The St. Paul Globe

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RESULTS COUNT— THE GLOBE GIVES THEM.

SUNDAY, FEB. 19, 1905

THEIR VIEW TOO NARROW

Again The Globe must report that "What's the matter with St. Paul" is further disclosed by the letters on the subject which it has been receiving and publishing from day to day. These are more illuminative of the state of the public mind than any discussion could be. They reveal at once a weak spot which no amount of accumulated capital can fortify.

Not a single correspondent thus far has taken up or discussed the proposition as it was stated by The Globe. This proposition is that capital in St. Paul is too conservative. It longs for utter safety, rather than for activity. We are engaged in locking prosperity safely within the doors of safety deposit vaults, instead of sending it out freely to increase and multiply within our borders. The statement made by The Globe was no mere matter of individual opinion. It was an inference drawn from the statistics of the federal census, by comparisons between this and other cities. That inference, it appears to us, could not be evaded. The practical question then arising was, how are we to meet and better this situation. Those who have written letters to The Globe, and of course equally those who have not, do not appear prepared with an answer.

We have published many replies to our article and our request for opinions upon it. The writers are men of standing and of intelligence. Nevertheless, they have without exception sought the narrow rather than the larger view. The nearest approach to a general remedy is the suggestion that the city should be adorned and beautified in all its parts. This is very well and has our entire sympathy; but it does not create business, build up new industries or enlarge prosperity. It is a minor rather than a major premise of the condition which we wish to see brought about. In all the other recommendations made we find the perfectly natural desire to remedy such conditions as press more particularly upon the individual interest. This is human and not at all blameworthy; but it is not the way to build up a community. Therefore, it does not go to the root of the matter.

It seems to us that there is too much selfishness and not enough of what we might call, for want of a better term, municipal altruism in St. Paul. This goes by different names. What used to be called the "Minneapolis spirit" in the old days is working miracles right now out in the West under the name of the "Seattle spirit," and it knows no substitute whatever. It consists in the generous and scientific view that the surest way to promote the interest of each member of a community is to promote the interest of all. Men filled with this view do not neglect their own business, but neither do they attempt to push it at the sacrifice of others. Their bottom idea is that their business will grow and prosper most in proportion to the growth and prosperity of all other lines of business in the same community. They are, therefore, interested in the prosperity of everybody else, and quick as a flash to act for the general upbuilding. They do not refuse to spend a dollar because a part of the benefits must accrue to another. They regard money and effort devoted to the community as a whole as an investment whose returns are both certain and large.

It is this spirit, after all, that is the saving grace of every city and of every commonwealth. It is for the cultivation of that and for the suggestion of opportunities wherein it may exhibit itself that The Globe has been looking. It has not found as much attention devoted to this in replies heretofore sent to it as it could wish. It believes that the deficiency which it has stated is in the last analysis the one thing the matter with St. Paul. It would be very glad of a more general discussion of this special phase of the topic; convinced as it is that along this line must be developed more of vital interest to St. Paul, more determining its growth or its decay, than in any form of material development whatever.

MR. TELLER'S RAILROAD BILL

Senator Teller, of Colorado, is tired of the ordinary processes incident to the display of senatorial dignity and has lent his name to a bill calculated to move the body of which he is a conspicuous if not distinguished member to jocularity. He has introduced, by request we are informed, a bill entitled "A Bill to Authorize the Construction of a Public Railway for the Transportation of the Mails, Troops and Munitions of War of the United States, and to Aid in the Regulation of Interstate Commerce." The bill has been read twice in the senate without receiving from the pages and doorkeepers of the chamber that attention which they are hired to pay to the reading of bills, and has been sent to and accepted by the joke editor of our esteemed and frivolous contemporary, the Congressional Record. If Mr. Teller had not already been accorded some meed of praise from those gentlemen in the gallery who appreciate political agility, we would accept this bill as a bid on the part of the venerable senator from Colorado for the laurels. It is the one good thing that has appeared in the senate this session. It stands out in bold relief from the mass of sparkling humor which goes to make up the journal of the exclusive body which owns to being the very best thing that was ever invented in the way of a lawmaking institution.

