

THE ENTERPRISE.

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VIRGINIA. MINNESOTA

There is an agitation in Glasgow, Scotland, to have umbrella stands provided on the platform of the electric street cars.

The apple crop of 1905 in the United States is commercially estimated at about 23,500,000 barrels. In 1904 similar estimates put the crop at 45,400,000 barrels.

A playbill of Ford's theater for April 14, 1865, the night of President Lincoln's assassination, was sold for \$20 by auction in New York from the collection of the late John H. V. Arnold.

Within the last few months German capitalists have started banks for the promotion of German trade in East Africa, West Africa, Asia Minor, Argentina, Bulgaria and Central America.

Hunters and woodsmen report a great increase of bobcats in the Maine woods. These animals a few years ago were met rarely, but are now numerous in some parts of the state. They are getting big and savage, too. The cats are reported in the greatest numbers in Washington county.

During the year 1904 Riverside county, California, received 5,377,495 for oranges, \$1,055,145 for lemons, \$2,000,000 for grain \$408,581 for dairy products, \$92,335 for honey, \$117,139 for poultry, \$500,000 for manufactured articles, \$147,000 for various fruits, such as grapes, almonds and strawberries, and \$45,000 for vegetables.

A professor in Northwestern university has laid it down as an imperative rule for the students in his classes that they shall read the newspapers every day and thus acquaint themselves with current events. "I shall consider this," he told them, "fully as important as the daily lessons assigned from the text-books."

The annual report of Herbert Putnam, librarian of congress, shows that the library contains 1,344,618 books, \$2,744 maps and charts, 183,724 artistic prints and 410,352 pieces of music. The manuscripts, which form a valuable collection, have not been enumerated pending their grouping into volumes. Many of these are of great interest and of permanent value.

The campaign for pure food products has gained a powerful ally in the wholesale grocery interests, which are proposing to combine in the detection and prosecution of all manufacturers guilty of imposing unwholesome and poisonous adulterations upon the market. The wholesale grocerymen are in a position to do more effective service in this line than any other class.

The principle of municipal ownership has been carried to an extreme limit in London, where a Turkish bath, the first to be established under municipal control, has just been opened up. The charge of admission to the bath, which is admirably fitted up, is two shillings, and the superintendent declares that he expects to make a good profit for the city. There is also a Russian vapor bath, two large swimming-baths, warm baths for men and women and a public washing-house.

The material of which imitation stones are made is known as "strass." This is made according to different recipes, but usually includes red lead, rock crystal, potassium carbonate, borax and white arsenic. The greater the amount of lead used in the production of the "paste" the greater will be the brilliancy and play of prismatic colors in the finished stone, and at the same time the higher will be its specific gravity. On the other hand, the stone loses in hardness what it gains in brilliancy.

By the treaty of Portsmouth Japan was virtually granted a free hand in Korea, and she has taken advantage of this power by practically transferring the seat of Korea's government from Seoul to Tokio. Thus, a country which has had a theoretical or actual independence for nearly thirty centuries is stricken from the map of nations. Japan's conquests, social or political, or both, which are permitted in Manchuria under the Portsmouth convention, may turn out to be immeasurably more important, for Manchuria is a far richer country than Korea.

D. O. McCahey, well-known physician of St. Louis, has discovered a mechanical process by which air can be extracted from water beneath the surface. Not only can he, or any one else for that matter, extract the subaqueous air from the surrounding water, but he can store it beneath the surface. The possibilities of the discoveries are patent. In its application, which is entirely practical, it will solve the question of submarine navigation; that is, supply submarine boats with air without the trouble of the coming to the surface for it.

We certainly have no reason to be proud of the record we are making in a matter so vital as that of railroad accidents. The list of killed and injured due to casualties of this sort, as presented in the recent annual report of the interstate commerce commission, reads like the returns from a Manchurian battlefield. According to this showing 537 passengers were killed on the railroads during the fiscal year ending June 1st, and 10,040 injured, while the number of railway employees killed reached the enormous total of 3,261 and the injured 45,426.

