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A NEW ERA.

We see in the successful Good Roads Congress many a good result. The mere congregation of so many people here was surprisingly gratifying. Richmond has demonstrated that when she chooses she can be a delightful hostess. The committees in charge of decoration and entertainment deserve great commendation and congratulation for their unblushing, painstaking efforts and their boundless enthusiasm. Richmond's citizens, too, came out with their flags and bunting so that many remarked that though we may once or twice have had more expensive decoration we have never had such a general answer to the call.

These results are not striking. It is the possibilities in the plan which commend it to further experiment. The division will push the canvass vigorously from this time on. Millions of inquiries will be sent out. Returns may be slow. But there is reason for hope that future accomplishments will be notable. There has been almost no attempt to direct immigrants wisely. They have been left to work out their own destiny. Intelligent activity along this line may go far toward settling one of the most important of American problems. The results thus far attained are full of encouragement.

Manufacturers merely wanted to demonstrate to the farmer that they could live up to their advertisements.

But Richmond proved Saturday that she was above all idea of bringing in the people for any selfish motive. Therein she will build her surest foundation for increased trade.

Therefore we congratulate everybody connected with the occasion. We hope it marks a new epoch in civic affairs and enthusiasm. This has been a noteworthy occasion and it is only fair to give it its due.

RAILROAD CASUALTIES.

The interstate commerce commission reports that during the first quarter of this year 728 passengers and employees were killed and 14,713 injured on American railroads. This record is bad enough, but it is the least sanguinary of the roads have made in three years.

There would be more cause for congratulation over the decrease in deaths and injuries if it could be proved that it was owing to additional precautions taken by railroad managers and to the greater carefulness of employees. Such a pleasing explanation is impossible. No doubt there has been some improvement in both those directions, but the chief reason for the better showing is the falling off in freight and passenger traffic which came on the heels of the panic. During the earlier part of last year the roads made desperate attempts to handle the business thrust upon them. They made every effort to push their freight trains along. Several accidents, with considerable loss of life, were directly due to the exertions made to keep freight moving. The enforced idleness of from 300,000 to 400,000 freight cars inevitably led to a reduction in the number of injuries to passengers and employees, particularly the latter. They are the men who figure conspicuously in the lists of dead and wounded.

The revival of business and the return to service of idle cars should not be accompanied by an increase in those casualties which are a disgrace to railroading in America. Most of them are preventable, being due either to poor equipment or to the lack of discipline and excessive recklessness of employees. They are continually hazarding their own lives and those of others. It is shameful that during the three months of comparative railroad inactivity which began the year there should have been so many casualties. There would not have been half so many if railroad managers and the great and powerful railroad labor organizations had given serious thought to the prevention of accidents.

IMMIGRANTS AND THE FARM.

Between the first of February and the last of June nearly 1,000 aliens were located upon farms through federal aid. The number is not large. But the significance of the movement cannot be underestimated.

One of the difficulties connected with immigration has been that newcomers who have lived upon farms have been herding together in the congested quarters of large cities. Unfamiliar with city life and unable to adapt themselves to the changed environment, their lot has been anything but enviable.

To secure a wiser distribution of the incoming aliens has been the aim of the division of information of the bureau of immigration and naturalization. Nearly a million double postal cards of inquiry have been sent out to various parts of the country. As a result immigrants from twenty-six nationalities have been located as helpers on farms.

Thirty-one states are represented in the first report, Vermont leading with 227 assignments. Delaware, Indiana, South Dakota and West Virginia have received one each. Massachusetts, Montana and North Carolina two each, with other states varying from three to 181.

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BOILED WATER.

Some time ago the Ladies' Home Journal published advice in answer to inquiry which gave the opinion that boiling water was unsafe because it did not kill all the bacteria which it might contain. He goes on to say that "Ordinary boiled water is liable to cause numerous, severe and often dangerous stomach maladies."

