hour such as the one that is now coming and almost here—the hour of universal peace.

"How many of you," asked Dr. Hill, "will resolve from now on never to think meanly of a person because he differs from you in religious belief or political preference?"

All Hands Went Up.

The hand of almost every person in the audience went up in answer to the speaker's question.

"Then, if you do that," he concluded, "you will have the peace of God and the forgiveness of God in your hearts, and that means peace in a very large measure."

For Great Britain, the Rev. James Mursell of London spoke briefly. Mr. Mursell referred to the Venezuelan question, and ascribed its peaceful settlement partly to the good offices of Christian clergymen, British and American, who prayed and preached for an adjustment without bloodshed.

The Rev. Joseph Walker of Queensland voiced the peaceful sentiments in behalf of the land under the southern cross. He advised Americans to be cautious, lest in teaching patriotism they foster the spirit of war.

The last address was by the Rev. Dr. R. F. Wilson of Hamilton, Ont., who asserted that he had married the Epworth League to the Christian Endeavor in Canada, and that the pair had gotten along together famously.

"As long as the rulers of these two great countries," said the speaker, "have character as exalted and motives as good as those of Queen Victoria and President McKinley, we need have no fear for peace."

At the close three cheers were given for President McKinley, Queen Victoria, Admiral Dewey, the society of Christian Endeavor and Mayor Maybury of Detroit.

This evening was devoted to receptions at all the state headquarters.

TEACHERS HOLD A MEETING.

National Council of Education Convenes at Los Angeles.

Los Angeles, Cal., July 8.—Although the opening of the annual convention of the National Educational association is still three days away, the number of delegates who have already arrived in the city from all parts of the United States is enough to support the statement that the convention will be well atended. Two thousand or more delegates arrived today, and a rush of visitors is anticipated for tomorroy and Monday and Tuesday.

The National Council of Education, which is composed of sixty of the foremost educators of the country, held its first meeting of a three days' session this afternoon. The meeting was devoted to listening to a paper read by Mrs. Lucia A. Stickney of the Hugh high school of Cincinnati. Mrs. Stickney's paper began with a sketch of ten families, numbering from four to fifteen, living in two rooms of tenement houses. She said:

"These families have little practical knowledge of buying or cooking wholesome food. The one absorbing thought is how to get a living, and the aim in rearing children is to get them to work so that they can pay back what has been done for them. The children are kept in school by the truant officer until they are 14, or large enough to be, then graduated into the factory. They are without any domestic education, and seldom become house servants. These people have abundant church privileges, and often are church-goers. Their social opportunity is the all-night ball, which many girls attend twice a week. With so large a number of tenement dwellers, the settlement and free kindergarten can only serve as an object lesson. It is through the avenues of the public school, with domestic training and a greater intimacy between school and home, that improvement is to be sought."

At 8 o'clock tonight the second meeting of the council was held. At this meeting the time was devoted to a paper by the Hon. W. T. Harris, United States commissioner of education, on "The Future of the Normal School." Mr. Harris devoted the principal part of his paper to the new educational methods which the study of the art of educating is bringing out.

"The movement known as 'Child Study,'" he said, "which devotes itself to learning the natural history of infancy, childhood and youth, will discover the laws of development.

"Besides 'child study,' there is progress in the invention of devices of instruction. They will make the child more self-active in the process of learning, and not so dependent upon teachers' power of illustration.

"A good teacher requires the reflective habit fully formed. The normal school must make its pupils observant of methods."

Finally, Mr. Harris said: "The future history of the normal school will show the gradual adoption of the Kultur Geschichte standpoint, the discussion of all educational questions in the light of the history of civilization as a court of last resort."

The opening of the general session of the National Educational association will be held Tuesday afternoon.

TOBACCO FOR JAPAN.

Large Shipments of American Cigarettes Made From Vancouver.

Vancouver, B. C., July 8.—When the steamer Empress of China sails for the Orient Monday she will have on board many tons of American commercial tobacco and cigarettes, all of which will be consumed in the kingdom of the Mikado. The shipment of tobacco is the largest that has left here, owing to the fact that after Aug. 1, the import duty on tobacco will go up more than 100 per cent, according to the provision of the new treaty. The last outgoing steamer from Seattle also took out a very large shipment of tobacco and cigarettes.

Major Walker, immigration inspector of the United States, with headquarters at Tacoma, arrived late last night, having accomplished the deportation of five Chinese, who were returned to British Columbian territory and turned free.

HARBOR LINES APPROVED.

Those at Seattle and Tacoma Fixed By the War Department.

Washington, July 8.—Secretary Alger today approved the recommendations of the board of engineers establishing harbor lines at Tacoma and Seattle, Wash. The board recommended that the harbor line at Tacoma be in approximately thirty feet of water, in each case variations of the depth not being followed if it would interfere with straight lines where such lines were possible.

