#### THE EVENING STAR. With Sunday Morning Edition.

WASHINGTON.

THEODORE W. NOYES.....Editor

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THE STAB has a regular and permanent Family Circulation much more than the combined circulation of the other Washington dailies. As a News and Advertising Medium it has no competitor.

ITIn order to avoid delays on account of personal absence letters to THE individual connected with the office, but or Business Department, according to tenor or purpose.

#### The Denver Platform. Who drew the Denver platform? And

what were the circumstances of its adop-Of gossip on this subject there has always been a plenty. It was said last year that Mr. Bryan rejected all aid, framed the document himself, put it into the hands of Gov. Haskell, then his nearest friend, and practically ordered the convention to accept it. Certain it is that he

was much pleased with that part of the convention's work, and in his canvass interpreted it without an if, an and or a Fortunately, as the Senate is just now discussing that platform, there are members of the body who should possess full information. Clarke of Arkansas, Stone of Missouri, Newlands of Nevada, Simmons of North Carolina, Frazier of Tennessee and Daniel of Virginia were members of the platform committee at Denver. Did they accept the convention's expres-

accepted the candidate, and in the campaign did what they could for him. But at least two of them-Mr. Simmons and Mr. Daniel-have in the present tariff debate shown but small consideration for what was said by the convention on the subject of tariff reform.

know the reasons of those who have gone, and are going, contrary to the party's creed formally pronounced. It is not a case of ambiguous language. Take cratic party was pledged to free lumber; but senators and representatives of that been the best of friends,' he replied. party are now supporting a duty on that

And is it not strange to hear that, as the party lost the fight, the platform went by the board, so to say? Are we to understand that had the democracy won last year all of its votes in Congress would now be found in the free lumber column? Why? If democratic votes for a duty on lumber, would they not have been behind them in case of success at the polls? If not, why not? But, it seems, Mr. Bryan himself on about that. No victory was ever more disastrous to a party than that of 1892 was to the democracy. Populism that year became a secret ally of the democcarried the state, and there and else- to give it, that would be politics. Do you where the populists played the democrat- follow me?" ic game. Mr. Bryan was a democrat, but helped corral the populists, and was so on the charge that he was not a demo-

crat, but a populist. paper is a weekly publication, and there you think so?" are nearly seventy-five weeks before election day in November, 1910.

## Fireworks Regulations.

The fact that children have been accustomed to fire off gunpowder in different forms on the Fourth of July is no justification for continuing the barbarous practices which have made that day a time of terror and mutilation for years past. It is to overcome this tendency on the part of the youngsters who indulge in the dangerous noise-making processes of the Fourth that the movement for a safe and sane celebration has been inaugurated. Parents who decline to take part in such a reform because it may deprive their children of the "fun" to which they have been accustomsave life. Their own children may be the spreading democratic principles." next victims of unrestrained "celebratas long as it is possible for juveniles to buy exploding devices. Some years ago cannon crackers were put under the ban in this city, and it was supposed to be impossible to obtain them. But new forms were invented to circumvent the regulation, being within the measurement limits prescribed, but compenof size. These crackers have been the cause of many accidents. One of the surest ways of advancing this reform is to execute rigidly the regulation against the sale of powder and fireworks of all lescriptions.

Having observed the situation of the ampire on a base ball field, Mr. Taft may naturally feel more or less diffident about taking a hand in legislative dif-

Suspicion is growing that G. Bernard Shaw writes a few plays incidentally to his regular work with a special view to the celebrity that comes from having

them suppressed. Seattle is already claiming that its

exposition beats the Jamestown record.