Unhappily the title does not explain all the provisions of this bill, inspired by philanthropy and fathered by a master of the science of political transportation. The bill simply provides in direct terms for the appropriation of all moneys at present in the treasury or that may be accumulated to be applied at once to the construction of a line of railway from coast to coast and the maintenance of such railway. By way of insuring the popularity and dividend-earning capacity of this trifling undertaking it is specifically provided that it shall be built and operated by a jovial crew of fifteen members, to be known as the board of managers, to be appointed by the president of the United States, eight members of which must be of the political complexion represented by the existing administration and seven claiming affiliation with the party whose candidate for the presidency ran second. This may be intended as a blow at the Liberty party, for Mr. Debs appears to be included in a prohibited list which is indicated as taboo.

No man who is interested in a railroad is eligible, but five of the members must be engaged in railroad direction. This simple little provision is calculated to exclude perniciously active persons who might be disposed to look upon the board of managers as an institution distinct from politics. The paternal wisdom of the author of the bill is further indicated in a provision which makes ineligible to membership all drunkards, smokers and poker players. In a general way it is intimated that anybody who knows enough to know that he would like to be a member of the board is thereby excluded from the eligible list. When the board is appointed it will proceed to draw salary at the rate of $7,500 per year per member and build a railway line from some point on the Atlantic coast to a desirable point on the Pacific coast, with branches to such handy way stations as New York, Chicago, New Orleans, St. Paul, Savannah (Ga.), Tacoma (Wash.), Mobile (Ala.) and San Francisco. On behalf of Seattle, which is not included in the plan of the man behind Mr. Teller, we might protest the selection of Tacoma, but as St. Paul is included in the list of stations we will not go looking for trouble.

Having built the road, from which all hindrances, physical, financial and political, are providentially removed by the bill, the truly moral and nonprofessional board of managers will proceed to run it. With a view to relieving the managers of any embarrassment that might arise from too large a surplus of profits it is provided in this bill, which reduces the science of operating a railroad to the last degree of simplicity, that not more than 5 per cent per annum on the amount invested in the property shall be realized in profit in any one year, and that this sum shall be spent in the improvement of the property and otherwise. This provision will appeal in its wisdom to practical railroad men who are worried to death trying to keep down the earning capacity of their roads. That this object may be the more easily realized the bill provides that the road shall carry free the president of the United States, the members of congress, federal judges, all officers of the government, of the army and navy, witnesses in the Smoot and other investigations, and various and sundry other individuals. It being obvious to the author of the bill that this free list would not keep the earnings down to the proper limit he has further provided that there shall be carried free all the mails, all munitions of war and materials for the construction of the Chicago federal building and other eternal and never-ending undertakings.

A trifle of investigation having demonstrated to the author that the road would still be embarrassed with profits another provision is made that should wipe them out. This takes the form of a pension list to include the board of managers and their employes, the pension to be available on the completion of twenty years service, and, in case of the death of the pensioner the payments—equaling one-half of his salary—shall go to his surviving widow, children, during the minority of the youngest, or parents. The art with which this clause is drawn suggests that the bill emanated from the pension office, but that is mere speculation. As a last resort, when it is apparent that the earnings of the road will pile up in spite of all efforts made to prevent it the board of managers are directed to devote the uncounted millions of surplus to the purposes of the national defense.

It appears to us that sufficient provision has been made to guard against the national railroad accumulating more than 5 per cent on the investment. This being assured there is nothing to do but pass the bill and build the road. We move that Section 3 of Article 5, Senate File 6361, be amended to read as follows: "That the sum of $67,000,000,000 is hereby appropriated for the construction of said railroad, and putting the same in operation," and that the bill be put upon its passage. It will serve effectually to put down those bounders who declare that running a railroad is a business proposition requiring something besides legislative enactments.

