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PINCHOT AND BALLINGER

There is a clash in the methods of the secretary of the interior and the chief forester. Mr. Pinchot of the Forestry Service contends that there is great danger of the land rich in timber, phosphate, and water power now belonging to the United States passing into the hands of capitalists who will monopolize these products.

The Corporation Tax. From the Philadelphia Ledger. With good crops in prospect or in being, with bright sides all along the commercial and industrial horizon there does not appear to be much excuse for present worry about even the corporation tax. The 1 per cent tax on the net income of business corporations is not to be assessed until January 1 next and is not collectible until July 1, 1910. R. E. Cabot, the new commissioner of internal revenue, must effect an organization of examiners and assistants, and long before a dollar has been collected from any one the constitutionality of the new act will be tested in the courts.

Who Favors Billboards?

From the St. Louis Republic.

The Republic would be glad to print the views of defenders of the billboards, briefly expressed. Has anyone anything to say in favor of them?

Their fervent admirers have manifested admirable power of repression thus far.

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From the Chicago Tribune.

Complaint is made that the Lincoln cents are too thick to go into the slot machines. But you can slip them into the savings banks, which is a great deal better.

Haven't Got Rheumatics.

From the Chicago Post.

But, Mr. Forecaster Moore, young men are not as clever as old ones at feeling the weather in their bones.

So Still!

From Charleston News and Courier.

Why all this silence out of Africa?

TWINKLES

(By Philander Johnson)

A Revisionist.

"When you started on your political career you made numerous excellent resolutions."

"Yes," answered Senator Sorghum, pensively, "but I have taken on a great many amendments since then."

The Plot.

"You told me there was a plot in your show," said the auditor, reproachfully.

"Well," answered the musical comedy manager, there is. I'm trying to locate one now. I think the leader of the beauty chorus has organized a conspiracy to break up the comedian's topical song."

The Airship.

"Like some great bird it cleaves the sky Upon its canvas wing. What would it sound like should it try Like real birds to sing?"

Utilizing Others' Efforts.

"That politician says that in his house he studied by the light of a pine knot."

"Well," answered Farmer Corotose, "maybe he did. But I'll bet he stayed right by the fire and made somebody else bring in the pine."

"Pity," said Uncle Eben, "is sainin' like yoh Sunday clothes. You gits dem' benefit fun dem when you wears 'em every day in de week, even if dey doesn't attract so much attention."

Mem. Curie, who since the death of her husband has taken her place at the University of Paris, was recently elected a fellow of the Academy of Sciences at Cracow. In 1903 she received, together with her husband and the late Professor Becquerel, the Nobel prize for chemistry, "but," says the Paris correspondent of a German paper, "she has lost nothing of her enthusiasm. She is still working industriously, and those who know her best say that honors and decorations, fellowships and professorships are of less moment to her than the scientific problems to the solution of which she is devoting her life."

THE PASSING OF THE COUNTY FAIR

Time was when the county fair had a mission in the community and fulfilled it. Those were the golden days when families loaded themselves into the overflowing carry-alls and went forth blithely in the crisp morning air of the fall along dusty roads. The sides of the roads were lined with heavy boughed apple trees weighed down with red apples and in the carriage there was grave discussion as to whether their apples and corn, their colts, calves and the young three-year-old that one of the younger sons had gentled, stood any chance in the fair. For in those days there were no professionals and there was rivalry among the neighborhood as to who would carry off the ribbons and the prizes.

But the time came when the county fair became a place of cheap vaudeville stunts, of professional exhibitors and the fair ceased encouraging the farmers who belonged in the neighborhood. There was absolutely no reason for it being called a county fair any longer except for the fact that the county merchants raised the money to go to the professionals and the country people were expected to benefit from the buying of the pink lemonade vendors who went the circuit. All the farmer got out of the fair was a long day's sitting on benches watching professional horsemen and buying peanuts and cracker-jack for the younger members of the family.

The reason that the county fair failed was because it did not give the real patrons of such an institution their share. It was a degeneration into what men could make out of the farmer instead of what the farmer could get out of it. This has been true all over the country. In some conspicuous instances the county fair still does business because it has not forgotten what its duty is. But the day is mostly over for the fair. A new era is starting in all progressive neighborhoods which gives the farmer what he ought to have—a local com-

petitor free of charge and all the shows which pertain to his interests, free. This is the most encouraging feature of the Fall Festival to be given in Richmond—it was so last year and while the neighborhood idea is not allowed to wander away into alien fields it will be the tremendous success that it was last year. That is why a county fair is not likely to succeed in Richmond.

Items Gathered in From Far and Near

The Law's Delays.

From the Baltimore Sun.

Hamlet, the melancholy Dane, placed "the law's delays" among the most noticeable evils of life, and his complaint is echoed by the public today to avert vexations, costly and needless delays, so far as possible without interfering with justice, is the problem the judges of New York supreme court have taken in hand. They have not solved it so far, but they make certain suggestions which may ultimately lead to reforms in procedure not only in New York, but also in other states. It is proposed to simplify privileges in proceedings, to reform court assignments, to have laws enacted reducing the period within which actions may be begun and to require precise, clear and unequivocal statements of facts in stating causes of action. Postponements of pleadings are held to need restriction, and the times of serving notices may be shortened with advantage. The practical abolition of the demurser in civil action is an important recommendation. Instead of the demurser, an answer made and thrashed out on the spot would be required and, if the answer be not sustained, trial should proceed at once. Common-sense promptness, with explicitness of statement, is the gist of the proposed reforms.

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From the Philadelphia Ledger.

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Wanderlust Causes a Wealthy Young Woman to Become Tramp

Pittsburg, Pa., Aug. 16.—Possessed of a wanderlust that neither her family nor alienists who have been called in consultation are able to explain, Miss Mary Patterson, a wealthy young woman of Pittsburg, was today forcibly brought back to the home of her mother after a period of wandering lasting from Thanksgiving day until she was taken in custody at Wauke-

sha, Wis., Saturday.

For months no trace of the girl could be discovered, although detective agencies were employed in the case. A few days ago, however, her mother received a long distance telephone call. The voice of her daughter could be plainly distinguished. She sent her love to the family, but refused to give them any information as to her whereabouts.

Inquiries at the telephone exchange proved that the message came from Chicago.

Last week the girl appeared at Waukesha and registered at the Spring City hotel as M. E. Graham, of Clinton, Iowa. The attention of the hotel attaches was attracted to the young woman by her peculiar actions, among them being a propensity for sleeping up on the floor of her room and bringing up food from the dining hall to eat cold.

The police authorities were notified. Then Miss Patterson disappeared. Search by the police was instituted and she was found prowling about the Milwaukee railroad yards seeking a convenient box car. She was taken in custody and imprisoned in the home of the sheriff.

Miss Patterson was indignant and demanded her release. Later she attempted to escape. Asked as to her identity and residence, she refused to make any statement, but during the questioning mentioned the name of Dr. Seip of Pittsburgh.

Through her mother was notified. Force was necessary to compel her return to Pittsburg.

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