The findings of the engineers had been carefully examined by General Wilson, chief of engineers, and he had approved the recommendations before the matter was submitted to the secretary.

A legal question is involved, as the state claims the right to locate harbor lines, and, it was said, will lease the ground in front of piers built to the lines established by the secretary of war today.

Gives Chronological Review.

Paris, July 8.—At today's session of the Venezuelan arbitration commission, Sir Richard Webster, attorney general of Great Britain, presented in support of the British case a chronological review up to the year 1886. He will continue this feature of his argument on Monday.

Review Will Take Place.

Paris, July 9.—The minister of war, the Marquis de Gallifet, denies the reports of changes in the plans for the review of troops July 14, the anniversary of the fall of the Bastile. He says Major Marchand and the members of his expedition will participate in the ceremony, as originally arranged.

TALKED OF WAR ONLY

Governor Roosevelt's Mysterious Visit to the President.

CALLED TO WHITE HOUSE

M'KINLEY WANTED TO CONSULT WITH THE ROUGH RIDER.

Rumors That He Was Offered the Secretaryship of War or the Command of a Regiment of Volunteers In the Philippines Vigorously Denied On All Sides.

Washington, July 8.—Governor Theodore Roosevelt of New York is tonight the guest of the president at the White House. He arrived here at 4:10 p. m. today in response to a telegraphic request from President McKinley, delivered to him at Oyster Bay, asking him to come to Washington for a consultation. To this summons he responded promptly, and was met at the station upon his arrival by the president's private secretary, Cortelyou.

Governor Roosevelt was driven direct to the White House, where he was received by the president. There was a short conference between them before dinner. Afterward, together with Secretary Long, they sat upon the west veranda of the executive mansion for a longer consultation. The secretary remained until 9 o'clock, leaving the president and his guest to continue the conversation.

There were various rumors afloat as to the purpose of the governor's visit, but he declared that the president had asked him to come to Washington only because of his desire to consult him concerning the organization of the new volunteer force for the Philippines. Among the reports was those to the effect that the president had called him to Washington to tender him the office of secretary of war, to ask him to take command of a brigade in the Philippines, and to ask him to designate an entire regiment to be sent to the archipelago.

Would Not Talk of Secretaryship.

He was asked whether the president had tendered him the secretaryship. He laughed and declined positively to discuss it. The governor's best friends in Washington say that he would much prefer his present position as chief executive of the Empire state to a fractional term in the war department, and his treatment of the question tonight renders this theory as to his attitude most plausible. Governor Roosevelt dictated the following interview to the Associated Press:

"I have come to Washington at the request of the president to go over with him and the officers of the war department certain questions affecting the new volunteer army, particularly as regards the personnel of the officers. The president has told me that he wishes only recommendations based on the efficiency of the men recommended and that he will pay heed to no others. Most certainly I should give no others and I feel that the president's attitude in the face of the terrific political pressure to which he is, and will be subjected, is such as to entitle him to the support of all men who feel that politics have no place in the army; who feel that it is in a peculiar sense, the property of the whole country and that in the giving of commissions and promotions alike absolutely no consideration should enter outside of the merit of soldiers.

Officers He Would Suggest.

"My own recommendations will be limited to the men I had under me, or saw in action, and to the members of the New York volunteer regiments of whose merits I have, as governor, not merely official knowledge, but also the knowledge gained from personal inquiry among their superiors."

Referring to the general situation in the Philippines, and the policy of the administration with reference to the islands Mr. Roosevelt said:

"Of course any American worthy of the name must stand behind the president in his resolute purpose to bring the insurrection in the Philippines to an end. I have no question that by the beginning of the dry season General Otis will be in shape to stamp out all resistance. Then the president can and will see that the reign of absolute law and justice follows."

During the evening Secretary Hay, Attorney General Griggs and Adjutant General Corbin joined the party at the White House. They remained with the president and Governor Roosevelt until 11 o'clock. After they went away the president and his guest continued the talk until a few minutes before midnight.

WAS A BIG NEEDLESS SCARE

THERE HAS BEEN NO PLAGUE IN SAN FRANCISCO.

Two Drowned Japanese From the Supposed Infected Steamer Were Free From the Disease.

San Francisco, July 8.—The Chronicle says: The report of Dr. Kinyoun of the Marine hospital service, regarding the possibility of the two drowned Japanese from the Nippon Maru having been afflicted with the bubonic plague, shows conclusively that the San Francisco board of health dealt with a manufactured plague scare. Dr. Kinyoun is positive that the microscopic slides made by Dr. Barbat show no signs whatever of the dread disease.

The quarantined passengers of the Nippon Maru will be relaesed next Tuesday.

ONE PATIENT IMPROVED.

Other Victim of Yellow Fever In New York About the Same.

