The San Francisco Call.

SATURDAY.....APRIL 13, 1901

JOHN D. SPRECKELS, Proprietor.

Address All Communications to W. S. LEAKE, Manager.
MANAGER'S OFFICE.....Telephone Press 204

PUBLICATION OFFICE...Market and Third, S. F.
Telephone Press 201.

EDITORIAL ROOMS.....217 to 221 Stevenson St.
Telephone Press 202.

Delivered by Carriers, 15 Cents Per Week.
Single Copies, 5 Cents.
Terms by Mail, Including Postage:

DAILY CALL (including Sunday), one year.....$6.00
DAILY CALL (including Sunday), 6 months.....3.00
DAILY CALL (including Sunday), 3 months.....1.50
DAILY CALL—By Single Month.....65c
SUNDAY CALL, One Year.....1.50
WEEKLY CALL, One Year.....1.00

All postmasters are authorized to receive subscriptions.
Sample copies will be forwarded when requested.

Mail subscribers in ordering change of address should be particular to give both NEW AND OLD ADDRESS in order to insure a prompt and correct compliance with their request.

OAKLAND OFFICE.....1118 Broadway

C. GEORGE KROGNESS.
Manager Foreign Advertising, Marquette Building, Chicago.
(Long Distance Telephone "Central 2619.")

NEW YORK CORRESPONDENT:
C. CARLTON.....Herald Square

NEW YORK REPRESENTATIVE:
STEPHEN B. SMITH.....30 Tribune Building

NEW YORK NEWS STANDS:
Waldorf-Astoria Hotel; A. Brentano, 31 Union Square; Murray Hill Hotel.

CHICAGO NEWS STANDS:
Sherman House; P. O. News Co.; Great Northern Hotel; Fremont House; Auditorium Hotel.

WASHINGTON (D. C.) OFFICE....1406 G St., N. W.
MORTON E. CRANE, Correspondent.

BRANCH OFFICES—627 Montgomery, corner of Clay, open until 9:30 o'clock. 300 Hayes, open until 9:30 o'clock. 638 McAllister, open until 9:30 o'clock. 615 Larkin, open until 9:30 o'clock. 1941 Mission, open until 10 o'clock. 2261 Market, corner Sixteenth, open until 9 o'clock. 1096 Valencia, open until 9 o'clock. 106 Eleventh, open until 9 o'clock. NW. corner Twenty-second and Kentucky, open until 9 o'clock.

AMUSEMENTS.

Orpheum—Vaudeville.
Alcazar—"Tennessee's Pardner."
Grand Opera-house—"Cinderella."
Columbia—"More Than Queen."
California—"The County Fair," Sunday night.
Central—"Ingomar."
Tivoli—"The Idol's Eye."
Olympia, corner Mason and Eddy streets—Specialties.
Chutes, Zoo and Theater—Vaudeville every afternoon and evening.
Fischer's—Vaudeville.
Mechanics' Pavilion—Art Exhibition.
Recreation Park—Baseball.
Metropolitan Temple—Lecture Sunday afternoon.
Tanforan Park—Races.

AUCTION SALES.

By Occidental Horse Exchange—Monday, April 15, Horses, at 721 Howard street.
By G. H. Umbsen—Thursday, April 18, at 12 o'clock, Business Property, at 14 Montgomery street.

TO SUBSCRIBERS LEAVING TOWN FOR THE SUMMER.

Call subscribers contemplating a change of residence during the summer months can have their paper forwarded by mail to their new addresses by notifying The Call Business Office. This paper will also be on sale at all summer resorts and is represented by a local agent in all towns on the coast.

SOUTHERN OPINION.

VERILY our Southern brother, of Democratic faith, is mysterious and past finding out.

The most merciless and really foolish propositions as to the disposition to be made of Aguinaldo come from the press of that section. Northern papers, as a rule, take a dignified view of the fallen general, express respect for him as the leader of a people whose good will is desired by this country, and make no suggestion for his degradation or infamous punishment.

But it is not so with the press of that section which stood solidly for Bryan in the last two campaigns.

One Democratic paper in South Carolina broke out in words and phrases as follows: "The slant-eyed gazelle of the archipelago is ours. May he serve twenty years in Leavenworth prison and learn an honest trade in company with the forgers and traitors, the misguided officials who have purloined from and the deserters from the ranks of Uncle Sam.

"Once more the American eagle gets up on the top rung of its ladder and sends its voice in triumphant screechings through the land.