THE AUTHOR OF "BEN HUR"

Gen. Lew Wallace's whole claim to fame is based on his authorship of a book that is far from being great, but which is undoubtedly one of the most popular works of any age. "Ben Hur" narrowly escaped being damned by the critics and thereby becoming great. It is an intensely interesting story, it depends for its human interest on the imagination of a writer who was not familiar by contact with the scenes he depicted nor personally swayed by the religious sentiment involved in his work. But it appeals most cleverly to the religious sentiments of its readers—for "Ben Hur" is popular with Christian readers alone.

Gen. Wallace had never seen Palestine when he wrote "Ben Hur." He was not handicapped by sordid facts absorbed through the eye and ear by the author. He made his atmosphere—and it must be admitted that the manufactured article was much better than the real thing. He endowed his characters with those attributes necessary to the working out of the general scheme, and if he did not draw truly he was under no apprehension lest somebody in possession of facts should make him blush for his errors. That the work was the result of much thought, a profound knowledge of human nature in its broader manifestations, and a remarkable facility in playing upon emotions catholic rather than personal, is demonstrated in the hold which the book has taken upon the story readers of the world. Dealing with the tragedy of the ages, "Ben Hur" has the same claim upon human sympathy that "The Arabian Nights" or "Robinson Crusoe" has—it is an absorbing story. Yet the author had read so very superficially that he antedated the eruption of Vesuvius by four years—and that without inviting the condemnation of the hypercritical historian.

Gen. Wallace was a solder of some note, a diplomat of some gifts; he wrote other books based upon his observation and personal study, but he will live as the author of "Ben Hur." His residence in Constantinople led him to write the "Prince of India," and brought a charge of plagiarism against him. His governorship of New Mexico was responsible for "The Fair God," which added nothing to his reputation. But he needs no other monument than "Ben Hur."

THE DIGNITY OF THE STAGE

Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish, who attained some advantage over her rivals in the haute society by giving a dinner for dogs or entertaining Harry Lehr, has been affronted by the refusal of an actress to appear with her company at a private function in the Fish mansion. The actress—whose name is withheld out of regard for the fine feeling she has displayed—declined to appear outside the theater for a pecuniary consideration, taking the high ground that it would be derogatory to her art.

This is delicious. From any point of view available to the mere outsider it is a source of joy. That Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish, who has the world and its dogs at her lovely feet, should be rebuffed by a comic opera prima donna must be comforting to those who, not having the felicity of being dogs, or, being excluded from the inner circle of Newport society, are not entitled to a place at the Stuyvesant Fish table. It is given to few of us to turn our backs on the Stuyvesant Fishes and it must be a supreme joy to be able to do that and get whole pages of advertising out of it.

The incident really ought to contribute to the uplifting of the stage. It is conceivable that the honorarium to which the actress would be entitled would be in the form of a Stuyvesant Fish check for a thousand dollars or so. It might have been more. When royal or noble persons living in foreign parts ask an actor or actress to sing or act in private the compensation is rather better than the artist would receive for an ordinary appearance on the boards. And Mrs. Stuyvesant Fish would certainly do the handsome thing. De Reszke, Sir Henry Irving, Melba or any of that lot would have seized the opportunity, done their little stunt and carried off the money. But they are badly managed. We do that sort of thing much better over here. The offer is turned down, the story is sent to the newspapers and the actress gets, instead of a paltry thousand dollar check, some forty thousand dollars' worth of advertising.

Mrs. Fish is a most gullible sort of Fish. She has done more for the elevation of the stage than if she had hired somebody to steal this particular actress' diamonds.

OF THE FINDING OF BUGS

Occasionally one hears in this microbe-mad age a note of protest from a medicine man who still retains some faith in the theory that the herbs of the field have medical values quite as effective in remedying the ills of the flesh as the use of the minute animals classed as innocuous which the bug hunters would set to work to kill off their pernicious brethren. It is but a feeble protest, for the medicine man of today is not so cocksure of anything as his predecessors were of everything—he is willing, on the quiet, to admit that he really knows very little about the result of his practice until he has practiced on the individual. Still he is beginning to believe that possibly the germ theory is being overdone.

