

E. N. HOPKINS - Editor
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IN ADVANCE

The Board of Control bill was by vote refused engrossment in the Missouri senate Monday. This is expected to be the end of the matter.

Senator Curtis may be put down among the republicans who are anxious to sidetrack President Roosevelt. He says that the president is the very man to dig the Panama Canal.

The senate relies upon public interest in the Brownsville incident to avoid any serious action in the matter of tariff revision or any other serious legislation which ought to consume its time.

The matter of a constitutional convention to write a new constitution for Missouri is one that is constantly coming up. The favorers of this project should contemplate the wobbling motions of the Oklahoma convention now in session.

Senator McAllister's bill to require clubs which dispense liquors to take out a saloon license is a measure rendered necessary in the large cities where the enforcement of Sunday law has had the effect of stimulating the organization of numberless fake clubs.

The Japanese scare apparently was timed to secure ample naval appropriations. There is much to be said in favor of an efficient navy in the case of a nation bounded by two oceans and a gulf and affected with a spirit of aggressive commercialism.

The house committee Monday decided not to recommend the Post Master General's suggested changes in the newspaper postage rates, and now the thousands of newspaper publishers over the land will breathe easier for another year.

Mrs. Sage has begun to distribute the estate of her late husband, Russell Sage. She has given a million dollars to the Emma Willard Seminary, a million to the Reanseller Polytechnic School and a quarter of a million to the International committee of the Y. M. C. A. There is plenty left for distribution and applicants are not wanting.

The Missouri legislature ought to pass the Jim Crow measure or else let it alone. Every session for the past twenty years this bill has been introduced, mouthed about and dropped. There are half a dozen of these historic measures, which the Missouri legislature periodically makes itself ridiculous about.

The announcement that the Corried Company will present "Salome" in Kansas City in April is not to be taken in evidence of the depravity of the metropolis of the west. It merely goes to show the insensitiveness of the western mind. The Kansas Cityites just want to see how bad an opera must be to get fired off the New York stage.

Senator McDavid very clearly pointed out the absurdity of the house bill to prevent the appearance of lobbyists before the committees of the legislature in a brief talk last Saturday. The house bill would not reach railroad and other lobbyists who are employed by the year, but would prevent lawyers and others from representing constituents for a fee in the matter of proposed legislation.

It is regarded as extremely probable that the Missouri legislature will adopt Senator Stone's suggestion as to the nomination of United States senators at the general election instead of at a separate primary. This plan is thought to be wise in the present instance at least, because there is every prospect of an ugly fight over this office two years hence. It will be very well for the results of this fight to be unknown until the general election is over.

The government's annual report of imports and exports is interesting reading in spite of the fact that these statistics are always so combined as to lend credit to the policies of the republican party. From statistics just published it appears that the volume of foreign trade in 1906 increased over the previous year. The excess of exports over imports was 478 millions of dollars, the exports amounting to \$1,798,000,000 and the imports to \$1,320,000,000.

In these totals are included gold and silver exports and imports. Of the exports of last year 69 per cent went to Europe, 18 per cent to North America, 8 per cent to South America, 7 per cent to Asia and 1 per cent to Africa. The imports came from these quarters in very nearly the same ratios. The import duties collected amounted to \$315,000,000 making an average tariff rate of 48 1/2 per cent. Of this country's exports 325 millions consisted of food-stuffs, 525 millions of crude materials for manufacture, and 720 millions of manufactures. It is to be noted that such articles as flour are catalogued as manufactures rather than a foodstuffs.

The president's recommendation of the ship subsidy bill reads like a defense of vaccination. The subsidy bill is a precaution which the nation is urged to take at its own risk and charge in the hope of rendering itself partially immune from the evils of protectionism—a scheme by which it may with some degree of impunity go on in intimate association with a confessed evil with a maximum of security and a minimum of good conscience.

Once upon a time there was a man by the name of Lawson, Thomas Lawson. For nearly a year he kept the people of the United States on the verge of nervous collapse by incessant threats to tell something on somebody. But he collapsed himself and the threat was never executed. The world has always made a fool of itself over men who 'could tell something if they would.' In all of Lawson's voluminous disclosures there was not an important fact which was not long ago a matter of common knowledge.

Senator Eads has introduced a bill designed to provide a good roads fund out of revenues to be derived from a special tax to be imposed upon the capital stock of every corporation operating in Missouri. The bill is said to have the approval of the Senate Board of Agriculture. This bill ought to be combined with another bill introduced or proposed to be introduced to build a new capitol out of a fund to be created by an extra saloon fund. Bye and bye somebody will propose to support the state university by a special tax on lawyers or dentists.