## National Decadence.

When David Starr Jordan, president of Stanford University, remarked in the cadent nation he and all his hearers were men. startled by a sudden uprising of the school's French teacher, who denounced the statement as a lie. The incident was women before he found one who would temporarily closed by the withdrawal of accept him seems to have the making of the impulsive Frenchman, but it has since a patient and industrious family man. been reopened. Ambassador Jusserand. who by a strange coincidence is now in California, the scene of Dr. Jordan's edutational labors, charged with the duty of ternational hospitalities. presenting to San Francisco the medal bestowed by the French nation upon that city for its plucky recovery from earth-

irely happy. He says: riorated with Italy, Spain and other a whole skin as long as he did. Some gress had no effect upon him.

same way. The civil war cost one million of men, the majority of whom did not merrily, on. not leave offspring, though possessed of all the qualities to make a great race. "There are now, and always have been. TUESDAY......June 8, 1909

great men in France, representing the best there is in the human race. But it s the average stature and energy of the mass of the people which have been inured by war-a fact which has been reeatedly asserted by French authorities hemselves. There is no such thing as a lecadent race, but where the strongest men are drawn off by war the average stock is correspondingly lowered."

The dictionary definition of decadence

is "a process of deterioration, a decline in force of excellency, decay." If the civil war started a process of decay in the United States it has remained for Dr. Jordan to discover the evidences ahead of all other analysts and philosoclares in his explanation that "there is fishin', kin you?" no such thing as a decadent race," a STAR should not be addressed to any statement at variance with his general declaration. If there is no such thing as simply to TRE STAB, or to the Editorial decadence why use the word at all in an analysis of national forces? If there is such a thing as national decadence the process must have originated with the first conflicts between masses of men. It

> is impossible on such a basis to conceive of national progression and evolution. National growth is a matter of far more than population. It involves other elements than physical virility. It is hardly to be conceived that the United States would have been more advanced as people had the civil war not been fought, had the problems which it solved been left alone, had secession been permitted, had national disintegration been allowed to progress. The cost of this great solution in blood and treasure was immense, and the country suffered intensely from the effects of the onslaught and the strife. But that it entered into a process of decay or deterioration in consequence is not to be admitted for a

Dr. Jordan's experience may suggest the wisdom of greater care in the preparation of addresses to be given even before girls' colleges. In these days no platform speaker can hope to go unsion of principles perfunctorily? They heeded or, if he blunders in fact or in busy." tact, to remain unanswered or unrebuked.

#### Mack and Guffey.

This news is from Pittsburg:

"Col. James M. Guffey held a two hours' onference with Norman E. Mack, chairman of the democratic national commit-Mr. Bryan is aroused, and wants to tee, in this city yesterday. Mr. Mack was on an automobile trip with his wife. It is the first time the two democratic politicians have met since the Denver conven-

"Col. Guffey said tonight: 'I met the case of lumber. Nothing could be Mr. Mack yesterday and had a long talk clearer than that was made. The demo- with him. We did not discuss politics.' "Mr. Guffey was asked if he and Mack had buried the hatchet. 'We have always "'Did you discuss the candidacy of Gov. Harmon for President?' Mr. Guffey was

"'No, we did not talk politics,' he re-

As they clasped hands at the close of the interview, Col. Guffey said to his friend: "Mack, the newspaper boys will find out about this meeting and put to constituencies are behind the democratic me the usual question. Do you consider that we have talked politics?"

Mr. Mack smiled, and replied: "Let me have your views on that point." "I don't think we have. All about Den-

the tariff question, that would be politics. ticket, drawing from the republicans, for another nomination, and you were

"Perfectly, and agree with you."

active he incurred the reproach of being You already knew my opinion of a populist. A year or so later he was Bryan and Haskell and all that bunch. warned away from a Virginia campaign And, for that matter, the country knows dred miles from the Gulf of Mexico. All Well, this debate need not close when change it. A man in meeting an old the final vote is taken on the Payne friend is entitled to run over in conver- throughout the system of its confluents bill and maybe it will not. Mr. Bryan's sation any old matter of the past. Don't and tributaries-the Ohio, the Missouri,

> that your conversation today has been main larger than France, with Spain and most interesting. I've enjoyed every word Portugal thrown in for lagnappe.