Mr. Bok, that omniscient man who discourses on most subjects pertaining to this and other worlds with equal fluency, has shown poor logic and has said some things which will prove dangerous to his million or two of constant readers. We doubt how-

ever if his word will be taken as against that of the whole medical profession throughout the world.

Mr. Bok's main contention briefly is that 212 degrees of heat will not kill all the germs of disease. He shows either ignorance or omission of the fact that 212 degrees is absolutely fatal to the bacilli of typhoid and dysentery and that the minute residue of other organisms find little opportunity for development in the alimentary canal.

Mr. Bok might pursue the same reasoning and say that the fire proofing of buildings was dangerous because it did not always keep the fire from breaking out; that because law did not prevent all crime, law was dangerous. If we followed his processes of reasoning we could argue that his present lapse from truth and common sense would be sufficient cause for his losing his millions of readers.

No. Boiling water does kill the most dangerous of the germs and it is the simplest and most effectual preventive. We are sure that the people of the country will not be misled by the National Chiffonier of Pink Teas in its folly against the teachings of the medical profession, from the great Scientist Louis Pasteur down to the humblest of health officers and country practitioners.

LEST WE FORGET.

We in Indiana have many things to be proud of. One of these things is our record during the Civil War. To no man more than Oliver Perry Morton does the state and the country owe its thanks for that record.

The Great War Governor who not only saved the state, but the Union has been dead for over a quarter of a century but every Indiana and every American should think of him whenever he sees the stars and stripes still intact.

How much more then should the Wayne countian pay honor and deference to the man who was born many years ago in this same month.

If this county could boast nothing else but the birth place of Morton it would have enough. It would be a meagre, but fitting tribute to his memory if we set aside a day to him. While his widow was alive she had a memorial service for him each year. We surely can do no less than to them. At least let us remember our greatest fellow citizen who was born just west of Richmond on August 1, in the year 1823.

The nomination of Walter Roscoe Stubbs for governor of Kansas on the republican ticket means republican victory. Commenting on the nomination in the New York Sun says: "Stubbs is the original Taft man." It continues: "In Kansas, it is accepted that Stubbs is irristable." Mr. Bryan will get few one hundred dollar checks from the farmers of Kansas. The state was hopelessly lost to him when Stalwart Stubbs emerged with his infectious laugh from the primaries."

So much for that. Is there any lesson in the coincidence of the Taft smile and the Stubbs smile. We confess to rather liking the smile in politics better than the wail of calamity.

WISE AND OTHERWISE.

THE SINGER.

If song be born within your heart—
Then like the lark on soaring wing,
Untouched by rules and schools of song,
In sooth you can not help but sing!
Behold the bird, untrained, untaught,
What music from his throat is flung!
E'er, so, the song, by you unsought,
Will fall in sweetness from your tongue!

BOOM YOUR TOWN.

If you want your town to prosper,
And the people there to flock;
If you want to see it growing,
Making a progressive showing—
Boost—don't knock!

—Los Angeles Express.

WHO'D A-THUNK IT?

The rose is red.
The violet blue.
Oak's a tree
And so is yew.

—Philadelphia Press.

SNAKE STORY.

An automobile tried to run over and kill a long blacksnake, but the snake put the machine out of business by tangling himself up in the running gear. Good snake story, that.—New York Herald.

DAD'S LULLABY.

To soothe the babe, dad sang a song;
But baby only came out strong.
Kept up his crying.

Dad, too, kept up; he had no choice.
But baby merely raised his voice,
With father crying.

And so it went till mother came,
Now mother truly is a dame
Of erudition.

Said she: "I'd drop that mystic tune,
I think the baby takes your tune
For competition."

—Louisville Courier-Journal.

THE FISH.

Let the folks that like to go to war,
A-thunderin' an' fightin'.

I know what I'm a-livin' for—

The fish—the fish are bitin'.

An' there's a river, clear an' cool,

A tellin' me: "Wade right in!"

—Atlanta Constitution.

Atlanta Constitution.