The school men over the state are very generally petitioning the legislature to give up all thought of state adoption of text books and a state commission. State adoption serves no good purpose except in the matter of prices. Invariably and in all states where there is state adoption a large number of inferior and long out of the date books are fastened upon the public to the disgust of teachers and to the weariness of pupils—all because they are cheap. And they are usually cheap because they are out of date, the copyrights having expired. County boards are abundantly able to choose textbooks and should be permitted to do so.

The people of the state will not have much respect for the present legislature, in spite of some of its spectacular legislative reforms, if it fails of its duty in passing the Speer amendment to the Maximum freight rate law of two years ago. The Speer amendment merely restores the rates in two classes to what they were in the original bill before alterations were made in the senate with the hope of having the whole law declared invalid by the courts. The constitution, which the legislators are sworn to support, distinctly provides that the legislature shall fix maximum freight rates on various classes of freights and shall from time to time revise these rates. Nearly thirty years ago a legislature fixed maximum rates which have not been revised. Two years ago the Speer-Dickinson bill was passed after it had been amended with sinister motive. This law is not yet in operation on account of a federal court injunction. The injunction will probably be made perpetual after the end of this session of the legislature, unless the legislature amends the stock schedule. It is for this reason that the filibustering on this subject was had last week. The railroads don't want the stock rate raised for fear the whole law may be sustained.

The spirit of hostility to railroads is not without foundation in remediable grievances of the public. But this hostility is likely to be directed by demagogues in the interest of their own political advancement rather than to serve for

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W. G. M'CAUSLAND

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TREES and PLANTS

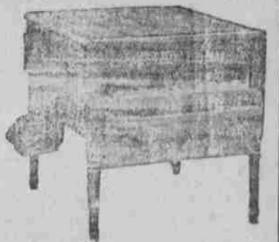
APPLE TREES:—5-7 ft. \$1.50 per 12, \$12 per 100 4.5 ft. \$2 less. Early varieties: E. Harvest, Yell. Transparent, Red June, Red Astrachan, Duchess. SUMMER: Sweet June, Benoni, Wealthy, Sweet Bough, Maidenblush. FALL: Rambo, Yell. Bellflower, Grimes Golden, Jonathan. WINTER: Rome Beauty, Janeton, Willowtwig, Gano, Ben Davis, Huntsmans F., Winesap, M. B. Twigg, Mo. Pippin, S. Romanite, Lansingburg and others. Missing Link, new, long keeper, 25c each. Crab: Siberian, Transcendant, Hyslop, Hewes, 15c each.
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PEARS:—5-7 ft. 35c each, \$3.50 per 12, \$25 per 100. Wilder Early, Bartlett, Clapps Favorite, Howell, Seckel, Duchess, Beurre d'Anjou, Garber, Kieffer.
PLUMS:—5-7 ft. 35c each, 3.50 per 12, \$25 per 100. Wild Goose, Abundance, Red June, Climax, Wickson, Burbank, Gold, Lombard, Green Gage, Louisa, Damson, Free Damson.
CHERRIES:—40c each, \$4 per 12. May Duke, Gov. Wood, E. Richmond, English Morello, Late Duke.
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GOOSEBERRIES:—\$1.00 per 12. CURRANTS:—\$1 per 12.
BLACKBERRIES: { Snyder, Rathbun, 25c per 12, \$1.75 per 100.
{ Mersereau, new extra large, 50c per 12, \$2.50 per 100.
DEWBERRIES:—{ Lacretia, 25c per 12, \$1.75 per 100.
RASPBERRIES { Black, Palmer, Kansas, 25c per 12, \$1.50 per 100.
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{ Purple, Cardinal, new, very large, 35c per 12, \$2 per 100.
STRAWBERRIES:—75c per 100, \$2 per 300, \$4.50 per 1000. Early: Excelsior P., Michels Early P., Warfield, Crescent, Splendid P., Haverland. Late: Bubach, Brandywine P., Ridgeway P., Aroma P., Parker Earle P., makes few plants, very prolific, \$1 per 100, \$6 per 1000. Those marked P., are perfect flowering.
ASPARAGUS:—Palmetto and Colossal, 3yr., \$1.75 per 100, 2yr., \$1.50 per 100.
RHUBARB:—Linnaeus and Victoria, 2yr., \$1 per 12, 2yr., \$6 per 100.
SAGE:—Extra strong plants, 25c each, \$2.50 per 12.
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ROSES:—Crimson Rambler and others, 2 yr., 40c each, \$4 per 12.
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