New York, July 8.—Dr. Doty health officer of the port, said today of the yellow fever patients from the United States transport McClellan, who are at Swinburne Island, under treatment:

"Miss Clendenning is greatly improved. Her condition is all I could ask. Mr. Lackey's condition has not changed, the temperature is about the same as last night, the pulse, if anything, stronger. He is very weak, but his brain is clear. Twenty-four or forty-eight hours will decide his case."

Buy Up Timber Land.

Seattle, Wash., July 8.—A syndicate of Minnesota and Michigan lumbermen have purchased over 50,000 acres of timber land in Skagit and Snohomish counties along the line of the Seattle & Northern railroad. The price paid is said to be half a million dollars. The principal members of the syndicate are David Tozer of Stillwater, Minn., James Dempsey of Manistee, Mich., and D. P. Simons.

Review of English Volunteers.

London, July 8.—The centenary review and inspection of the Metropolitan volunteers, who were organized in Hyde park by George III to oppose the apprehended invasion of England by the troops of Napoleon, occurred on the Horse Guards' parade this afternoon. About 30,000 London volunteers took part in the review. A large number of Americans paid high prices for favorable spots from which to view the parade.

WATERS ARE RECEDING

Governor Sayres of Texas Believes the Flood Is Over.

IS FEEDING THE HUNGRY

RECEIVED $30,000 IN MONEY FOR THE DESTITUTE.

This Will Provide For All the Poor For a Week—Not Less Than 45,000 People Dependent Upon Public Charity—About Fifty Lives Lost—Great Property Loss.

Austin, Tex., July 8.—Governor Sayers stated tonight to an Associated Press correspondent that, judging from all reports he had received officially from flooded districts, there had been great loss of property, both personal and corporate; that hundreds of people had been bereft of their homes and belongings, and that at present there were in the neighborhood of 45,000 people, the majority of them being negroes, who were dependent on public charity for sustenance.

The suffering of water-bound refugees have been very great. The governor figures that the loss of life has been comparatively small, not exceeding fifty persons.

The heaviest farming losses will fall upon the owners of the big plantations in the bottoms, who have lost all their crops and much of their personal property, and are not being protected in the distribution of the charity, which is being expended only among the poor.

Up to tonight Governor Sayers has received $39,000 in money contributions from this state and from the east. In addition thereto he has sent out several carloads of groceries which have been donated by different cities of the state. The situation is being well handled now, everything having gotten down to systematic precision, and the governor stated tonight that by tomorrow every hungry mouth in Texas would be looked after.

The waters are fast subsiding, and Governor Sayers is confident that he will be able to care for the poor of the state for at least a week, after which time they can secure employment in the flood-wrecked valley.

RAINING IN TORRENTS.

The Worst Is Not Over In Devastated Texas Districts.

St. Louis, July 8.—A special to the Post Dispatch from Dallas, Tex., says: Governor Sayers, in a talk over the long distance telephone from Austin, requests the press to state that in addition to money, all character of clothing and provisions are needed in the flood districts. He suggests that parties contributing such articles communicate with him before shipments are made, in order that intelligent distribution may be had. There are from 75,000 to 100,000 persons needing relief. About $100,000 in money and supplies have been contributed, but many times that much is needed.

Reports received in Dallas at noon from Denison, Paris, Texarkana and other places on the Red river state that rain has been pouring in torrents for the last five hours, with no prospects of stopping. It is feared that a flood in Red river may result. A telegram received today from Juliff, in Fort Bend county, says that 600 people are in danger of drowning at that place.

IMMENSE PROPERTY LOSS.

Estimated That Damage Done By Floods Will Reach $10,000,000.

St. Louis, July 8.—A special to the Republic from Caldwell, Tex., says: Estimates made by competent cotton buyers as to the damage resulting to the cotton crop in the Brazos badly tax the credulity of those not familiar with the flood conditions. Not less than 200 square miles of cotton-bearing land has been flooded. Every acre of it would have produced a big bale.

Basing the loss on 5 cent figures, the crop destroyed on these plantations was worth almost $4,000,000. Well informed persons are of the opinion that this unprecedented rise in the Brazos has cost the people of Texas little less than $10,000,000. Thousands of mules have been drowned, all of the domestic animals have perished, rented houses in the negro quarters have been swept away, the gins are nearly all ruined, and hundreds of plantation stores, carrying big stocks of general merchandise, are under water. Not a bridge has escaped, and not a train has passed over the Santa Fe railroad between Brenham and Milano for a week.

RIVER'S SECOND RISE.

Due to the Heavy Rains That Fell In Kansas Friday.

Independence, Kan., July 8.—The Verdigris river reached the danger line again this morning and is still rising a half-foot an hour, which will put it out of its banks today and flood the bottoms. Elk river is over the lowlands for miles along its course. If the river rises much higher it will put out the fires in the pumping station of the waterworks.

This second rise is due to yesterday's rain and it is feared it will be worse than a few days ago, which caused damage to stock and crops.

More Money For Sufferers.