"'O, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave?' It do, and over a free people, a strong people, a real nation, a power among nations, not because of its number of ships, not because of its strength of army or because of its system of handling the machinery of war, but because of its way of doing business. * * *

"When the Filipinos harkened to the fool words of the pompadoured rebel we sent a Kansan after him, and the Kansan has come back bringing him."

Another in the same section, which worships at the feet of Bryan and has howled ceaselessly against our policy of getting islands in the sea, turns and rends its leader and its fellow followers in this way: "Next to the fall of their beloved Aguinaldo the Yankee Filipinos will have cause to mourn over the probability that the Danish West India Islands are more likely than ever to fall into Uncle Sam's bag. The King and Crown Prince of Denmark, who heretofore have been bitterly opposed to ceding the islands, are reported as now favorable to the proposition. The rest should be easy for everybody but the New England rum trust. The isles of Santa Cruz and St. Thomas are famous for the superior quality and pleasant flavor of their rum, and when they become American, and their products hence domestic, the coarse distillation of Medford will suffer."

A third will not be happy until Aguinaldo is safely shot. In these erratic and crude demonstrations of raw and immature judgment lies the weakness of the party in whose organs it is manifested.

The people of this country want some degree of stability in their Government and its policy, and are indisposed to trust either in the keeping of mere impulse and emotions which are always wrong.

It is said that Kitchener would have succeeded in making terms with Botha had not Chamberlain interfered, and should that be so Kitchener ought to return home and let the Birmingham pet take the field in South Africa and show what he can do.

From the way in which New Yorkers are discussing the Carnegie libraries given to that city it appears that when they send him a vote of thanks they will add a postscript, "Please endow them."

The Springfield man who is accused of having forged notes to the amount of $300,000 has the satisfaction of knowing that even his bitterest enemy will not accuse him of being cheap.

THE PRESIDENT'S VISIT.

THE tour of the President, to begin next month, is the most extensive ever made by an incumbent of that office. It is a wise thing for the President to do. Wise, not in a merely political sense, but for its economic value to the material interests of the country. From the beginning of his career in Congress President McKinley has been singular among American statesmen in his close attention to and expert knowledge of those material interests. With very definite ideas of the relation of government to the welfare of the people he has adhered with the most remarkable steadfastness to the principles of legislation which he believed would promote general prosperity, and therefore stimulate the enterprise of the people, giving them a chance to further their fortunes on the line of the least resistance. To him, therefore, this tour means a most intelligent inspection of physical and economic conditions, and an addition to his store of that knowledge which he acquires and uses solely for the public benefit.

It is for this reason that nearly his entire Cabinet accompanies him. Those gentlemen have daily duties of administration which intimately affect the whole people and relate to the conditions under which they live and exert their energies for the development of the country.

It will be readily seen, therefore, that mere functions should yield to the leisure required for the fulfillment of the greater purpose of the tour.

It is difficult to restrain California hospitality and the desire of all our people to do what they esteem to be complete honor to the head of the nation and the members of his official family. But this laudable desire must be tempered by consideration for the physical comfort and welfare of the President and his party. He desires to meet the people, the great, unofficial and level-headed people, on at least one occasion when he can look them in the face and discourse of the relation of the government to their welfare, and develop the old truth that government is of their making and they should make it wisely if they consult their own interests. This opportunity he should have at all hazards, no matter what mere ceremonial functions have to be cut to permit it. Such a course will be in line with his wish and purpose, and it is the truest hospitality to consult the views and comfort of a guest in such a matter.

Otherwise he should be spared, as much as possible, the fatigue of making speeches.

He is now in his second term in the most exacting position in the world. No other man charged with the administrative affairs of a people is compelled to address himself to as great a variety, volume and complication of issues as the President of the United States. It is President McKinley's fixed habit to work everything down to the minutest details, and the magnitude of his task is almost incomprehensible to those who in their business or profession have only one simple line of duty.

Therefore let us spare him as far as possible the fatigue of mere ceremonial and give him ample access to the hearty and non-fatiguing, considerate and kindly contact with the people.

The trip will be very arduous at its best. As he comes by New Orleans and crosses Western Texas, New Mexico and Arizona at the time of year when the ardor of summer heat is upon that line of travel, it must not be forgotten that much time must be granted for rest and recuperation.

We plead, therefore, for the constant exercise of the kindliest thoughtfulness for the comfort and quiet of the President and his party, and are quite sure that we will not plead in vain.