WASHINGTON GOSSIP

UNCLE SAM NOW PURCHASES QUANTITIES OF GEMS.

MANY UNCUT DIAMONDS

Senator Beveridge Hears from a Constituent—Maiden Speech of Another Young Hoosier—The Official Publications.

WASHINGTON.—Uncle Sam has reached that state of prosperity where he is "wearing diamonds." Ten years ago he bought less than a million and a half dollars' worth of these precious stones abroad, while in ten months of the present year he has bought over \$25,000,000 worth of cut and uncut diamonds. He has not confined his taste to diamonds, but his plethoric pocketbook has included all sorts of precious stones in its purchasing power. Ten years ago his total outlay of precious stones of all kinds abroad was less than \$5,000,000. This year it will probably be \$35,000,000 worth, as for ten months the importations have reached the value of \$31,359,157.

To a certain degree these tremendously increased imports of diamonds and precious stones are an indication of prosperous times, plenty of money, and also, to some extent, they are a new form of investment, as many people consider the investment of money in diamonds about the safest that can be made. This expenditure of wealth abroad for precious stones has been productive of work and consequently money to the workmen of the United States. This is shown in the rapid growth of the importations of uncut diamonds.

A few years ago there was established in this country a diamond cutting industry, and it has increased very rapidly in the last decade. In 1896 there were but \$78,815 worth of uncut diamonds brought into this country, but since the passage of the present tariff law, giving a preferential to this class of diamonds, their importation has increased until this year over \$10,000,000 worth will be imported. For the decade ending with 1905 the value of uncut diamonds imported will reach \$60,000,000, and of cut diamonds about \$100,000,000, and of other precious stones imported enough to bring the total value for the ten years up to \$200,000,000.

A Finished Orator.

SENATOR BEVERIDGE OF Indiana has, since his entrance into the senate, been easily the first finished orator of the two branches of congress. His declamation, enunciation, gesture, and diction are pretty nearly perfect from an elocutionary standpoint. He has made a great reputation as a debater and an orator, but in addition has added greatly to his fame by his writings. He knows now that his articles are real because a unique experience the other day demonstrated this fact.

He was asked in a very gentle, though somewhat dictatorial, manner to assist a constituent of one of his colleagues in securing an assistant secretaryship to the president of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific railroad. This applicant was not a bit backward. He stated his qualifications for the place very minutely, and his letter was written in a good hand and was well composed. The young man wrote that he had read one of the senator's articles on the subject of a young man's chance in the world. Mr. Beveridge in this article, which was written at least a year ago, said that the president of the C. R. I. & P. railroad was looking for a bright young high school graduate to fill a vacancy in his office as assistant private secretary.

The young man in his letter to the senator expressed himself as satisfied with the job, and he enclosed a formal application for the position, which he asked Mr. Beveridge to forward to the right person. The senator was rather taken back by the thought that his purely academic discussion of an abstract subject should have been interpreted as an advertisement, but he wrote a very kind letter to the young man expressing regret that the latter had not applied for the position a year ago.

Fred Landis of Indiana.

WHILE Senator Beveridge wears the bay leaves as a finished orator, he will have to look to them now since the advent of another young Hoosier on the congressional forum. Young Fred Landis, a tall, hatched-faced man, with a huge shock of black hair, who came to the house in the last congress, has created a sensation by his maiden speech. Before the holiday recess "Uncle Joe" Cannon, speaker of the house, gave

the "kids" free rein and allowed unlimited debate on any subject. This was the opportunity that Fred Landis had been waiting for, and he made his first speech on the floor in an attack upon the insurance system of the country. His success was instantaneous.

Mr. Landis is one of four brothers who have all achieved high reputation. His brother "Charlie" has been a representative from Indiana for several terms and is a fine orator and a popular public speaker. Another brother, Kensaw Mountain Landis, who was private secretary to Mr. Gresham when the latter was secretary of state, is now a United States judge in Illinois, and still another brother is in charge of the postal service in Porto Rico. Young Fred was at one time his brother Charlie's secretary and did newspaper work as an assistant on one of the western newspapers. He read law and was admitted to the bar, but suddenly one day in the spring of 1902 he told his brother that he was tired of the job of private secretary and was going out to Indiana to beat George Steele for renomination for congress.