New York, July 8.—The National Enameling & Stamping company, through its president, ex-Congressman F. G. Neidringhaus, today mailed to Governor Sayers of Texas a check for $1,000 for the relief of the flood sufferers.

Road Will Have to Be Rebuilt.

St. Louis, Mo., July 8.—A special to the Republic from Denison, Tex., says: The Houston & Texas Central officials state that the road between Calvert and Hearne will have to be virtually rebuilt, owing to the flood, and that the cost will be not less than $500,000.

PUNISHED FOR DRUNKENNESS.

Naval Paymaster Wilcox Convicted By a Courtmartial.

Washington, July 8.—Paymaster W. B. Wilcox of the navy has been tried by court-martial at the League Island navy yard found guilty of drunkenness and sentenced to be dismissed from the service.

The president has mitigated the sentence to a reduction to the foot of the list of paymasters and a loss of one-half pay for one year.

Want Our Protection.

Washington, July 8.—Bishop Grant of the African Methodist Episcopal church and the Rev. M. M. Moore saw the president today with reference to affairs in Liberia. They are both very anxious that the United States should assume a protectorate over the black republic. Germany, England and France, they say, are anxious to gobble up the republic, but the inhabitants of Liberia have a strong sympathy with the United States.

Undaunted Courage.

(Chicago Record.)

"My daughter isn't afraid of anything on earth."

"How do you know that?"

"I've seen her wake her husband out of his afternoon nap to give him her dressmaker's bill."

READY FOR THE TRIAL

Jury In the Murder Case at Wallace Is Secured.

ADJOURNED TILL MONDAY

EVIDENCE AGAINST MINER CORCORAN WILL BE TAKEN.

Engineer Wayne at the Helena and Frisco Mines Ordered Out of Country On Penalty of Being "Kneeboned," Which In the Coeur d'Alenes Means Assassination.

Wallace, Ida., July 8.—Late this afternoon a jury was secured in the trial of Paul Corcoran, who is charged with the murder of James Cheyne at Wardner, April 28.

The following are the names of the jurors, together with their occupations: J. C. Bullock, farmer, Oro Fino; Warren Harrison, farmer, Oro Fino; M. V. Carr, farmer, Frasee; Link Smith, timberman, Kingston; Patrick Keane, farmer, Weippe; J. S. Harrison, farmer, Weippe; Job Snyder, farmer, Weippe; Walter Stiles, miner, Pierce City; Daniel Carr, farmer, Weippe; Enoch Harrison, farmer, Weippe; Dell Fisk, farmer, Oro Fino; W. Thomas, timberman, Kingston.

The indictment and plea were then read to the jury and they were turned over to the custody of the bailiffs with instructions to keep them together, without allowing so much as a scrap of paper or cigar to reach them without being first inspected by the court. Adjournment was then taken until Monday morning.

All the jurors excused, either for cause of peremptorily, were by the court dismissed for the term, but twelve members of the venire not drawn and examined, were not excused, the court admonishing them to keep away from the court room during the trial of the case, and to acquaint themselves as little as possible with the matters yet to come before the court, that they might be used as jurors in the trials of other cases.

Last night Engineer Wayne, at the Helena & Frisco mine, received a note, evidently written by a woman, warning him to leave the country or he would be "Kneeboned." Kneebone was a blacksmith who was murdered at Gem in 1894 and to be "Kneeboned" would convey a meaning not to be misunderstood by anybody in the camp.

CASES OF INTIMIDATION.

Working Miners Driven From Their Posts By Threats.

(Special to The Herald.)

Boise, Ida., July 8.—A special from Wallace says: There have been many rumors today of intimidation on Canyon creek last night. Engineer Wayne of the Frisco mill received an unsigned note reading like this: "Get out of the country, you ———, or we will 'kneebone' you."

The note appears to have been written by a woman. Bartlett Sinclair has been to see the old man and has assured him of protection, but he has such dread of the devils of the canyon that he can not believe he is safe. He has quit, but it is thought he will be induced to return.

It was reported that George Hall had been held up while going to work at the Tiger and told his family would be killed, but there is nothing in the story, according to the man's wife, who says he went to Butte on business. One story is that Hall, who was going to work as a master mechanic in the Tiger-Poorman, was met by a gang of twenty-five men and told if he went to work his family would be killed and his case attended to later. On the strength of this it is claimed he left the country.

A fireman named Hudson, on the Standard, claims three masked men warned him to leave, and that they threw a note to the engineer. Engineer Shannon of the Standard and the sawyer there quit and it was said they had been warned, but that is false. It seems Shannon was mad because his son had been arrested for persistent agitating. A man was arrested here today for approaching a juror.

Trouble at Pueblo.

Pueblo, Colo., July 8.—The Ellers smelter at this place, one of the trust plants which resumed operations a few days ago, was again shut down today. Members of the smeltermen's union induced the workmen to come out. The company claimed to have 350 men working and all but about fifty refused to work today. The company at once ordered the fires drawn.