And as a matter of fact he is going to have the layman with him if he makes his protest to be heard. There is no denying that some of the more advanced of the bug hunting members of the medical profession have done much in isolating the microbes specifically identified as the causes of specific diseases. They have described to us the exact form of beast to which we may charge the presence of certain diseases that ravage the human form. We are, as it were, on terms of easy familiarity with bacilli the names of which we cannot pronounce. When we have an ache we speculate on the shape of the animal that is the inciting cause of it. Unhappily, we have been introduced to but few of the innocuous bacilli that are just loafing around hungry to be turned loose upon the lions and tigers of their kingdom.

Microbe chasing has been of inestimable benefit to mankind in that it has given us an exact knowledge of the values of antiseptics. It has removed in a great measure the menace of those diseases which lose their malignant character under proper sanitary conditions. But it has not gone far beyond the initial stage in that it has dealt very largely, thus far with the isolation of the vicious germs without finding the beneficent creatures provided by nature to free humanity from the menace of the pernicious class.

As laymen we have no fault to find with those who are prying into the secrets of nature with a view to benefiting mankind. But it is certain that there is a disposition on the part of the bug-haunted man of today to give ear to the physician who pins his faith to the things he knows rather than to go all the way through the mazes of speculation with the investigator who is engaged in finding a bug to fit every ill, or carving out a fortune for himself by amplifying the uses of the by-products of coal tar.

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

The flare-up of the house over the assumed encroachment by the senate upon its prerogatives in adopting the Hansbrough amendment forbidding the allowance of a drawback on wheat imported for mixing purposes is highly amusing. The house has decided that this action by the senate is in flagrant defiance of the provision of the constitution which declares that all bills for raising revenue must originate in the lower branch of congress. It is therefore going to stand by its guns and vindicate its outraged honor.

This performance is ineffably silly. This clause of the constitution itself is purely perfunctory. It was copied from the English law. There it meant something. The people shed much blood to secure themselves against the exercise of the taxing power by any authority save their own representatives. With a house of lords holding tenure by hereditary right and not by commission from the people, such a condition was strictly necessary. In the congress of the United States, where both houses hold title from the people with only a slight difference in the method of their selection, the distinction loses its character and force.

Since, however, it is in the constitution, it ought to be observed. But it never has been. It is late in the day for the house to get on its high horse after it has quietly acquiesced on the most important occasions in the assumption by the senate of the very right now contested. Of the last three great general tariff bills passed, two were practically senate measures and one almost exclusively so. Upon one occasion the house framed and passed a tariff bill covering all its manifold schedules and sent it up to the senate. The senate thereupon struck out everything after the enacting clause, substituted a bill of its own and that bill was the foundation of the law finally passed. If the house considers that its prerogative is saved by the high privilege of framing an enacting clause, leaving the senate to dictate everything that follows, it cannot be severely injured by the Hansbrough amendment.

Of course this whole business is meaningless. The house has nothing but a most servile obedience for the president. The house bows to the senate when anything really important, like the passage of a general tariff bill, is on hand. The house is under the absolute guidance of the speaker and the committee on rules and has no voice or will of its own. It has so often waived the right to originate bills that its sudden access of dignity and touchiness is as amusing as it is unintelligible.

A SAFE OFFER

The Paris Academy of Sciences has offered a prize of one hundred thousand francs to the person who discovers a means of communicating with any celestial body other than Mars during the present year. No reason is given for barring the "war planet." Perhaps the academy thinks sufficient time has been wasted by scientists in trying to attract the attention of the Martians. Perhaps it believes that by eliminating the planet that has exerted the greatest fascination upon the star gazers some of the others upon which they must perforce concentrate their attention will prove less coy. But whatever its intention, most people will agree that the academy's chance of keeping its money is good.

Only the narrow minded would assert positively that the dream of interplanetary communication will never be realized. Had Tennyson written "parliament of planets" instead of "parliament of nations" and "federation of the worlds" instead of "federation of the world," he would have found many to believe with him that the thing was possible, and certainly in the light of the more recent discoveries of science it would seem that this world is nearer the other planets if not nearer the stars than it has ever been before. But in giving a short twelve months for the accomplishment of so great a scientific feat, the academy shows its wisdom if its object is merely to stimulate scientists and not to spend money.