The unseemly squabble between the Board of Education and Superintendent of Schools Webster has at least one interesting phase for the public. Whatever the antagonists may say of one another the public will give an answering thought of indorsement.

OUR JURY SYSTEM.

SOME time ago attention was directed to a discussion in Pennsylvania over the statement of one of the Judges of that commonwealth that the time has come for a revision of the prevailing system of trial by jury. It was brought out during the controversy that a good deal of dissatisfaction exists with the system, and that a considerable number of litigants would prefer to have their cases heard and determined by a Judge alone rather than by a court made up of Judge and jury. A similar condition of public sentiment was a little later disclosed in London, where an investigation showed that a very large proportion of suits in that city where the parties had the option of a trial with or without a jury were heard by the Judge alone, the litigants preferring not to take the risk of a jury verdict or a mistrial resulting from inability on the part of the jurors to agree.

The discussion has now shifted to Boston, but in that city the question is not whether juries shall be abolished altogether, but whether the law shall not be so amended as to give a majority the right to return a verdict.

An advocate of a majority verdict says: "If the Judges of the Supreme Court of the United States constantly fail to agree upon questions of a class perfectly familiar to them, and minority judges are constantly writing dissenting opinions, it is impossible to suppose that a constant stream of unanimous conclusions from juries upon all sorts of questions, upon many of which expert witnesses differ widely, represents actual unanimity of opinion." He argues, therefore, that the unanimous verdicts which we get from juries are not really unanimous, but represent either a politic concession on the part of the minority or else a stamping out of the minority by a majority of the jurors. Thus we have a virtual majority rule by indirection, and it would be much better to establish such rule by law and thus save time and the not infrequent disagreements resulting from the present system.

The conservative side of the question has, however, strong supporters. One of them in a communication to the Boston Globe says: "After an experience of a quarter of a century at the trial of civil and of criminal cases I answer no to the question propounded. No American institution has better stood the test of time than our present jury system; man has been unable to find a better method of finding facts on disputed evidence." Another lawyer of long experience at the bar says: "By all means let us adhere to the unanimous verdict. It works substantial justice in the average case, and when it errs it is more likely to err upon the right than the wrong side. * * * There is no coercion in the jury-room that a patient and conscientious minority cannot resist."

While such differences of opinion exist it is of course not at all likely any movement will be made to change the system. The only feature of note, therefore, in the discussion is the evidence it discloses of the eagerness of the American people to bring all the old and time-honored institutions of society to the test and determine by full debate whether they are really so excellent as custom ranks them. On one point it is pleasing to note that all parties agree, and that is that juries should be composed of men who are known to be honorable and should be treated with as much consideration as the Judges and the attorneys in the case.

A NEW TARIFF DEBATE.

CONGRESS is not in session, politics is dull and the silly season is approaching. It is therefore in the natural order of things that all sorts of discussions should break out here and there by way of making talk and giving statesmen an opportunity for keeping themselves before the public. The first of these discussions that has obtained any wide notoriety is, of all things in the world, a discussion of tariff reform. It is a suggestion that the time has come for reconsidering the question of free trade or protection.

The discussion had its origin in a speech made by George E. Roberts, Director of the Mint, before the Bankers' Club of Chicago. Mr. Roberts is reported to have said that our trade balances are now so large we cannot expect our customers to pay in cash, nor can we bring all our wealth home; we must leave a large portion of it in foreign lands, consequently we must become a foreign trading nation, and therefore must revise our present tariff to suit the changed conditions.

As Roberts is a Republican the free trade papers have been quick to seize upon his speech and quote it as an evidence that protection is no longer regarded as a fundamental principle of Republicanism. Congressman Babcock of Wisconsin is another Republican who is said to have taken what the free traders call "broad views of the situation." He is reported to have started a movement to reduce duties levied under the present tariff, and it is asserted that the representatives of some of the protected interests are so far with him that they will make no objection to his scheme.

It is difficult to believe that in all this there is anything more than springtime talk. The country has been so prosperous under the present tariff and has so shortly recovered from widespread disaster caused by tariff tinkering in the direction of free trade it is hardly likely any considerable number of statesmen will seriously attempt to make a change of that kind again. Even Democrats may be expected to fight shy of tariff reform for many a year to come. They would rather make another contest for free silver than for free trade, for what class of workingmen can be expected to make another trial of the experience that followed the enactment of the Wilson bill?

