questioner as he quickened his pace.

"I hearn dat bullet once when it passed me, and den anudder time when I passed it," jerked out Sam between short breaths.

Chief Justice White vies with Associate Justice Harlan in his performances as a pedestrian. Each is averse to the use of street car, carriage or automobile, and each walks miles daily. The chief justice has a beaten track—the White House Eclipse, a course about three-quarters of a mile around. On clear afternoons Mr. Justice White can often be seen traveling his usual path. He generally walks in a hurry and is unaccompanied. This is about the only form of exercise he takes, excepting a short seance each day with a physical culture teacher.

Venice Flooded!

Mrs. Twothree—I hear the Smythes have left Venice and come on here.

Mrs. Footie—Yes; I met Mrs. Smythe yesterday, and asked her how she liked Venice. She said they only stayed one night, as the streets were flooded and people had to go about in boats."

Iowa Newspapers

TOLERANCE.

[Coon Rapids Enterprise.]

The Enterprise opposed the saloon petition in Coon Rapids and that section of the county and in that connection notes a growing feeling of tolerance on the part of those who hold different views. It says: Only three Enterprise subscribers have discontinued their copies of Enterprise, against a much larger number five years ago. Years before that more than fifty subscribers paid up and quit because of our petition against the saalon. This time we have been given a very square deal. So far as known no friendships have been sacrificed. People as a rule are growing more tolerant in all lines of thought—moral, religious and political. No doubt the Enterprise editor has become, also, more tolerant. There is no sense in scratching one anothers' eyes out over difference of opinion.

MITCHELL—WIDOW'S HAVEN.

[Osage Press.]

Very probably the people of Mitchell county are not aware that they have in their midst a village which, in one detail at least, if the situation were known, is unique, probably, thruout the United States. Lamentable as the cimcumstance may seem, this unique feature chances to be one which does not especially appeal to the arrogance of a city; therefore Mitchell, modest Mitchell would remain forever ungloried by the fame that is rightfully hers. The population of this gardenspot of the almighty's handiwork is something like 200 souls; between twenty-five and thirty of this habitation are widows, charming widows. Some are young and pretty, some are old and pretty and some are old and have been pretty, but nevertheless they're there. Conceive if possible the sitpation if this proposition were to be found in some of the larger cities, New York for instance, with its 4,000,000 of people. Five hundred thousand of them widows. Staggering indeed. Yet we have slept for years unaware of the awfulness of the nearby situation. Never again will we think or speak slightingly of Mitchell. She has got something on the most of us.

ONE WAY TO GET EVEN.

[Boone News-Republican].

There is a loan shark in Cedar Rapids who got what was coming to him the other day. These loan sharks have a habit of renting money to poor people at the rate of about 100 per cent a year. As a result, the borrower pays back the principal several times and also pay the original amount.

A couple of packing house employes, who got tired of paying the Cedar Rapids loan shark the exhorbitant interest charged, fell down on their payments. The shark then garnisheed their wages at the packing house to pay the principal. This started something. The loan shark received a visit from the two employes, who peeled off their coats and gave him the privilege of giving them their money back, or being pounded thru the floor into the store below. The loan shark was not long in making his choice and speedily disgorged to save his hide.

That is about the only way to get even with a loan shark. It is said that such practices are going on in Boone, and that several victims have been paying an exhorbitant rate of interest and getting in deeper all the time so it is impossible to pay back the principal. Of course these loans are hurry-up accommodations but the loaner ought to be satisfied with something reasonable instead of wanting his money beck four or five times in the shape of interest. The transaction is purely illegal and is only protected by the fact that the victim does not wish to be exposed.

JOHN JR. AND MARY JR.