The man who accomplishes such a feat, however, will not need a twenty thousand dollar prize. He can afford to laugh such an offering to scorn, for he will have, not the world, but worlds at his feet. But he will not date his discovery in the present year, and it is extremely probable that he will not date it in the present century. Science is still in its infancy. There are things here on earth that are not dreamed of in the scientists' philosophy today. They will have to know more about this planet before they reach others, and the accumulation of that knowledge will take years, possibly centuries. However, the academy's offer shows a certain faith in science and in the probability of this particular accomplishment.

We will insist on being informed whether or no the rough riders are to be classified as munitions of war and entitled to free transportation to their jobs in case Teller's national railway bill becomes a law.

It looks as though we might have to turn for relief to the genius who wants to educate the public taste up to artificial eggs. It would certainly be a case of educating the taste up after the storage article.

President Harper, of the Chicago university, doesn't know whether it is appendicitis that he has or just a strain resulting from his last pull at John D. Rockefeller's leg.

The amplitude of that cold wave seems to have taken all the spirit out of the Delaware peach grower. The crop has not been killed since early in the fall.

At this season and under these weather conditions a person is not to be blamed for seeing some virtue in the dog-eating and breech-clouted Igorrote.

It will be observed with some gratification that the pert paragraphers were almost unanimous in refraining from dragging Dr. Jekyll into the Hyde case.

Perhaps when modern methods prevail in Arizona and they take to voting the jack rabbits the Republican party will be ready to create another state.

If it had happened in the French senate there would be nothing left for the president to do but send a challenge to the leader of the majority.

Contemporary Comment

Powers of the Executive

Only a treaty, duly concluded and constitutionally ratified, can give the executive lawful authority for such proceedings as exist and as are further contemplated in Santo Domingo. A mere "protocol" cannot do it, as the executive has practically admitted by throwing overboard the "protocol" by Jan. 20, 1905, and promising to substitute a treaty in regular form for ratification. A mere executive agreement, no matter how ingeniously drawn, cannot do it, as the senate impressively declared on Saturday by its vote of 50 to 9 on the amendment to the French arbitration treaty.—New York Sun.

American Automobiles

But the experimental stage in the automobile industry in this country is now past, and the impression made by the exhibit at the Coliseum is that the trade has settled down to the production of a limited number of certain approved types. The American manufacturers are not ashamed to copy in a broad way the designs already standard among foreign makers, but at the same time they have left the impress of their own best ideas upon the industry.—Chicago Tribune.

Treaties and Publicity

Publicity killed a treaty that would have given England territory in Central America and would have placed that nation in joint control of the proposed Nicaraguan canal. And the senate should be a party to similar or kindred agreements, because, from the senate's deliberation, publicity is certain, and in no transaction of this government should there be secrecy. The people have a right to know all things at all times.—New York American.

"Pull" of Our Police

Up to date the investigation of the New York police problem by the committee of nine eminent citizens appointed for the purpose has not developed much beyond the fact that the metropolis has about 8,000 policemen who are on duty eight hours a day, having sixteen hours off, and who receive minimum pay of $4 a day. They are a powerful body of men, and they have a powerful political pull.—Boston Herald.

Santo Domingo

The conspicuous appearance of the United States navy in the matter is no new thing, for as early as last April this government warned the Santo Domingo government that it might have to place a guard at each custom house. Meantime the question whether the United States can seize all the custom houses on the coast is one that will arouse considerable discussion.—Pittsburg Gazette.

Evils of the Tariff

The two evils of the tariff are discrimination against the consumers on the one hand—the extortion of excessive prices for articles essential to existence and the reasonable comforts of living—and the undue enrichment of the relatively small class in whose interests the tariff is maintained.—Kansas City Star.

In the Navy

Moreover, the old contention that the bluejacket has no future of promise is no longer valid. The way to commissioned rank is open to the intelligent, hard worker. Do not encourage the habit of regarding your Uncle Sam's ships as oceangoing houses of correction—Philadelphia North American.