The first effect of an attempt to revise the tariff would be to reopen the whole question, and that would mean the subjection of the business interests of the country to another long period of uncertainty, and inevitably lead to a repression of enterprise. No capitalist would care to undertake new industries so long as he was in doubt what duty would be levied upon foreign goods coming into competition with his products. There may be changes of a minor kind that might be advantageously made in the tariff, for nothing in this world is perfect, but that Babcock will have any strong support for his bill providing for a considerable reduction of duties or a radical alteration of the tariff is not at all likely.

THE WORLD'S MILLIONAIRES.

ACCORDING to a writer for Chambers' Journal fully one-half of the millionaires of the world are Americans. In a list of noted rich men who are reputed to be worth $25,000,000, or more, there are included forty-four Americans, twenty citizens of Great Britain, nine Austrians, four Germans, four Frenchmen, three Russians, three South Africans, three Spanish Americans, one Italian, one Spaniard, one Belgian and one Chinaman.

The list is not to be relied upon as accurate, for the estimates of the wealth of the men included in it are apparently based upon reports that are hardly better than guesswork. Thus Beit, the diamond king of South Africa, and Li Hung Chang are credited with being the richest men in the world, their fortunes being rated at $500,000,000 each. The third place is assigned to Robinson of South Africa, who is said to have a fortune equal to the value of $400,000,000, while Rockefeller comes fourth with $250,000,000.

In each of the cases specified there is clearly a large exaggeration of the fortune, and consequently the summary as a whole is discredited thereby. It is quite probable, however, that the estimate that one-half the millionaires of the world are citizens of the United States is not far wrong. This country is so much richer than any other, the opportunities for acquiring wealth have been so much more abundant here than elsewhere, and the stimulus to obtain wealth for the power it gives in all enterprises for the advancement of cities and States and the nation itself is so much stronger than among any other people that it is natural more Americans should attain possession of vast fortunes than the people of all other lands put together. Consequently the conclusion of the writer referred to is not to be rejected in that respect merely because of his evident exaggerations in particular instances.

One of the most convincing evidences that the monetary wealth of the world is now in the United States is to be found in the fact that New York has become the financial center of the world. At the present time it appears likely that the deficit in the British budget for the year will exceed $300,000,000, and it has been pointed out that had such a condition existed twenty-five years ago there would have been great uneasiness and alarm in the money markets of the world; whereas to-day, despite the large expenditures for military purposes in China, in South Africa and in the Philippines, and vast industrial enterprises under way in all parts of the globe, there is no disturbance whatever in the world of finance. No difficulty is found in obtaining capital for the largest kinds of enterprise, and the civilized world moves along as if the British financial situation were a matter of no particular moment.

In this connection it is worth noting that the New York Times recently published a review of gifts made for public purposes in this country, showing that the total value of such gifts for the year 1900 amounted to $47,500,000, and that during the last eight years the aggregate reached the magnificent sum of $314,000,000. It thus appears that if the opportunities for acquiring wealth are greater in this country than elsewhere, so also are the inducements which incline the successful to share their good fortune with the whole community. Our millionaires are not only the most numerous but the most liberal in the world. Europe and Asia combined can make no such showing of generous gifts as that which is presented here. It is therefore evident that the American is not only the most enterprising in acquiring wealth, but is the most generous and public spirited in making use of it.

The accused thief who was charged the other day with trying to rob a fellow-prisoner while in the dock probably felt that in the practice of one's profession there should be a limitation of neither time nor place.

PAPERS ON CURRENT TOPICS.

PREPARED BY EXPERTS AND SPECIALISTS FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO CALL.

How the Federal Government Seeks to Improve the Material, Social and Moral Life of Workingmen.

By Carroll D. Wright.
COMMISSIONER OF LABOR.
(COPYRIGHT, 1901.)

IX. THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR.

The Bureau of Labor was established by act of Congress approved June 27, 1884, and was attached to the Department of the Interior. The head of the office was designated the Commissioner of Labor, the act providing that he "shall collect information upon the subject of labor, its relation to capital, the hours of labor and the earnings of laboring men and women and the means of promoting their material, social, intellectual and moral prosperity."

The United States bureau was organized in January, 1885, and the Commissioner on February 4 addressed a letter to the Secretary of the Interior declaring the policy of the bureau, stating:

> It should be remembered that a bureau of labor cannot solve industrial or social problems, nor can it bring direct returns in a material way to the citizens of the country, but its work must be classed among educational efforts, and by judicious investigations and the fearless publication thereof it may and should enable the people to comprehend more clearly and more fully many of the problems which now vex them.