[Shenandoah Sentinel-Post]

A thousand illustrations of human selfishness might be given. John Smith, Jr., awakes on a cold, blustery winter morning and sees the sidewalk covered with eighteen inches of snow. Does he hustle out quickly and shovel it off? No, he waits for his old dad to do it. May be there is no junior. Smith, senior, shoveis the snow up to his lot line and not one inch over onto the walk of his widow neighbor. How much better that boy would feel if he had done that job unasked and come in hungry for the warm pancakes and hear the "Well done, my boy" from the father and mother. How much better the old man would feel all day if he could just remember that he had shoveled the snow off for the neighbor not able to do it hersel? It is the little deeds of kindness oft repeated that make life pleasant. Many a man or woman idles away his opportunities dreaming of some great deed he will do if the opportunity comes and it never comes. The opportunities are before us every day and hour.

Then there is Mary Brown, Jr., snoozing in the morning while her mother does all the work. She accepts the sacrifices, the hardships, the overwork that mother love prompts but seldom thinks of doing anything to make the life of the mother happier or easier. Then the home tasks are done grudgingly and snarlingly by all the members, each one trying to show a little uglier disposition about it than the rest. The mother usually gets the worst of it because the father gets away, the sons get away, the daughter gets away and the mother is left with the pots and the dishes and the scrubbing and the residue of the morning unpleasantness, and she gets sour and crabbed thinking about her hard lot in life. A few simple thoughtful deeds of kindness, a few pleasant words in the morning would have made all feel better and the mother would be left singing at her tasks.

YOUR JOB.

[Ida Grove Record-Era].

Ever get tired of your job, wish you were in the other fellow's boots and he in yours?

Ever get tired of the everlasting grind of monotonous sameness and wish for anything, just so it's a change?

Sure you do: we all do.

There isn't a merchant in business but sometimes wishes he were a farmer, nor a farmer but who at times has a longing for the counter and the deck; there isn't a professional man who does not at times yearn for the open and a close communion with the soil; a housewife who has not dreamed dreams of the footlights nor an actress who has not at times felt her heart strings drawing her to the kitchen. We have even known preachers to forsake their pulpits for the editorial chair—and others who felt like it, but resisted the temptation. It isn't on the cards that any of us should be satisfied at all times with the job we have in hand. We all long for a change, but few of us really want it.

How do we know?

Been there ourself!

We've had our dark days when we would swap any old print shop we ever owned for 30 cents and a job on a rock pile, and feel that we had beaten the other fellow out of the 30 cents. Yes, and the only reason we didn't make the trade was because the other fellow wasn't afflicted with the blue devils on the same days that ours were working overtime.

But next morning the sun shone and our pulse beat normal and there was red blood in our veins, joy in our hearts and a love of life and our work, and we wouldn't trade jobs with a king or a Standard Oil bookkeeper.

It's seven-tenths in the atmosphere, two tenths in our digestion, and one-tenth in the attitude of our friends. (To the normal man the attitude of his enemies doesn't count in the equation of his satisfaction or dissatisfaction with his job).

In our present state of mind and being we wouldn't swap the job of editing this disseminator of truth and democracy for any other job on earth, not excepting the building of Carnegie libraries or the endowment of Rockefeller chairs of philosophy—but the mood may not last long; we advise you to beware what you offer in exchange tomorrow.

And it is so with everyone—the job doesn't look the same from every angle of the mental horoscope. If the job looks good to you seven-eights of the time, you are seven-eighths happy—and that's far above the average. If it looks good to you more often than it looks bad, rest assured you are in your proper element; you've tackled the right job; freeze to it; don't let anyone pry you loose with a jimmy—even when you are feeling at your worst. You'll be cursing yourself for an idiot if you do—and that's bad for the morals and does not materrially assist digestion; only serves to make you dissatisfied with your new job—if you get one.

No, don't let 'em pry you loose. Hang on until the mood changes—then they can't pry you loose.

BILLY SUNDAY IN WATERLOO.

[Waterloo Reporter.]

Billy Sunday has been in Waterloo six weeks and before another issue of the Reporter appears he shall have closed his evangelistic campaign in this city. Columns could be written about his work here and even then all could not be told, for it is hard to express in cold type the joy in the heart of the wife whose husband has been snatched from the rocky road of sin, or the happiness that comes with the realization of the human soul that it has hope to which it was a stranger. Ink is a poor vehicle for conveying the contentment that reigns within the home once more united as the result of the awakening of the father, mother, son or daughter who had wandered far, but has returned in answer to the evangelist's pleading. * * *

The campaign has been a great benefit to Waterloo in another way. This city has in times past been advertised in many ways, but it is safe to say that never before have the eyes of the country been so generally turned upon Waterloo as they have been during this campaign. From Maine to California, in the islands of the sea and in foreign lands, Waterloo papers have been eagerly read and every night local press correspondents have flashed to distant states reports of the day's meetings.