Charlie laughed at the nervy young fellow, but the latter meant what he said. He went into Steele's district and, although the latter had been a representative of it in Washington for many years, Landis defeated him, secured the nomination himself and took his seat in the last congress. He was reelected to the present congress by a largely increased majority, and his brilliant speech on the insurance question has fixed his fame as one of the leading orators of the house.

"Smith's Onion."

SENATOR DANIEL of Virginia is the innocent cause of conferring a nickname on such a dignified old institution as the Smithsonian. Since imparting to some of his colleagues the contents of a letter he received from a somewhat illiterate constituent this more or less useful government institution is known as "Smith's Onion." A few days ago the senator received a request to procure for one of his constituents a report on "Smith's Onion." His clerk applied to the agricultural department for a list of publications emanating there, and although that department is the most prolific in official literature, its comprehensive index did not contain any work or report on "Smith's Onion."

The senator then applied to the agricultural congressmen in the house and senate without results. His clerk sat up with the letter one night and finally came to the conclusion that the reading gentleman down in the Old Dominion wanted a report on the "Smithsonian." A report of the Smithsonian institution was secured and sent to the gentleman and it proved to be just what he wanted, and he has written an acknowledgement of the receipt of a very handsome volume containing "highly interesting facts." He is satisfied now that Uncle Sam is a most obliging old fellow and the people throughout the country can get almost any sort of reading matter.

This assumption that the national government will afford the citizens of the country all the reading matter they want is pretty well founded, for, aside from works of actual fiction, there is scarcely a line of literature that the government has not invaded.

Fond of the Gentle Sport.

HERE are enough fishermen in congress, lovers of the actual sport of fly casting, trolling and deep sea fishing to insure an interest in the fish commission and keep that branch of the government moving. In the old days Amos J. Cummings of New York, the one time printer friend of Charles A. Dana and Horace Greeley, was accorded the first place in congress circles as an expert fisherman. Amos loved fishing as well as he did a good story, and that meant a great deal. He had a lodge on the upper branch of the Susquehanna, where he used to spend most of his vacation fishing for the small mouth black bass, or earlier in the season going into the mountains of Pennsylvania and luring the wily brook trout.

No man has exactly taken Amos Cummings' place as the fisherman par excellence of congress, but Mr. Albert Burleson, of Texas, comes very near it. He is a born fisherman. In his opinion fishing is the finest sport and recreation on the top of the earth. He has the finest collection of fishing tackle of anyone either in the house or senate, and that is saying a good deal. He is not a carpet fisherman by any means, one who can tell how fishing should be done while seated before the fire, but he is an active sportsman who has tackled pretty nearly every sort of game fish in the country. He tells some mighty interesting stories and, unlike the proverbial fish story, they are true and backed up with snapshots.

Mr. Burleson is a great believer in fishing and he asserts that no man can be very far wrong who is fond of this quiet, gentle sport. He is a great admirer of ex-President Cleveland, as much on account of the latter's fondness for rod and line as for any of his achievements in statesmanship.

IN THE METROPOLIS

RYAN-BELMONT MERGER AND MUNICIPAL OWNERSHIP.

SQUEEZING THE PEOPLE

Belmont Still More Important in Financial World Than Ryan—The Wadsworths Fighters—Young "Jimmy" a Fine Fellow.

NEW YORK.—Tired of hundreds of millions, blase of billions, let us figure out how the great street car merger in New York affects a single family like mine or yours. There are 800,000 such families of the average size. Each family has on its

behalf \$120 annually invested in traction companies. Its share of the total cost of replacing every tie, tunnel, wire and car could be paid by that sum. But each family is actually paying interest upon \$25 to the different lines. It is paying interest unnecessarily, wrongfully, upon \$500 of watered stock and getting a wretched service for the money. The plants, including the subway, are worth a hundred millions. They are paying interest upon \$500,000,000. The \$400,000,000 difference is the value of the franchises that guilty public officials have given away for relatively small bribes in the past and are with difficulty restrained from giving away in the present.