After three and a half years of successful operation an act was passed (approved June 13, 1888) providing for a department of labor, the consequence of which was practically to perpetuate the work of the Bureau of Labor in the Department of the Interior, but the name of the office was changed and it was made independent of any of the great departments. The head of the department was still designated the Commissioner of Labor, and by the act he became officially responsible to the President and to the Congress, and not to a secretary in the Cabinet.

Work of the Department of Labor.

The work of the Commissioner of Labor, whether at the head of the bureau or of the department, has been continuous and consecutive, his reports being numbered without reference to the form of the organization, the first three emanating from the Bureau of Labor and the others from the department. In all there have been fifteen annual and nine special reports published, with the following designations:

ANNUAL.

1886—First, "Industrial Depressions."
1886—Second, "Convict Labor."
1887—Third, "Strikes and Lockouts" (January 1, 1881, to December 31, 1886).
1888—Fourth, "Working Women in Large Cities."
1889—Fifth, "Railroad Labor."
1890—Sixth, "Cost of Production; Iron, Steel, Coal," etc.
1891—Seventh, "Cost of Production; the Textiles and Glass."
1892—Eighth, "Industrial Education."
1893—Ninth, "Building and Loan Associations."
1894—Tenth, "Strikes and Lockouts" (January 1, 1887, to June 30, 1894).
1895-6—Eleventh, "Work and Wages of Men, Women and Children."
1897—Twelfth, "Economic Aspects of the Liquor Problem."
1898—Thirteenth, "Hand and Machine Labor."
1899—Fourteenth, "Water, Gas and Electric Light Plants Under Private and Municipal Ownership."
1900—Fifteenth, "A Compilation of Wages in Commercial Countries From Official Sources."

SPECIAL.

1889—First, "Marriage and Divorce."
1892—Second, "Labor Laws of the United States" (second edition, revised 1896).
1893—Third, "Analysis and Index of All Reports Issued by Bureaus of Labor Statistics in the United States Prior to November 1, 1892." (Out of print.)
1893—Fourth, "Compulsory Insurance in Germany," etc.
1893—Fifth, "The Gothenburg System of Liquor Traffic."
1893—Sixth, "The Phosphate Industry of the United States" (with maps and illustrations).
1894—Seventh, "The Slums of Baltimore, Chicago, New York and Philadelphia."
1895—Eighth, "The Housing of the Working People" (with plans and illustrations).
1897—Ninth, "The Italians in Chicago."

Reports on the Condition of Labor.

By the act of Congress approved March 2, 1895, the Commissioner is authorized to publish a bulletin relating to the condition of labor in this and other countries, with condensations of State and foreign labor reports, facts as to conditions of employment and such other facts as may be deemed of value to the industrial interests of the country. By the act of July 1, 1898, the Commissioner is authorized to compile and publish annually, as part of the bulletin of the Department of Labor, an abstract of the main features of the official statistics of the cities of the United States having over 30,000 population. In accordance with the act of March 2, 1895, the first number of the bulletin was published in November of that year, and it has been issued every other month since, containing usually from 120 to 150 pages. The main portions of the bulletin are the results of original investigations; the other parts contain condensations of State and foreign labor reports, as provided by law, the labor laws of the different States of the United States as they are passed and the decisions of the highest courts in the country interpreting such labor laws as have come before them.

It will be seen that the acts creating the bureau, and afterward the department of labor, are very broad. The Commissioner can take up any question which relates to the material, social, intellectual and moral prosperity of the people. It has been considered that the department, in acting under this broad authorization, must confine itself to the collection and publication of information; that it is not the province of the head of the office to make arguments for or against proposed measures for promoting the material, social, intellectual and moral prosperity of the people. In the early days of bureaus of labor very many people considered that the head of such offices should take up this, that or the other proposed scheme, remedy or alleged panacea as official business, but that idea has been laid aside almost entirely, the head of the United States Department of Labor taking the ground that if he took up one side of a question and collected facts or material relating to it, he was in duty bound to take up the other side of the same question; that officially he could not adopt the ideas of any party or organization as the basis of work, but that he fulfilled the intention of the law when he faithfully collected and published information bearing upon any of the great questions which Congress or the public had to consider, leaving Congress and the public to draw their own conclusions and make their own deductions from the facts presented.

