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Table with columns: Place, Temp., Place, Temp. Includes cities like Bismarck, Boston, Buffalo, Cheyenne, Chicago, Helena.

Table with columns: Gauge, Danger, Height of Reading, Water, Change. Includes locations like St. Paul, La Crosse, Davenport, St. Louis.

THE UNIVERSAL PENSION.

Hardly any development of the socialistic theory of government and of the functions of the state is more harmful and more dangerous than the spread in the public mind of a general belief in pensions.

First comes the notion that governments, national or municipal, whose employes have served them faithfully until they are incapacitated by old age for further labor, should take care of them.

"Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap," is and has been the universal law. Since we find that, under its operation, man has developed from a lower to a higher animal; that, under it, those impulses and qualities which we characterize as noblest and best have been developed, and the world and its tendencies have been constantly growing better, it would seem to be a most hazardous proceeding to step in at this juncture and not only interfere with nature's law but to supplant it with an arrangement exactly its opposite.

walled the awful anxiety which must fall upon a man when he faces the unknown future with possibilities of want and distress. Yet, as we have said and seen, that is the beneficent condition under which the best that is in mankind has been developed? That is the spur that conquers idleness.

Leaving aside, therefore, the economic objections to the general pension idea that is spreading from occupation to occupation, and from country to country, refusing even to consider the justice of taxing industry for the maintenance of some one who is unable to take care of himself, because he was not equally industrious, and looking only at the sociological side, we hold that this experiment is so probably disastrous by its inherent nature that no thinker or philanthropist would regard it as less than a terrible menace to the race.

FORMALTY IN THE FIELD.

Gen. Palmer accepted formally the nomination of the National Democratic party yesterday, in words which contrast as favorably with the long-winded stump speeches of the other candidates as the declaration of principles on which he stands does with their platitudes.

WHERE IS THE WATCHDOG?

The city treasury seems to be in sorry need of a watchdog in these days. It used to have one, according to the veracious accounts of our Republican friends. The city comptroller was long ago dubbed "watchdog of the treasury" by his admiring friends and supporters, and to that proud title he owes a large share of the support which he received at the polls last spring.

and again the pay of policemen and employes of the school department and others, until the courts had passed upon their claims, or until it was ascertained definitely and finally in some other way that the money must be paid.

Now they are asking what has become of their watchdog. Not a bark, not a growl, not a whimper is heard from the comptroller's office when accounts are to be audited which are either of doubtful validity or are absolutely contrary to charter provisions. For instance, if there was a dispute over the salaries of policemen or firemen, Mr. McCarty would not take it upon himself to decide until the courts had rendered a verdict as to who was in the right.

It is, however, even at the worst, less reprehensible than the auditing of the city pay rolls on which are the names of policemen who are appointed contradictory to the plain direction of the Bell charter.

THE COST OF A COLLEGE EDUCATION.

In these hard times, when money is difficult to come by and threatening to become more so, it is refreshing to be reminded that some of the most valuable things earth has to offer are still to be had at a moderate expense. A little pamphlet entitled "The Cost of Living at Princeton" has just been put forth with the sanction of President Patton, of that university.

But more reassuring and much more interesting than these statistics are the personal letters from various graduates which are given. Some of these prove that not only does it cost nothing to go to college, but that it is a money-making affair.

WHAT IS TRUE OF PRINCETON?

What is true of Princeton is doubtless equally true of all but one or two of our larger colleges, and the moral of it all, at the present juncture, seems to be that, while it is a decidedly bad time for a young man to go into business, it is an admirable time for him to go to college.

THE "ANARCHIST" PLAN.

Those who intend to support the nominees of the Chicago convention fall on account of the financial issue have resented extremely the appellation "anarchist," which people of violent language have sometimes applied to their forces.

We denounce arbitrary interference by federal authorities in local affairs as a violation of the constitution of the United States and a specially objectionable intrusion as a new and highly dangerous form of oppression by which federal judges, in contempt of the laws of the states and rights of citizens, have become once again judges and executioners, and we approve the bill passed at the last session of the United States senate, and now pending in the house of representatives relative to contempt in federal courts, and providing for trials by jury in certain cases of contempt.

This plank was put into the platform because Gov. Altgeld who dominated that convention insisted upon it. The reference to the abuse of the power to issue injunctions is not now in controversy. The whole subject matter that this brings before the people is contained in the first four lines of the above plank.

THEY HELPED THEMSELVES.

One occasionally finds in the consular reports something of value, information that informs and suggests. Such a one is that of the commercial agent at Plauen, Germany, giving the details of the organization and working of the Saxon Landwirtschaftlichen Creditvereine, which is an adaptation to agriculture of the building associations of the cities.

A WAR ON BRAINS.

Beginning without capital, other than that with which nature had endowed his brain, Alexander Stewart built up the colossal business which made the name "Stewart's" famous on two continents and synonymous everywhere with business sagacity, ability and integrity.

The agent says that "the cry for cheap money that is sounding over the West and South is the same that went up from the German land owner and farmer, and they were only relieved by mutual co-operation and the formation of the present credit associations."

This position is infinitely more dangerous than the idea of secession, because, while that claim at least limited the power of dismemberment to the several states, this would subdivide authority until every mayor of a petty town anywhere in the country could defy the authority of the nation, and set aside its laws at his pleasure without punishment or remedy.

it, or call for assistance, at their pleasure. Until they have acted, the national government does not interfere. While granting this, it would be monstrous, it would mean the utter destruction of all authority, it would be equivalent to an act of disunion and the disbanding of the states of the republic, to assert that the nation cannot maintain its power; cannot interfere with or punish him who violates and defies its law, without the consent of some mayor or governor, who has no more right to interfere in the matter than the president has in the enforcement of a city ordinance.