This merger of the Ryan-Belmont interests explains what I said in my letter of comment upon the election frauds in which Hearst was counted out of the office to which a plurality of the citizens desired his election. For New York is only at the beginning of its rapid transit system. Privileges as valuable as all the existing rights, are to be given out within the next few years in completing the projected subways. There will be but one bidder now for those upon Manhattan, practically but one bidder in the entire city. This stake was so enormous that Ryan simply had to win, through his tools, Murphy and the other local bosses of the Tammany faction. His political record with Belmont was apparent before election. This disclosure will greatly increase municipal ownership sentiment in the city. It should make it practically irresistible.

Who Has Swallowed Whom?

THE papers have roughly said that Ryan, lord of the surface of the streets, has sold to Belmont, lord of the upper air and the under earth, the elevated and subway lines. Technically that is the fact; the Belmont company is the absorbing or holding company. It had to be that way, as the Ryan company is not earning its guaranteed dividends and the Belmont company, not so ruinously capitalized, is needed to make the whole business solvent. But so far as ownership is concerned—trust Tom Ryan not to drop that just when it bids fair to be the greatest plum in the traction world! Ownership of the stock of the holding company and of the held company has doubtless been swapped to some extent. And this brings Standard Oil and the Rothschilds in close connection for the exploitation of New York, with J. P. Morgan. Four hundred millions of unearned value have been squeezed out of the people already. As much more of future "developable value" may be squeezed out in the next term of Mayor McClellan. There is only the legislature to stand in the way. But in the legislature Odell, the corrupt, but powerful, foe of Ryan, has had his paws clipped. The municipal ownership members may stand by him; but the reform crowd, the Roosevelt-Higgins-Root-Wadsworth faction, is rightly or wrongly held to be financially allied with Ryan, of course indirectly. No one supposes that Ryan can influence the president—though he did strangely succeed in getting an ex-president to "stand for" his capture of the Equitable insurance company.

Robert Emmet's Ring. HEN Robert Emmet, whose one regret upon the scaffold was that he had but one life to lose for his country, neared that high place of historic martyrdom he took from his finger a ring which he desired should be worn by that Emmet in each generation who should bear the name of Robert. Thomas Addis Emmet, only brother of the dying man, has a numerous progeny, practically all of whom are Americans. His son Robert wore the ring. It is now held by Col. Robert T. Emmet. Richard Stockton Emmet, named after the American admiral, who was an ancestor also of Charles Stewart Parnell, died a short time ago, aged 82. William Jenkins Emmet died last week at 80. He was the father of the present Robert and grandson of Thomas Addis. There has always been a Robert and a Thomas Addis in the New York family. There is a Richard Stockton in the present generation, a William and a Devereaux.

Every Emmet in America but one has entered the professions. The late William Jenkins Emmet was in trade. All the others have been physicians, lawyers and the like. The three daughters of the latest Emmet to die are all artists and excellent ones; Mrs. Sherwood, Miss Emmet and Mrs. von Gleh.

What a wonderful grist of talent the folly of kings has ground out for the benefit of the new world—the Emmets and their like from Ireland, the Huguenots from France, the Garibaldis from Italy; for was not Garibaldi once the most illustrious resident of Staten Island? Where is the royal family, too, whose blood has not been borne to America by some adventurous fugitive?

OWEN LANGDON.

NEWS OF MINNESOTA.

A Clean Sweep.

St. Paul.—Governor Johnson has made a clean sweep with the state board of equalization. One-half of the members of the board go out this year and the governor announced their successors. The only one of the nine retained is W. B. Hodges of Sleepy Eye, a democratic editor whom Governor Johnson selected last fall to fill a vacancy.