Gathering Statistics of Labor.

As a rule the department confines itself to the statistical method—that is, the collection of information on carefully prepared schedules of inquiry put into the hands of experts. This is the usual method of collecting information, but there are questions which cannot be dealt with by the statistical method, and yet all the work of the department must be the result of original inquiry made in some form. Rambling and nebulous observations, which would be likely to result from an investigation carried on by inquiries not properly scheduled, are and ought to be avoided. The great advantages of the statistical method, carried on through the means of properly prepared schedules, have been demonstrated by many years of practical experience in different States and by the department itself. With properly instructed special agents, who can secure exactly the information required, and who are on the spot to make any explanation to parties from whom data are sought, and who can and must consult the books of account at the establishments under investigation, the best and most accurate information can be secured, and in a condition for tabulation.

The department does not aim to secure aggregates, except in rare cases—that is, it cannot count the people; it cannot collect the facts of all the manufacturing establishments in the country, nor classify the occupation of all the people, nor enumerate the different industries, nor ascertain the number of persons engaged in the different industries, with the aggregate wages paid. All such questions belong to the Census Office, and the information resulting from inquiries covering such points is collected every ten years. On the other hand, the department, as a rule, deals with representative facts. If it desires to know the rates of wages they can be ascertained from a sufficient number of concerns in different industries to establish the facts. If it desires to ascertain the cost of production, it is not necessary that the data should be secured from all the establishments in a given industry. Such a method would be altogether too expensive for the department to undertake, but it can secure the information from a sufficient number of firms to establish the facts as to the cost of production in a particular industry. Its investigations, therefore, covering indicative information from representative establishments, are sufficient to satisfy a study of the question involved. Sometimes, of course, the department is able to cover the question so thoroughly as to secure aggregate statements, as, for instance, in its investigations relating to building and loan associations, marriage and divorce, convict labor, strikes and lockouts.

Statistics of Strikes and Lockouts.

One or two illustrations will serve to show the methods adopted by the department. It has made two comprehensive reports giving the statistics relating to strikes and lockouts in this country. The first was in 1887, and covered the data for the six years, beginning January 1, 1881, and ended December 31, 1886, and the tenth annual report covered like data from January 1, 1887, to June 30, 1894. The department is now engaged in collecting similar data for all strikes and lockouts which have occurred since the latter date and up to December 31, 1900, and when this report is published the department will have the data for all strikes and lockouts occurring in the United States from January 1, 1881, to December 31, 1900.

In collecting this information, which relates to the number of persons involved in the labor controversies, the losses to capital and to labor, the duration and the results of each controversy, all properly tabulated and presented by States and industries, the department secures the data from each side engaged in each controversy through the personal inquiries of an expert. An account is kept of the occurrence of all strikes and lockouts and then the localities are visited by the expert. He is prepared with schedules of inquiry, so that the information collected by all the experts shall be on a uniform basis. If the parties ordering the strike and the employers against whom the strike is directed agree as to the facts they are accepted. If there is a disagreement it is the business of the expert to ascertain the points of disagreement and by continued inquiry to secure an agreement as to the facts. Thus the statements reported must be accepted as thoroughly trustworthy, no effort being spared to secure accuracy. Sometimes the facts are easily obtained, but in great and complicated strikes, where a large number of establishments are involved, the difficulty is very greatly increased.

Getting Statistics of Divorce.

Another illustration is that connected with the investigation relative to divorces, especially ordered by Congress. An investigation of the kind, in order to have any value sociologically, must cover a sufficiently long period of years to make the comparisons valuable. So the facts were gathered for twenty years. At the time the investigation was made there were over 2700 courts, State and Federal, in the United States having jurisdiction of divorces. To secure the required data all the facts relative to every petition for a divorce and every decree for a period of twenty years from all the 2700 and more courts had to be examined, yet this work was accomplished and all the facts secured, either by the service of experts or by the mail, for all the courts in the country.

After the information is brought to the office it is carefully examined, each schedule individually, and if errors occur recourse must be had to original sources of information for correction. When the schedules are all in perfect order, or as perfect as the physical conditions will warrant, they are then tabulated and the facts arranged and classified in accordance with the information to be brought out.

Value of Labor Statistics.