There were rumors of a serious collision between the strikers and the guards at the smelter, but investigation showed little foundation for the story. The strikers have been careful not to trespass upon the company's property and everything is very quiet.

Cigar Makers On a Strike.

Tampa, Fla., July 8.—Four thousand cigarmakers who went on a strike today were joined by 2,000 more of their fellow workmen tonight. One shop, employing a small number of men, declined to pay the scale, and a walkout of all resulted.

COUNTRY WITHOUT A BIRTHDAY.

England Alone Has No National Holiday.

There is one country in the world, and one only, which has no birthday or national holiday. Nor is that country in some remote corner of the map—it is England.

Although the queen's birthday—May 24—is annually celebrated in royal fashion, it is not a national holiday, and Englishmen and women have at last aroused themselves to the fact that they are quite alone in this respect.

"What day shall we choose for our nation's birthday?" they are now asking. "Shall it be the queen's birthday—or the day of her ascending the throne, or any day which she herself shall name?"

There was a movement not long ago to bring forward St. George's day as the nation's birthday, St. George being England's patron saint.

The birthdays of different countries all have very good and substantial reasons for being.

January 18, Germany celebrates her national holiday; the day when the king of Prussia was first proclaimed emperor of Germany and Prussia.

September 2 is Italy's birthday, for it was the day on which Italy became a united country.

July is a pet month for national birthdays, and starts off with July 1, which the Canadians keep as the date upon which their present constitution was given.

July 14 is France's national holiday, or the day the Bastile was taken and our own national holiday is July 14.

Mohammedans keep Nov. 19—Mohammet's birthday.

Every country, of course, has its fete days—often miscalled "national holidays." For example, in England Primrose day, April 19, is often called a national holiday; as well as St. Patrick's day in Ireland, and Oct. 24, which the Irishman honors in gala fashion, as Turfcutters' day, when peat as a fuel was discovered.

The Welsh celebrate Ascension day with much pomp and circumstance, nor will any one in that country work on that day, believing that a fatal accident will cut off those who go to their daily labor as usual.

May 17, the Spaniard makes merry and drinks to the health of the young king, whose birthday it is.

Honolulu is said to have more public holidays than any other city in the world.

FALL OF POKER BOSS

Undoing of a Man Who Always Won and Boasted of It.

FRIENDS WEARY OF HIM

FORM A CONSPIRACY AND RING IN A DECK OF CARDS.

Plight of the Boaster When He Bet His Only Clothes On a Losing Hand and Was Compelled to Stay In Camp and Miss Good Sport During Balance of the Trip.

(Chicago Inter Ocean.)

"When a man arrives at that pinch where he'll bet the clothes off his back over a jackpot, it's about up to him to let the game of draw alone, in my opinion," said Inspector of Indian Agencies J. E. Jenkins, who probably does more traveling in the course of a year than any other man in the government service. "I am talking about a game of draw that happened last fall down in the territory, on the south bank of the Canadian river, in the Chickasaw country, between four St. Louis men. They were on their annual hunting trip down there. They were well known business men of old St. Loo, pals of half a lifetime, and they had been after bear, deer, feathered game or any old thing shootable down in the territory every year together for more than a decade. They always played poker on these outings, too, and the bank president always got all the money. The other three couldn't do anything whatever with the bank president's brand of poker. They'd been digging at him on these excursions for ten years, trying every conceivable scheme to get his money, and even playing in combination against him, but when it came time to strike camp he always had all the money in the crowd, owned all the camp fixtures and served out smoking tobacco to his three chums in a lordly way only when he felt generous. It made 'em hot, but they had to accept his alms if they wanted to smoke.

"The three of 'em determined, when the party sent out from St. Louis in their special car last autumn, that the bank president wasn't going to come back from the hunting trip with all the money, even if they had to leave his bones to bleach on the banks of the Canadian. They declared together that the bank president's sassiness for the remainder of the year after eating them up at poker down in the territory was something unbearable, and they didn't intend to stand it any more.

"They played a little poker in their car on the trip down from St. Louis, and this gave one of the three conspirators a chance to get hold of the bank president's two decks of cards. The conspirator carefully marked these two decks—marked 'em both just the same way—and then, during the temporary absence of the bank president in another part of the car, he elaborately explained to his two companions in infamy how he had done it, the three going over the bank president's two decks in detail, so as to muster the markings. Then the two decks were returned furtively to the bank president's grip, and the rest of the playing on the trip down was done with ordinary packs. They never played big on these journeys, anyhow, but reserved their stiff games for the bad weather days in camp.

Ringing In the Marked Deck.

"When they got to their point of debarkation on the line they left their car on a siding and struck out for their regular camp, about seventy-five miles from the railroad. They stuck to the bagging of pelts and antlers for a week or so; then a threatening looking morning came along, and the bank president suggested poker.

"'What's the use?' they all demurred, eyeing the bank president gloomily. 'You always get the whole works, and then you're insufferable for the rest of the year. We don't think you're on the level, anyhow.'