"So then if I tell the boys that we did not talk politics you will bear me out? From the Indianapolis News. They are an incredulous lot."

will help you any, either with the boys The plague of flies that was sent on the or the public, but I'll back you. As you and I understand matters, we did not talk as the greatest of all plagues.

the magazine. I have seen the prospectus, but you know how careful a fellow must be about a prospectus. Between

ourselves, what is the game?" "Just as stated. No joke. Things are so muddled that something must be done, ed on the Fourth, are standing in the and it occurred to me that I could not is the product of filth, and should be way of a change which is intended to put time or means to better use than by feared as typhoid fever or any other

"Well, say. If you find out what they ing." There is no assurance of safety are, let me know, and I'll help you spread 'em." As most of the civilized countries of the

world are discussing the question of increased naval efficiency, Japan should experience no uneasiness when this government decides to fall into line. The New York opera manager who met

with an automobile accident probably

found the experience tame compared to his customary encounters with tenors. prima donnas and musical critics. Many people will object to joining a controversy as to whether Betsy Ross

made the first American flag until it has been decided whether Bacon wrote Shake-

sider Senator Aldrich and feel comparatively lucky.

The real object of regulating Independence day celebrations is to prevent the general need of observing July 5 as a day of repentance.

of economizing in coal they should communicate at once with the ordinary con-There have been moments when Sen-

course of an address at Bryn Mawr Col- ator La Follette has almost seemed to extent of the malady has doubtless been lege the other day that France is a de- favor secret service surveillance of states-The Alabama man who proposed to 200

Whether or not a navy is a promoter of

neace, it is undoubtedly a promoter of in-

## Bloody Breathitt.

It was idle to suppose, as some persuake and fire, has taken serious issue sons did, that the killing of Judge Hargis with Dr. Jordan. This fact has rendered by his son would put an end to the feuds From the Birmingham News. it important for the critic of the French in Breathitt county, Ky. Bloody Breathitt to explain or retract his statement. The will remain bloody for years to come. latter would have been the wiser course. When the feud or the mob spirit takes the house fly? ut Dr. Jordan has preferred to justify possession of a community, town or counis remarks. His explanation is not en- ty, it is not easily conquered. The man Callahan shot yesterday has figured in From the Milwaukee Free Press. "I meant that France is a decadent the lawlessness of his section for years, ation only in the sense that it has de- and had extraordinary luck in keeping that deliberations of the recent peace con-

countries because of the wars and other one of his enemies-not necessarily the "The United States is decadent in the off and so the work will go steadily if off, and so the work will go steadily, if

> None of the people concerned in the Philadelphia car strike got exactly what he wanted. But a strike that does not result in a great many things that nobody wanted is more or less a subject for congratulation.

#### SHOOTING STARS.

BY PHILANDER JOHNSON.

#### Technical.

"Uncle Silas," said the man who takes an interest in people, "I am afraid you went fishing last Sunday.' "I specks I kin prove er alibi. When you jes' hangs a line in de water an' phers. It is to be observed that he de- never gits a nibble, you can't call dat

> Casual Comment. "You think that peach-basket hat improves her appearance?" said one girl. "Yes." answered the other. "It is so large it almost hides her face."

#### A Jungle Jingle.

Said the gnat to the gnu In an African street, "I'm expecting in you Some gnourishment sweet." But the gnu sped away With a step that was light And answered, "Gnay, Gnay!

## At least gnot to-gnight!"

Modern Disadvantage. "Some of the greatest men in our history studied by the light of pine knots." "Yes," answered the young man, "they could afford pine knots. They lived before there was any lumber trust."

#### Prompt Action. "I want to ask your advice," said King Midas. "You've heard that everything I

touch turns to gold." "Yes," answered the financial expert. "What shall I do about it?" "Get out a prospectus and start in declaring dividends so that our stock can be floated before the myth experts get

The Post Card Crop. All the violets have faded, Other flowers have passed away; For the summer leaf has shaded Spots where sunbeams used to play. But the tourist tribe, light-hearted, Forth on various ways set sail, And the post card crop, once started,

Never has been known to fail. Pictures of the torrid tropics, Glances at a northern shore, Sidelights on a thousand topics Lightly flutter to your door. Viewed as "works of art," they're fla-

They are just a bright bouquet, Souvenirs with memories fragrant Of the friendships far away.