It is often asked, "What good do labor statistics do? What is the value of the work of the Department of Labor?" One might as well undertake to answer the same question relative to the Bureau of Education or to other offices devoted entirely to the dissemination of knowledge. No one of these offices really puts money into the pockets of the citizens of the United States. They are and must be considered as a part of the educational force of the Government.

Under the general welfare clause of the constitution the United States Government spends about $8,000,000 annually and employs over 4000 people in scientific and educational ways. All their work might be abandoned without interfering one jot or tittle with the administration of the Federal Government. There are, however, certain classes of information which private enterprise cannot secure, as, for instance, no private individual or set of individuals would undertake the collection of data relative to strikes and lockouts or the various other questions which have been covered by the United States Department of Labor; yet all such information is useful. Congress desires it for its own use, and after having secured it feels at liberty to publish it for the use of everybody else. So, while it can be shown here and there that the facts secured by the Department of Labor and kindred offices in the United States have resulted in shaping wise legislation and also in preventing unwise legislation, the information has been more generally of the character of educational work—adding to the knowledge of the world.

Benefits of Sociology.

The results of the work of such offices constitute most valuable contributions to social and political science. Sociology today commands the attention of thinking people, but sociology without facts is simply a theoretical view of the construction of society. What we need is the actual facts of what society is doing, for only by knowing the actual facts can laws be deduced relative to future conduct. Labor and capital are both vitally interested in social and economic information. The investigation of existing conditions in various directions results in positive knowledge, and through positive knowledge the errors which grow out of empirical observation are corrected. One of the chief values of the work of the Department of Labor is correcting the erroneous conclusions drawn simply from observation. The time will come when the statistical method will enable governments to avoid certain things and to adopt others, all of which will conduce to the general welfare.

But when statistical offices become partisan in their nature, adopt any particular ideas of reform, become propagandists and aim to bolster up one party as against another in its economic theories, their work will be criminal and not scientific. A partisan cannot be a good statistician, and should the Department of Labor advocate a proposition it would necessarily take the position of an advocate, hence a partisan, and lay itself open legitimately to the charge of having collected facts to substantiate its own position or of having neglected to secure facts which might antagonize such position. It is only by the fearless publication of facts, without regard to the influence those facts may have upon any party's position or any partisan's view, that the department can justify its continued existence.

Education for the Masses.

It is now well understood that the popular education of the masses in the elementary facts of political and economic science is one of the greatest educational ends of the day, and that departments and bureaus of statistics and labor are working emphatically in the line of facilitating this great work by their faithful investigations into all the conditions where facts should be known and into all causes of bad conditions of whatever nature and by their fearless promulgation of the results of their investigations. There may have been much weak and unsatisfactory work by this class of offices, but, having watched their work for a generation, the writer feels safe in asserting that with but one or two exceptions there has never been any attempt by the head of any of the offices, State or Federal, to pervert the facts or to use the offices to sustain theories. This is a record of which the official statisticians of our State and Federal Governments can be proud.

PERSONAL MENTION.

Dr. N. Thompson of Boonville is at the Grand.

H. A. French of Sacramento is at the Palace.

J. Betts, a merchant of San Jose, is at the Palace.

W. G. Fraser, a Riverside merchant, is at the Palace.

Dr. J. B. Hamilton of Los Angeles is at the Occidental.

E. S. Churchill, a banker of Napa, is a guest at the Palace.

O. Scriber, an oil man of Bakersfield, is a guest at the Grand.

F. Irwin Herron, an oil man of Los Angeles, is at the Palace.

Joseph Goldman, a merchant of Merced, is a guest at the Grand.

W. J. Smith, a merchant of Watsonville, is registered at the Palace.

Charles P. Reed, a merchant of Los Angeles, is a guest at the Palace.

O. Y. Woodward, a rancher of Woodwards Island, is at the Grand.

Walter F. Parker of Los Angeles is spending a few days at the Grand.

Senator E. C. Voorheis of Sutter Creek registered at the Palace yesterday.

M. H. Whittier, an oil man of Bakersfield, is registered at the Occidental.

Rev. Robert L. Macfarlane of Carson City, Nev., is a guest at the Occidental.

P. B. Lynch, a merchant and a Town Trustee of Vallejo, is spending a few days at the Palace.

J. A. Whittier, a mining man of British Columbia, is staying at the Grand. He is accompanied by his wife.

CALIFORNIANS IN NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, April 12.—The following Californians are in New York: From San Francisco—J. Cohn is at the Imperial, H. T. Scott and L. J. Scott are at the Holland, Dr. G. M. Tersill and wife are at the Imperial, L. H. Dubber is at the Union Square, J. H. Hunt and A. Zuckerman are at the Herald Square, G. Lowenberg is at the Hoffman, M. E. Luther is at the Sinclair, J. Richards is at the Astor.

