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PUBLIC PAYS THE PIPER.

(Renfrew Mercury.)

WHEAT has gone up in price, and up in sympathy with it goes the price of bread, "the staff of life." A price of bread, "the staff of life." A factor contributing to the bull movement is undoubtedly the operations of one James A. Patten, who with some associates at Chicago "cornered" a large amount of the world's visible supply of wheat, one result of which was the clearing by them of some \$4,000,000, the most of it going into the pockets of Patten, the master \$4,000,000, the most of it going into the pockets of Patten, the master mind, who is now said to be holidaying in the island of Trinidad. Within a very brief space this money came to these men, and while of course the means employed to win it were all right in law, they are far from being right in morals. By skillful manipulation the commercial value of a commodity is made to soar, and of a commodity is made to soar, and millions of treasure thereby brought to the manipulators, while millions of people, getting no compensating ben-efits, are obliged to face an increased cost for one of the necessities of life.

THESE FIGHTING EDITORS. (Hamilton Times.)

THE editorial dictator of the Tor-onto Telegram in his desire to glorify militarism quotes from Low-ell's Biglow papers: "Civilisation does go forward,

"Civilisation does go forward, sometimes on a powder cart."

The wording of this is not exact; but let that pass. The Telegram chap declares that it should read, "Always on a powder cart." That was not Lowell's idea; it has never the idea of any capa intelligent. been the idea of any sane, intelligent man. How Lowell regarded the matter may be gathered from his own

Ez fer war, I call it murder-There you hev it plain an' flat; I don't want to go no furder

I don't want to go no furder than my Testyment fer that;
God has sed so plump an' fairly,
It's ez long ez it is broad,
An' you've got to git up airly
Ef you want to take in God.
Really, there is little to choose between the public journalist who seeks to apotheosise militarism and glorify war as the great civiliser and promoter of Christian fraternity, and Abdul Hamid and his policy and methods. But in any event spare the methods. But in any event spare the gentle, peace-loving, Christian-minded Lowell, who appreciated the war spirit and properly held it in abhor-

ENGLISH CLEAR ENOUGH. (St. John Globe.)

THE dual language question is continually coming to the front in ec. Transportation companies Quebec. Transportation companies and business men are now worried over a measure proposed in the Quebec legislature by Mr. Armand Lavergne, providing that public utility contracts, such as railway tickets, bills of lading, telegraph, and other such contract forms, shall be printed in both French and English. The penalty for non-obedience to this rule is to be a heavy fine. Although the Canadian Pacific, Grand Trunk and Canadian Northern railways claim that such legislation in regard to their lines is ultra vires of the province, and that any such regulation should come under the federal railway act, and although manufacturers and business houses oppose the bill, it has Quebec,

passed the Legislation Committee. The question is a very delicate one in the province of Quebec, but there is hope that the legislature will reject the measure.

TRIO OF TROUBLES.

(Victoria Times.)

THREE terrible blows have fallen upon the musical world. Paderewski is afflicted with muscular rheumatism in his working parts, the arms; Caruso is suffering from an affliction of the throat, and his musical organs are therefore out of tune; Tetrazzini has grippe, and her whole physical organism is out of harmony. The great artistic trio have gone to Europe for treatment. It may be that America will hear some of them nevermore. New York is said to be in mourning, refusing to be comforted even by the thought of the opening of the baseball season.

DOMESTICS ARE NEEDED.

(Toronto Mail and Empire.)

T HOUGH immigration keeps up, it affords little relief to Canada's overworked housewives. Among the newcomers the women are possibly as numerous as the men, but such of the former as are not to have the care of homes of their own seem generally to have preferences or qualifications for other than domestic work. Factories and restaurants and like places of employment have an increasing volume of women labour to draw upon, and even in business offices vacancies are being competed for to an increasing extent by young women and girls from abroad. The thousands of Ontario homes where good ands of Ontario homes where good places and liberal wages await women competent to do housework remain unfilled. Yet the need for such help is literally a crying one. Go where you will in this province, you will hear the lament that capable domestic help is not to be had at any price. This yawning want is one of which surely there is little knowledge among British women and girls trained to British women and girls trained to serve as cooks, housemaids, and maids of all work. Of the few we get who have really been brought up to these callings the majority come from British cities, and have little fitness for the domestic duties of an Ontario farm house. Were the need and opfarm house. Were the need and op-portunities here for women who are prepared to turn their hands to anything in the economy of rural house keeping made known in the right circles of the United Kingdom, many more of such women than we are now getting would be induced to try their fortune in Ontario.

A CLOCK MADE OF BICYCLES.

A CLEVER Frenchman named Al-A CLEVER Frenchman named Alphonse Duhamel has constructed a timepiece twelve feet high, composed entirely of bicycles or their component parts. The framework is a huge bicycle wheel, round which are arranged twelve ordinary sized wheels, all fitted with pneumatic tires. A rim within the large wheel bears the figures for the hours the figures. A rim within the large wheel bears the figures for the hours, the figures themselves being constructed of crank rods. The hands are made of steel tubing, which is used for the framework of bicycles. The minute strokes on the dial are small nickel plated pieces. The top of the clock is an arrangement of twelve handlebars. The clock strikes the hours and the quarters, bicycle bells, of course, making the chimes. The pendulum is made of various parts of a bicycle frame. It is said that the clock, besides being a curiosity, is an excellent timepiece. It now adorns one of the public buildings of Paris.

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