Of Bily Sunday himself two uncontradictable truths can be stated. He is an evangelist of extreme earnestness and devotion to his Master and of magnificent courage that enables him to speak plainly upon all occasions regardless of whom his words may offend. As he declares, he is a type of the old-fashioned preacher and he delivers the message of the gospel in the old-fashioned way. Maligned without mercy he has proven the stories about him to be falsehoods and the campaign in Waterloo has witnessed the spectacle of many who were outspoken in his denunciation before his arrival "hitting the sawdust trail" and taking him by the hand.

Billy Sunday has made good in Waterloo, and the city will reap the benefits of the campaign for many a long year.

SEC. WILSON AND THE RETAILER.

[Mt. Vernon Record.]

Secretary Wilson lays the high cost of living onto the middle man. Secretary Wilson is a part of the Taft family, and he has to do something to help out his boss. To what lengths he would go, and to what extent he would stultify himself in his effort to hold his position was never realized until the past year, when he has made the wildest imaginable statements in his efforts to keep favor with the president. His statements in the Ballinger case, for instance, have branded him in the eyes of thinking people. But as to his latest statement.; The fact is there when the average profits of the retailer were as small as they are now. Few retailers are making more than good wages, and many not that. Can the same be said of the trusts and the monopolies which are being given the privilege of robbing the consumer thru a tariff that protects them in their desire to charge an exorbitant profit? This might be an interesting topic for Secretary Wilson to discuss.

Important Decisions

[The following notes of cases are from the West Publishing Company, St. Paul, Minn.]

SIX CENTS FOR A SLANDER.

"I am standing wthin the shadow of the court house where I can be indicted if I am not telling the truth. I charge Henry O. Bennum with having sold out to the liquor league for $400." This statement gave rise to an action of slander found in 76 Atlantic Reporter, 53, entitled Bennum vs. Coursey. The court held that the words imputed a crime, and were therefore slanderous, unless true. Plaintiff admitted that he had suffered no special damages, and he claimed no compensatory damages, but only such as the law presumed he had received from the language used. Acting upon this presumption, the superior court of Delaware awarded him 6 cents.

TWO MASTERS.

The question is decided in Murray vs. Lizotte, 77 Atlantic Reporter, 231, as to whether a detective engaged by plaintiff in a divorce suit to investigate and look up evidence can sever his connections with such plaintiff, and subsequently engage himself for defendant in the same suit to furnish evidence of plaintiff's character. The supreme court of Rhode Island decided that the contract was contra bonos mores; that the detective therefore could not compel the payment, and that the attorney in hiring him was guilty of unprofessional conduct, justifying suspension as a member of the bar. It was held that the complainant when employed by the plaintiff was in a relation involving trust and confidence, and under the implied duty of remaining loyal to her and her cause. "No matter how high his motives or how honorable his intention," said the court, "'no man can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or he will hold to the one despise the other.' Neither can a man ride two horses going in opposite directions at the same time. It is useless to attempt it. Fidelity must and will be required from all those holding fiduciary relations. They must not lightly enter upon such relationships, but, if they do, they will not be permitted to be disloyal, and of all species of disloyalty desertion and adherence to the enemy or to the opposing party in a suit is recognized as the worst."

POOL HALL NUISANCE.