It is the avowal of this new doctrine that has caused the term "anarchist" to be applied by some to its supporters. The breach is just in as far as those who hear it contemplate the actual destruction of national government in these United States.

This is the dogma of the Chicago convention, which has deserved and received the severest condemnation of those who believe in the maintenance of orderly government and the upholding of the respective rights of the nation and the state. No explaining away, no apology, no dissertation upon constitutional provisions that are now perfectly understood, no softness of rhetoric or violence of declamation can be suffered to obscure the great menace to the safety of the people and the existence of the national government contained in that plank of the Chicago platform, which would tie, for all time to come, the hands of the nation's rulers and defenders against the rioter, the incendiary and the desperate assailant of human life.

A JUST POLICY.

The decision of the management of the St. Paul city hospital to allot places on the staff to designated physicians of the homeopathic school ends a long continued controversy in a way that will be thoroughly satisfactory to the entire people of the city. The claim of the homeopathic school for this recognition is not of recent date. For a great many years members of that branch of the profession have felt that they were excluded from proper representation in an institution supported by public taxation, and which should therefore properly be representative of the public without regard to "schools."

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said he did better than that, but told us another fellow had come in and set up a bank and made a loan to a farmer of \$20 on which he got 133 per cent. This money, they told the writer, they got in the East, "where you can get it by the basketful, on any kind of security, at from 4 to 7 per cent." But to the borrower the extortion is charged on the Eastern capitalist by the local shark, and the real cause of their trouble hides himself behind the "bloated bondholder," "the plutocratic capitalist," the "money king of Wall street."

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A POINT IN EQUITY.

Mrs. Gertrude Atherton, a Californian writer recently settled in London, has achieved considerable notoriety of late by publishing her views about Americans and Britons, with a lavish disregard for anything but the picturesque quality in her statements.

According to this lively journalist, the American man is a coarse, money-grubbing animal, while the American woman has "flashed past him" in her development and left him far behind. On the other side of the water it is the man who has flashed past the woman. The Briton is the "most dominant, perfectly-balanced, rapidly developing" man on the globe, but the women of his own race are not only undeveloped, but "neurotic, morbid, degenerate."

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as to what it really is they are attacking and what it is they should attack with all their power, and overthrow. To make the case clear, set Gould alongside Stewart. Both men began life poor and both died immensely wealthy. Each acquired wealth by dint of energy directed by great ability. Stewart made his in a legitimate business, honestly conducted; became a capitalist with all the money power vast wealth brings. Gould made his by ways that will not bear the test of morals, however well within the letter of the law he kept his methods, or, as it is said, however shielded from it by corrupted courts and their officers. He used his wealth to buy legislatures and courts, to wreck enterprises and rob others of their investments, making additional increase of wealth for himself out of the wreckage.

So far then as the present agitation embraces an assault on capital and capitalists as such, without making the essential discrimination which examines into the means employed in gathering the one or being the other, it misses its mark and defeats itself. It resolves itself, in its last analysis, into a war on brains instead of a war on the wrongs brought about by the evil use of brains. It repels those who do make the distinction and deprives itself of their aid, weakens a cause that has elements of justice in it by the admixture of palpable injustice, and thus gives strength to the very objects of its attack.

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All this makes very amusing reading, and we can understand why it should be written by an American newspaper woman anxious not to be overlooked in the Anglo-Saxon metropolises, but we do wonder that so astute a person as Mrs. Atherton should have disregarded the fact that in common honesty the American woman and English man are not at liberty to dispose of their lives to each other in the wholesale fashion she suggests. In practical terms, their highly evolved selves are mortgaged to the people who have paid the bills. A high degree of evolution is an expensive article. If the American woman is cultivated, the cost has been chargeable to the American man; if the Englishman has leisure for self-development, it is due in part to accumulated ancestral earnings, but even more to the self-effacing devotion of his womankind. Expensive articles belong by right to the people who can afford them, and it becomes obvious at once that from the business standpoint the combination Mrs. Atherton advocates is a union of two incapables, which would be advantageous to neither. It is not going to be necessary, however, to put the sentimental problem of international marriage upon this commercial basis, for so far as heard from, the lady from California, who is, possibly, as little appreciated as appreciative here, is the only American woman who holds the American man in scorn.

Some curiosity has been stirred up both here and in England as to the purpose of the visit of Mr. Chamberlain, the English secretary for the colonies, to this country. He was promptly assured his people that it was purely on private business and had no political significance, but there and here it is suspected that he was using the language after the manner of diplomats to conceal instead of to state the truth. But we are inclined to accept his statement as candid. It is possible, if not probable, that he is here to endeavor to renew the business arrangements his firm made some years ago with the American Screw company, by which, in consideration of the English firm refraining from sending their wood screws into the American market, the former paid the latter an annual bonus which Mr. Chamberlain admitted was "very satisfactory." He may be here, then, to "put the screws" to the American Screw trust.

Some scheme should be devised for stopping this hauling of gold back and forth across the ocean. Some day a ship will go down with \$5,000,000 or \$6,000,000 of the yellow metal, very much to the regret of several people.