"'Oh, I'll give you all a chance this time,' said the bank president, grinning. 'I won't be hard upon you. Then, you see, the more you fellows play with me in the game, why, the more you learn about poker, and I'm sure the instruction you get helps you a lot in your games with the dubs up in St. Loo. I'm noted, anyhow, for my generosity in giving others the benefit of my wisdom.'

"'Well,' said the spokesman and arch-conspirator of the three, 'we'll play a little game of table stakes, but checks don't go; this thing of the three of us writing you checks that keep your large family in opulence for a year is—'

"'All right, let it be table stakes,' replied the bank president, amiably. 'I'm not a man to take bread out of the mouths of the impoverished,' and with more of such badinage the game started.

"An ordinary deck was used first—a deck out of the satchel of the real estate man, the infamous member of the conspiring trio who had marked the bank president's cards. Finally a call was made for a new deck, and the bank president produced one from his satchel, one of those the conspirators had marked. They let the bank president pull down a couple of sizable pots with this deck just for the sake of enjoying his renewed impertinence, and then they went at him good and hard. At the end of an hour they had the bank president's supply of ready cash—about $500—badly wilted. He had only $100 left when it came around the real estate man's turn to dish out a jack-pot round. The bank president was under the gun, as they say out there of the man who's to the left of the dealer of a jack pot, and he cracked the pot open for the limit. The other two stayed, and when it got up to the real estate man he raised it the limit. This knocked his two confederates out of it—as a matter of fact, the arch-conspirator winked them out of it—but the limit was just what the bank president wanted, with his four bullets.

Downfall of the Boaster.

"The bank president took one card with a crafty I'll-make-him-think-I'm-four-flushing expression of countenance. The real estate man, with a queen-high sequence flush of hearts, remarked that the bunch he had was good enough for him. Then they got to betting, and it was no time at all before the bank president had done the tapology act with the remains of his $500. He pulled out a check book then, and was fumbling around for a fountain pen when the real estate man called him down.

"'Not on your life,' he said. 'Agreement was that checks don't go, you'll remember.'

"'But this hand'— the bank president started to say.

"'Makes no difference about that hand,' interrupted the real estate man. 'Agreement was for table stakes.'

"'But great Caesar, man,' pleaded the bank president, 'I want to get some kind of a decent run for this hand. Why, I'd bet the clothes right off my back on it.'

"'Well,' said the real estate man, calmly, 'we didn't make any stipulation about clothes and personal possessions, and you can bet the clothes off your back if you want to. But no checks.'

"'Well,' said the bank president, peeling off a big solitarie ring, 'this stone's worth $400, and I'll raise you that much.'

"'I see you,' said the real estate man. 'What else have you got that I can raise against?'

"'Well,' replied the bank president, 'this watch is worth $300 and'——

"'Skate it in,' interrupted the real estate man. 'Raise you $300 then, your valuation of the ticker.'

"'Dog-gone the luck,' said the bank president, 'I don't want to call you. I know I've got you beat. I'd be willing to bet my corduroys, shoes, and hat that I've got you soaked for'——

Made the Banker Strip Himself.

"'Rush 'em to the center then,' calmly replied the real estate man. 'Supposing I appraise the corduroys, shoes and hat at $50 for the bundle. That satisfactory?'

"'It's got to be,' replied the bank president mournfully.

"'All right then, put 'em in the pot and I'll consider that you've called me,' said the real estate man.

"The bank president stood up, peeled off his coat and waistcoat and hunting breeches, and dropped them on to the blanket that served for a table. Then he removed his pair of high hunting shoes and placed them on top of the clothes, and tossed his fore-and-aft cap on the heap. Then he sat down in his underclothes, picked up his four aces, and said:

"'Now, dern you, put down your little straight or full and I'll show you what you're up against.'

"The wealthy depositors of the St. Louis bank of which he was the head would have enjoyed seeing his face when the real estate man calmly laid down his sequence flush and hauled down the pot, togs and all, without a word.

"'You're a good thing, ain't you?' said the other two, who had been taking the play in with a positive knowledge of how it was going to come out.

"The bank president looked pretty forlorn as the three sat there and guyed him. Finally he stood up.

"'Well,' said he to the real estate man, 'I'll just write you a check for the fifty you allowed on those togs of mine,' and he started to reach for the clothes in order to dress himself. The real estate man held the suit, shoes and hat out of the bank president's reach.

"'These things ain't for sale,' he said 'They'll all just about fit me,' trying on the hat, 'and I guess I'll just hang on to them as a sort of No. 2 outfit.'

"'But, great Scott, man!' exclaimed the bank president, 'don't you know that I haven't got another stitch in camp—that that rigout's the only one I brought from the car?'

In Camp Without Clothes.