The appointments are as follows: First judicial district, John Heinen, banker, of Hastings, succeeding F. I. Johnson of Cannon Falls. Third district, A. D. French, farmer, of Plainview, succeeding J. G. Lawrence of Wabasha. Fifth district, William Gausewitz, druggist, of Owatonna, succeeding Captain L. G. Nelson of Owatonna. Seventh district, C. E. Vasaly, editor, of Little Falls, succeeding C. M. Sprague, of Sauk Center, chairman of the board and a probable candidate for lieutenant governor. Ninth district, W. R. Hodges, Sleepy Eye, reappointed. Eleventh district, Henry Nolte, real estate, Duluth, succeeding J. E. Cooley of Duluth.

Thirteenth district, Samuel Nelson, merchant, Luverne, succeeding A. H. Fowler of Fulda. Fifteenth district, Con O'Brien of Brainard, wholesale merchant and lumberman, succeeding George W. Knox, Aitkin. Seventeenth district, Fred B. Brown, banker and former secretary of state, Blue Earth City. Mr. Brown is the only republican in the list. The board as it now stands has only three republicans out of twenty-one.

Will Meet the Trust.

Stillwater.—The state board of control and Warden Wolf of the penitentiary are ready to meet the competition of the binding twine trust, which is about to start a flax twine plant in St. Paul, and run the prison twine plant out of business by underselling it in the state. If the trust plant cuts into the market for prison twine, the state will carry the war outside, and force the trust to meet competition in the surrounding states.

Under the present law, the prison authorities may go outside the state to sell any of the products left on hand after July 1. That is late in the day to sell twine, but if the state has any trouble next season in disposing of its output, the legislature will be asked to change the law so the state can go outside and sell the prison output any time after May 1. That would give the trust some trouble. The present plan is to break the market only in Minnesota, in order to kill off the prison plant. The trust is not looking for competition all over the northwest.

Freight Shipments.

Minneapolis.—Minneapolis freight shipments and receipts for the year just passed show up well with the advances made by the city in every other line. The advance in total carlots received in 1905 is about 1,500 cars. The advance in shipments, however, is much greater—12,000 cars. There were 106,471 cars of wheat received and 24,633 shipped. There were 15,154 barrels of flour shipped out. Timber filed 21,309 cars. To keep people warm there were 627,775 cars of coal received. Wool shipments amount to 1,873,984 pounds. Of merchandise there were 418,371-538 pounds received and 733,947,733 shipped.

Silver For the Governor.

St. Paul.—Governor and Mrs. John A. Johnson enjoyed a silver Christmas. The governor's appointees in the capitol joined in giving them a full dinner set of silver in the Paul Revere pattern, enclosed in a rosewood box with a silver plate, carrying the inscription: "Presented to Governor and Mrs. John A. Johnson, Christmas, 1905. 'The Official Family.'" The governor's staff waited on him New Year's Day with a present of a silver tea service, matching the dinner set. The presentation was made by the chaplain, Father James Lawler of this city, and the governor responded in a short speech of thanks.

In Prison.

Stillwater.—Mrs. Stella Brennan of Minneapolis, who was sent to the state prison in this city for life for the murder of three of her stepchildren, arrived here in charge of Sheriff Dreger, Jailer Nels Clausen and Mrs. Mary Woodburn, matron of the jail. The prisoner was smiling when she alighted from the car and maintained her cheerful expression when she entered the prison doors. The work she will be required to do while in confinement has not yet been determined by the prison authorities.

News Notes.

St. Paul.—The Commercial club began the new year with a family dinner and social gathering at the club. About 400 guests were present, including men, women and children. St. Paul.—Lizzie Stephenson, who was employed as a maid in the women's ward at St. Luke's hospital, was instantly killed while trying to operate the freight elevator at the hospital. Duluth.—Nine draft horses, said to have belonged to E. H. Townsend, a transfer man of Minneapolis, were shot on account of glanders. Minneapolis.—Seeking shelter in the ruins of a burned lodging house on Seventh street south, and huddling under a few scorched quilts for warmth, Mrs. James Carmichael was found by Salvation Army officers and taken to a place of shelter.