Executive Clemency Humbug

One of the stated reasons for the release of get rich quick Miller, of Franklin syndicate fame, from Sing Sing is that he has reformed. Perhaps he has. But almost any intelligent convict would make a similar claim if he thought it might regain his liberty.—Buffalo Currier.

Ought to Satisfy Everybody

Niedringhaus is losing votes, but happily there is little danger that Kerens will be elected senator from Missouri. The only decent thing for the legislature to do is to recognize itself as a mistake, the result of an accident, and re-elect Senator Cockrell—Philadelphia Record.

About the Beef Trust

There is certainly no man in America who finds anywhere in the law authority to exercise the remarkable leniency which these high officials in Washington are ready, according to the reports, to extend to men of whose crimes they claim to have "abundant proof."—Galveston Daily News.

The Ballot in Russia

Given the ballot the majority of the Russian people would probably vote as they are told to vote by the leaders of their party or their church. The time will never come perhaps when it will be done otherwise over Russia or over any other vast country.—Galveston News.

Both Treason and Lese Majeste

If "bad man" Bat Masterson is like a good many specimens of that overrated class it would not be surprising to learn before long of some "quiet looking stranger" taking his gun away and standing him on his head.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

Collusive Divorces

It will not be denied by the bar of any state that collusion is close to the root of "the divorce evil," now receiving such general discussion, or that a considerable percentage of divorces are collusively obtained.—St. Louis Republic.

Senator Bailey and Texas

We can imagine the majestic, Jove like front Senator Bailey must have presented when he rose to denounce the proposition that Texas be divided into two states.—Chicago Tribune.

Arbitration Treaties

If the senate is to pass on every matter to be submitted to arbitration there is no especial advantage in the treaties which Secretary Hay has negotiated.—Kansas City Star.

Trade With Canada

A reciprocal and satisfactory extradition agreement with Canada would be a form of reciprocity unobjectionable to the most rooted standpatter.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

Lake Shipments

Capitalists far from the great lakes are putting money into lake steamships of the largest size. It helps build up lake ports.—Cleveland Leader.

And Then There's Bat Masterson

A Cincinnati paper wants to know why the president never goes automobile riding. Probably believes in letting the army and navy do the killing—Denver Republican.

Has a Chance to Insure Peace

If Mr. Hay is really set upon universal peace, let him prove it by giving the senate hereafter no cause for going to war.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

Only a Few of Them Left

Another United States senator has been accused of grafting. It'll soon be getting lonely for the unindicted.—Milwaukee News.

What the Editors Say

The St. Paul Globe is mightily alarmed lest Congressman John Sharp Williams and Editor William Jennings Bryan, together with the rest of the Democratic leaders, will lead the party in a hunt after strange gods. There is no doubt in our mind but what Sharp Williams and Billy Bryan understand, as fully as The Globe, if not more so, the deplorable condition, both in muscle and brain, of the Democratic party, and are adopting the only medicine that can possiby save the now weak and low patient from total collapse. The result of the late presidential contest would indicate that the Democratic party has either taken to the woods or gone over in a body to the Republican party. The Globe is a great paper, ably edited and widely circulated, and no doubt will do its best to lift again upon its feet the once grand party of Jefferson and Jackson. The nation needs two parties, strong both in numbers and leaders, and we wish The Globe success in the great and worthy task that lies before it.—Houston Signal.

There is one great obstacle in the way of the reform element in the Republican party, and that is the United States senate. A large majority of its members were not sent there to do reform work of any kind, but rather to stand in with the powers that made them and do the bidding of the mighty trusts and corporations. If a dozen or a score of such men as Robert M. La Follette, of Wisconsin, could move on the senate, there would be a rattling among the dry bones that could be heard around the earth. But La Follette and a few others like him will do something as it is, and we really hope our Moses will see the handwriting on the wall and get into the game with the reformers.—Montevideo Leader.

When seen in its right light the tariff is nothing more nor less than a "criminal interference in restraint of trade." It is criminal because it is the means by which the people are robbed for the benefit of a few; it is in restraint of trade, because it imposes upon the consumer an arbitrary tax which prevents him from purchasing in the market where he can get the most for his money. Moreover, it is a curse which begets monopolies and trusts and impoverishes and enslaves the masses.—Anoka Free Press.