"'Too bad,' said the real estate man. 'You hadn't ought to've staked the togs into the pot, then. Sorry, old man, but, honest, I really couldn't think of parting with these things for any amount of money. I've only got one suit along with me, too, and only one hat and pair of shoes, and if they get wet what am I going to do? Get to have a change, you know. I really feel deeply for you in your predicament, and so do the other boys—don't you, fellows?—but I need this outfit in my business.'

"The other two men nodded their heads in grave indorsement of this stand, and the bank president frothed at the mouth.

"'What the devil do you expect me to do, you blamed idiot?' he shouted at the real estate man. 'Stand around the tent and shiver or cut across the trail in my underclothes for the car to get another set of togs?'

"'I wish I could think of some plan to help you out, old man,' answered the real estate man, with commiseration in his countenance, 'but I really couldn't think, under any consideration, of giving up these things,' and he made the suit, the shoes and the hat up into a neat bundle as he spoke. Just then one of the other men, who had been prowling outside, came running into the tent, breathless.

"'Say, fellows,' he exclaimed, 'there's some bear tracks right over there in the clearing,' and he grabbed his gun. So did the other two. The bank president made as if to pick up his rifle, too, when his eye fell on his lack of raiment. By that time the real estate man was fifty yards from the tent, at a lope with the other two.

"'Hey, come back here, you confounded cutthroat!' the financier yelled after the real estate man, who had the bank president's clothes, shoes and hat slung in a neat bundle over his shoulder. But the three men were out of voice range in a jiffy.

Gets Nothing But Sympathy.

"They came back, beaming, along toward nightfall, with the pelts of two nice young black bears. They found the bank president moping around, wrapped in a blanket and sulphurizing the air when they reached the tent. Then they sat around him in a circle and expressed their sincere sympathy with him, and told him his case was only one more instance of the awful evil of gambling. After supper and a pipe they all turned in, leaving the bank president still sulking and uttering terrible maledictions under his breath.

"The real estate man and the other two went out early the next morning—the bank president's clothes along with them—and when they got back they found the blanketed financier on the verge of apoplexy from sheer wrath. The real estate man then made a great show of charity by giving up the togs, and the bank president was in a state of good nature by the time camp was struck. The three conspirators united in a letter of explanation, enclosing all of their winnings, to the bank president when the got back to St. Louis, and when the bank president got the letter and his disgorged losings, he was most tickled to death, and instantly became as perky and impudent as ever.

"'I knew you couldn't have done it if you'd played on the square,' said he, the first time he met them. 'Wait till next year, that's all.'"

CORNERED HIM.

Young Man Appealed to the Old Man's Business Instincts.

He was a bright young chap, and well worthy of regard, even if the father of "the dearest object on earth" to him, who, by the way, is a successful insurance man, did think he was inane, inactive and ineligible. The girl didn't think as her father did, which was a deal of consolation in a time like that, and the two young things often talked over the paternal opinion and sat up many evenings devising ways and means to secure a reversal of judgment. The young man, of course, never saw the father on the subject, but the girl was brave, and whenever there was an opportunity she put in a plea for the defense. At the last talk, the father had told his daughter that the young man "never would set the world on fire," and she reported this along with other remarks to the young man. Some days later the girl had another chance to argue for the defense.

"Papa," she said, when the opportunity offered, "I told Harry what you said about him the other evening."

"I hope you did, my dear," he answered, in a tone which conveyed the idea that he meant it.

"But I mean that particular thing you said that he never would set the world on fire."

"I suppose he thought, and no doubt said, I was mistaken, didn't he?" said the father, with cutting sarcasm.

"No, papa; he did not."

"Indeed," he responded, in astonishment. "I'm surprised that he did not assure you that he would do so as soon as he got the chance. That is what his kind always do."

"Harry did not. He said that your making such a remark showed how poor your judgment was."

"Well, that's the same thing, only drawing it a little milder."

"No, I think not, papa," she continued, "for Harry went on to say that you did not show ordinary business sense in offering his inability to set the world on fire as an objection to him."

"Did that young snipe say that of me?" said the father, growing red and warm, "and you, my daughter, listened to it?"

"Yes, papa," she replied, gently. "He Harry said if he did set the world on fire every insurance company in existence would be wiped out, and you wouldn't have money enough left to buy a newspaper to read the report of the conflagration."

It was a full minute before the father spoke again.

"Um—er—er," he hesitated, "suppose you send that young man around to my office tomorrow at 10 o'clock, will you?"

UP TO DATE.

Young Man Experiences the Pleasure of Conversing With Young Lady.

She was a winsome creature, with large, eloquent eyes, and a gown of fluffy material, says the Washington Star. Willie Washington was irresistibly attracted to her. She talked a great deal about authors and was familiar with those, at least, who are being currently advertised, for she said she just doted on any he happened to mention. He chanced to quote a little poetry, and remarked:

"That is by Campbell. Of course, you recognize it?"