The board of trustees of Eldorado, Okla., being empowered by statute to declare what shall constitute a nuisanec and to prevent the same, passed an ordinance declaring billiard halls and pool rooms nuisances. Plaintiff Jones was convicted of violating the ordinance. In the case of Ex parte Jones, 109 Pacific Reporter, 570, he claimed that the ordinance was void upon the ground that municipal corporations are creatures of the legislature, and can exercise only such powers as are expressly conferred by their charter or by statute. The criminal court of appeals of Oklahoma holds that altho a statutory grant of power to a municipality to declare what shall constitute a nuisance does not empower a municipality to declare a thing a nuisance which is clearly not one, it does empower the municipality to declare anything a nuisance which is so per se, or which by reason of its location, management, or use, or of local conditions and surroundings, may or does become such; and that as the operation of a billiard hall or pool room for gain is not recognised by the law as necessary or useful, or as a business which a person has an inherent right to engage in, the general authority given the trustees empowered them to pass the ordinance in question.

BLOODHOUNDS.

In State vs. Norman, 68 Southeastern Reporter, 917, the defendant was tried for the burglarizing of a store. The morning after the perpetration a bloodhound was brought on the scene in an attempt to run down the criminal. The dog scented several articles, and started the trail down a public road to a house where defendant and another person were living. The dog did not recognise defendant, tho he stood near him, and here his trail ended. On this suspicion defendant was arrested, tried, convicted, and now appeals. The owner of the hound testified that he was not in the business of training bloodhounds and trailing criminals, and that the dog had been on but three trails, the results of which were not stated. The supreme court of North Carolina held that altho the action and conduct of a bloodhound in trailing a person is competent evidence, certain conditions must exist to render it competent. The dog must be of pure blood, or a stock characterized by acuteness of scent, and trained in the exercise of tracking human beings. He must be laid on a trail at a point where the circumstances showed that the guilty party had been, or on a track which such circumstances indicated to have been made by him. It was not shown that defendant's tracks were seen at or near the store, or that he had been there previous to the burglary, or that he was in possession of any stolen property, or that the dog indicated that he was the thief. The court held that the evidence did not create a just suspicion against defendant, and there was no proof of his guilt.

THE LODGES.

MASONIC NOTICES.

Hall in New Masonic Temple. Visitors always welcome.

MARSHALL LODGE, 140, A. F. & A. M. Work in second degree Friday, Dec. 30, at 7:00 p. m. In new temple.
R. W. Chamberlain, W. M.
H. S. Lawrence, Secretary.

SIGNET CHAPTER No. 20, R. A. M. Regular convention Dec. 29, 7:30, in the new temple.
George H. Beggie, E. H. P.
I. S. Millard, Secretary.

KING SOLOMON Council, No. 20, R. & S. M., Stated assembly, Monday, Jan. 16, 1911, 7:30 p. m.
I. T. Forbes, Recorder.
A. D. Mosher, T. I. M.

St. ALDEMAR COMMANDERY, No. 30, K. T. Stated conclave Tuesday evening, Dec. 20, 1910, at 7:30 o'clock. Sir knights be present if possible, in new temple.
F. M. Wilbur, E. C.
Fred Wallace, Recorder.

CENTRAL CHAPTER No. 67, O. E. S.—Special meeting Wednesday evening, Dec. 28, 7:30 p. m., new temple.
Mrs. George Downing, W. M.
Edna C. Fularton, Secretary.

You Must Read This if You Want the Benefit.

J. W. Greer, Greenwood, La., suffered with a severe case of lumbago. "The pains were so intense I was forced to hypodermic injections for relief. These attacks started with a pain in the small of my back which gradually became fairly paralyzing. My attention was attracted to Foley's Kidney Remedy and I am glad to say after using this wonderful medicine I am no longer bothered in any way by my old enemy lumbago." McBride & Will Drug Company.

In Sunday School.

"What happened to Babylon?" asked the Sunday school teacher.

"It fell!" cried the pupil.

"And what became of Ninevah?"

"It was destroyed!"

"And what of Tyre?"

"Punctured!"

Take Care!

Remember that when your kidneys are affected, your life is in danger. M. Mayer, Rochester, N. Y., says: "My trouble started with a sharp shooting pain over my back which grew worse daily. I felt sluggish and tired, my kidney action was irregular and infrequent. I started using Foley Kidney Pills. Each dose seemed to put new life and strength into me, and now I am completely cured and feel better and stronger than for years." McBride & Will Drug Company.