If the new state capitol's size is in proportion to the price the state paid for it there should be no complaint as to its smallness. Some people will do business in a little six by eight office for years without a murmur, but the minute they are elected to some public office up goes a howl about the poor accommodations furnished the public servants.—Vesta Censor.

Kansas, noted for various reforms, has struck the keynote in this respect when it took up the task of killing off lobbying. The individual who has been in the habit of plying this nefarious vocation in Kansas will be hounded out. The great "bread and butter state" should be given the hunch.—Springfield Advance.

Promoters are paying but little attention to the anti-trust operations of the federal department of justice. In the face of the operation against the beef trust, the American ice company has reorganized with a "holding company." Now lets see whether the attorney general can thaw it out.—Duluth News-Tribune.

The "lay" members of the legislature are kicking because the lawyers are running things. There are only twenty-three lawyers in the house and three times as many other members. When a majority confess a minority runs them they confess their own incompetency.—Sauk Center Herald.

While speaking we are reminded that we have a few bureaucracies in our own country — the United States senate for instance. Once in a while we can assist a man of the people to break in—but often, oh, how often it is otherwise.—Princeton Union.

If Tom Lawson continues to tumble in public interest, at the accelerated pace he has set of late, his magazine output will need to be styled "frenzied flapdoodle." He is ceasing to be interesting; the bulls and bears no longer hark his baiting.—Hudson Star Times.

Joel Heatwole is squealing on Jim Tawney because of Tawney's interest in Alaska timber. Has Joel got it in black and white?—Preston Republican.

Among the Merrymakers

He Really Did

"What is this here gold cure I hear so much about?" inquired 'Square Rednose of the man from the city.

"Why, it's very simple, 'Square,'" replied that individual, waggishly; "they simply heat $5 gold pieces until they're what you call 'volatilized,' and then you take the hot vapor."

"You don't say?"

"That's it, exactly."

"Well, it may be all right," said the 'Square, after a long pause, "but, do you know, somehow I'd hate to take the money!"—New Orleans Times-Democrat.

When the Poor Man Cries

De angels boun' ter lissen
W'en de po' man cry;
Kaze he holler lak' de thunder,
W'en de storm is in de sky!
He holler day en night,
F'um de lef onto de right,
En dey ain't a-gwine ter stop him till de
blessin' come in sight!
—Atlanta Constitution.

Pounding Acquaintance

Mrs. Grimes—Do you know Mrs. Sykes? She lives in the same hotel that you do.

Mrs. Josiyn—No, I can't say that I know her; but we are on pounding acquaintance with the Sykeses. They make so much noise we have to rap on the wall now and then to keep them quiet.—Boston Transcript.

Caution

Mrs. Swellman—Your collection of water colors is splendid, but have you no oil paintings?

Mrs. Nuritch—No, indeed, I don't consider them safe.

Mrs. Swellman—Not safe?

Mrs. Nuritch—No; in case of fire, you know.—Philadelphia Press.

Defined

Son—Papa, what is a philosopher?

Father—A philosopher, my boy, is a man who will pay his car fare, forgetting that he has a transfer in his pocket, and not get mad when he discovers it afterward.—Puck.

His Varied Suits

McFub—He pressed his suit, donned it; called on his girl, pressed his suit, won, and married her; and now he has applied for a divorce.

Sleeth—And the lawyers are pressing his suit now, eh?

More

Dix—Women are never satisfied.

Mix—That's right! Even after she's squandered his last dollar Cassie wants her husband to trust her more.—Detroit Free Press.

The Farmer's Tender Subject

Facetious Stranger (on dull morning)—Lovely day, isn't it?

Irritable Farmer—Look here, young man, you mind your business and I'll mind mine.—The Bystander.

Coincidence

Patience—Clara has learned to skate every winter for the last six years.

Charity—Yes, and she has been engaged to six different fellows.—Philadelphia Bulletin.