CALIFORNIANS IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, April 12.—R. S. Tousley and wife of Los Angeles are at the St. James.

ANSWERS TO QUERIES.

NO PREMIUM—G. M., City. Dealers in coins will not purchase half-dollars of 1875. Such are sold by dealers at from 75 cents to $1.

SPIDERS—M. S., City. The best exterminator for spiders in a cellar is a broom, energetically applied. Wherever there is a cobweb sweep it away.

GOODS BY SAMPLE—Agent, Stent, Cal. An agent who sells goods by sample only is not required to take out a license in the State of California.

GIVEN NAME—H. M., City. Although a gentleman "has known a lady for a year and has been out with her quite often," he should not address her by her given name unless she permits him to do so.

RESERVATIONS—F. H., Bonsall, Cal. For information relative to the opening to the public of the Kiowa, Comanche and Apache reservations address a communication to the General Land Office, Washington, D. C., stating in full what information you desire.

A DIFFICULT CASE—Easterner, City. This department suggests that you lay the difficult case that you name in your letter of inquiry before the resident physician at the City and County Hospital, and he will be able to give you the information you desire.

THE WAR IN AFRICA—Subscriber, Kelseyville, Cal. As yet there have not been published any statistics that show "the number of men killed on the British and Boer sides in the war in South Africa, how many have died from disease and what the war has already cost England."

ASPHALT—R., City. Asphalt or asphaltum is a blackish bituminous substance of solid consistence, which probably owes its existence to vegetable matter which has been subjected to a slow process of decomposition or decay, resulting in the production of a bituminous coal, from which by volcanic agency it has been distilled and diffused over the neighboring district.

COLLECTING FARES—R., City. If you got on a street car, rode a considerable distance and then discovered that you had got on the wrong car the conductor would not have the right to return you your fare nor allow you to ride back to the point from which you started without collecting another fare. To avoid mistakes ask the conductor if you are on the right car if you do not know.

BIGAMY—F. M. S., City. A man who deserted his wife seventeen years ago, is not divorced and has no proof that his wife is dead, if he marry again is guilty of bigamy, unless he can establish that during a period of seven years he, after diligent search, could not obtain any information as to his first wife. If he did not hear of her in that time it would raise a presumption that she was dead.

CHANCE TO SMILE.

Bill—The Halls seem to hold the center of the stage.

Jill—How so?

"Why, first it was Tammany Hall, then Murray Hall and now Mrs. Blakeley Hall who is in the public eye."

"And you forget the one which gives so much trouble to the police."

"What's that?"

"Alcohol."—Yonkers Statesman.

"Uncle John," said little Emily, "do you know that a baby that was fed on elephant's milk gained twenty pounds in a week?"

"Nonsense!" exclaimed Uncle John, and then asked, "Whose baby was it?"

"It was the elephant's baby," replied little Emily.—Our Dumb Animals.

"A Pennsylvania junk dealer sold his wife to the ashman for fifty cents."

"Well, say—if she's that sort of a wife I'll bet the ashman will be around in a few days asking pay for carting her away."—Plain Dealer.

On the departure for the next world of a friend and citizen a rural singer writes:

"He took and went the heavenly way—
'Tis hard to do without him;
But all of us will leave some day,
So I writ this poem 'bout him."
—Atlanta Constitution.

Judge—Have you anything to say before sentence is passed upon you?"

The female prisoner—No, your Honor; I'll wait till afterward. I am in the habit of having the last word.—Yonkers Statesman.

Choice candies, Townsend's, Palace Hotel.*

Cal. glace fruit 50c per lb at Townsend's.*

Best eyeglasses, 10c to 40c. Look out for 81 4th, front of barber store and grocery.*

Special information supplied daily to business houses and public men by the Press Clipping Bureau (Allen's), 510 Montgomery street. Telephone Main 1042.*

Tommy—Pop, what's a subsidy?

Tommy's Pop—Well, my son, if I should give you a quarter not to ask any more questions, that would be a subsidy.—Philadelphia Record.

No grippe, no pneumonia in the early winter, those who build up their systems after the hot season by using Dr. Siegert's Angostura Bitters.