The Rivers Are Still There.

It is easy to understand the Mississippi valley politician who in one breath paints radiant pictures of the great river swarmng with re-created fleets and in the next breath demands that Congress shall appropriate untold millions for deep waternavies possible. He is in his business for ver and what followed is reminiscence, not what it will produce in available cash. diated a plank that had appeared in a politics. Politics is something alive— He wants "boards" everywhere, countdemocratic national platform. And so something kicking today, or likely to be less myriads of paid agents and a rethe plot thickens. Let us hear more kicking in the near future. For an instance, through fifteen anxious and receptive if I were to ask your opinion of what states. Then he can point with pride those dodgasted fellows in Congress call- to his work as a rainmaker, and whether ing themselves democrats are doing on as a congressman or a local legislator or in the still more lucrative position of a racy, and Nebraska voted only indi- Or if I were to ask you for an expression and take a new lease on his job. But rectly for Mr. Cleveland. The populist of opinion as to the gabble about Bryan just why the merchants, the shippers, the producers and the traders of the valley, if they believe their interests will be promoted by a restoration of the old steamboat lines, do not get together and revive the ancient conditions is not so clear. "But Denver is but a reminiscence. The Mississippi is as deep and as navigable as it ever was. We have just had evidence that the largest vessels can go as high up as Natchez-about four hunit. I expressed it last year with frank- well informed persons were aware of that, ness, and nothing has occurred since to as indeed they are aware of the further for hundreds of miles above Natchez and "I do. And let me add without flattery kansas, the Red, even the Yazoo and the innumerable accessories that drain a do-

## Fly Fighting.

Civilization follows the trail of the "I will. I don't know that my support fly catcher rather than the cow catcher. Egyptians would, in the mind of the "By the way, tell me something about can be no anointing. Health boards against the fly. housewife who allowed neither light nor air in her parlor lest a fly enter was fighting the battle all alone. There ought to be no flies in a civilized community, but until we reach that blessed state the battle must go on. The fly scourge. There is no excuse for it, yet it exists. The screen door is a confession, and at the same time a necessary protection. Until the whole community joins in the battle to prevent the breeding of flies every one must alike guard against the winged poison that is everywhere in the summer air.

## Terror in Chicago.

From the Chicago Post.

A reminiscent touch of the mad, wild ways of our younger days was given Chiissued public warnings "against the planting of dense shrubbery along parkways because of its use as a place of concealment by hold-up men." And won't the Indians use it, too? Will not the savage Pottawattomies ambush us on our way downtown if we permit anything larger than a violet to grow along our defenseless boulevards? And how about the trees which Mr. Prost is going to set out? Won't the wildebeeste and the banderlog take pot shots at us from their leafy Anybody who has to work hard while others take summer vacations should consider Senator Aldrich and feel comparaonce. Either that, or we'll all have to carry firearms, as we did when Capt. Whistler held sway over eld Fort Dear-

The Menace of Rabies. From the Philadelphia Ledger. That rables is a disease preventable by

If warships discover any reliable method strict quarantine and by strictly enforced regulations concerning dogs is a fact that is likely to be more and more impressed upon the consciousness of this community, if the reports to the state live stock sanitary board of the prevalence of the malady shall be confirmed. Although the greatly exaggerated by the natural fears of the people, the counter error of ignoring it ought not to be allowed to prevent the taking of needed precautions.

## Food for Feuds.

From the New York Herald. A Kentucky sheriff, noted for his part in Breathitt county feuds, has been shot

because of a row over the management of a church. When church disputes can start Kentucky feuds it is evident that feuds are not going to die out for lack of material to thrive upon.

## Chase Him.

The harder road the house fly has to travel the better for the public health. Are you making things disagreeable for

Stands for War. Senator Bailey's latest outburst shows

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