"Oh, yes," she answered, "I recognize it. But, to tell you the truth, I never cared so much for Campbell's poetry. I thought his plays were fine. When I was a little girl I used to beg father to let me go to the theatre every time I saw 'Bartley Campbell's White Slave' on the billboards."

He looked uneasy, but merely remarked:

"You like plays?"

"Yes, indeed."

"So do I. By the way, that reminds me of something. You know Sheridan's 'Rivals'?

"Not personally," she replied. "You see, I was not born until long after the war, and I never took much interest in military affairs until recently. But I have no doubt that Fighting Phil had a great many of them."

"A great many what?"

"Why, rivals, of course."

"Did you admire Stevenson?" he inquired, apprehensively.

"Stephenson? Oh, yes, indeed. I think the way he discovered the locomotive was too cute for anything. Don't you think so?"

"Yes," was the melancholy reply, "it was pretty cute. But I wasn't referring to that"——

"Oh! How stupid of me. You mean Adlai. I never saw a man in my life who wouldn't get to talking about political people sooner or later. He was a very good vice president," she added, confidently, "very good, indeed. By the way, you were speaking of the stage. Do you like Jefferson?"

Willie looked up wearily and asked:

"Which one—Tom or Joe?"

But she was perfectly willing to talk about either, and as he took his leave she cast upon him a glance of bewitching sweetness and said it was such a pleasure to meet a man once in awhile who could converse intelligently.

Thought He Was Up Against It.

(Cincinnati Enquirer.)

"Many funny things have occurred since the white man determined to force civilization upon the Indian, but I think the funniest thing I ever saw in the Indian country was a newly established department store in a boom town." It was H. F. Farny, the Indian painter, talking, and he was relating stories of the wild and woolly west.

"The proprietor of this store, which was in a country in which degenerate specimens of the noble red man abound, wanted to be entirely up-to-date, and he had rigged up these miniature trolley cars used in the big stores; that is, the basket in which your purchase and money are deposited, shot skyward to a desk, from which the purchase comes back wrapped up, accompanied by your change. Well, the store had not been running very long when in came a band of Indians, all wanting to buy some red calico and stuff of that kind. One big Indian bought a plug of tobacco and laid down $1 to pay for it.

"The clerk put the dollar in the basket, pulled the string, and away the basket shot. Then the Indian got the notion into his head that he was to be robbed of his change, and he started after the basket, running like a deer.

"It was a busy time in the store, and baskets were shooting around lively, and the Indian could not keep his eye on the one in which he had seen his dollar go, and he chased first one basket and then another, with all the other Indians following him, and all of them yelling like crazy, until one Indian saw the desk, and they stopped all business there quicker than an injunction from the United States court would have done.

"They grabbed all the baskets and commenced a search for the Indian's change, but that particular basket had been sent back to the clerk who sold the tobacco, with the proper change in it, and such a time you never saw, the Indians all saying 'Ugh!' as loud as they could, and claiming they were up against some bad medicine of the white man's. Well, the clerk who had the change came running over and gave it to the Indian who had bought the tobacco, and all of them filed solemnly out of the store. You can easily understand that after that the clerks in that store did not use the trolley system when they were selling goods to Indians."

One "Masher" Foiled.

(Chicago News.)

The bicycle "masher" is one of the greatest annoyances that women cyclists have to contend with. A Chicago girl disposed of one of these pests in a decidedly effective manner.

She was riding down Michigan avenue when she noticed that a young man was pedaling along close beside her. She increased her speed, but he still kept alongside. Then she slackened her pace, but he slowed up also. He did not speak, but she could feel his eyes fixed on her and it made her nervous.

Presently she rode up to the curb, dismounted and proceeded to examine the pedals of her wheel. In an instant the trailer was at her side, proffering assistance.

"I think the pedal is twisted," she said, "and I don't believe I have a wrench." The obliging young man knelt down and examined the pedals, then, taking a wrench from his tool bag, he proceeded to tighten up the parts of the wheel. At the same time she took from her hat a long, shiny pin and jabbed it three times into the rear tire of his wheel. When he had concluded his ministrations she thanked him with a bewitching smile and, mounting her wheel, rode slowly away. A few minutes after he told the bicycle repair man all about it, and that's how the story got out.

MEN CURED FREE.

A most successful remedy has been found for sexual weakness, such as impotency, varicocele, shrunken organs, nervous debility, lost manhood, night emissions, premature discharge and all other results of self-abuse or excesses. It cures any case of the difficulty, never fails to restore the organs to full natural strength and vigor. The Doctor who made this wonderful discovery wants to let every man know about it. He will therefore send the receipt, giving the various ingredients to be used so that all men, at a trifling expense, can cure themselves. He sends the receipt free, and all the reader need do is to send his name and address to L. W. Knapp, M. D., 1619 Hull Bldg., Detroit, Mich., requesting the free receipt as reported in this paper. It is a generous offer, and all men ought to be glad to have such an opportunity.