

Holmes, he dismissed assistant statisticians as being a greater scandal than if he had stolen money from the Government.

The Arkansas Supreme Court declares valid the anti-trust law, which shuts out from the State all outside insurance companies that maintain a rating agreement.

July 16.—General W. W. Blackmar, commander-in-chief of the G. A. R. Dies in Boise, Idaho.

Commander Peary's exploring ship *Rossveldt* sails from New York on its search for the North Pole.

July 17.—Elihu Root, special counsel for Mayor Weaver of Philadelphia, advises him that he can bring criminal prosecutions against certain municipal officials.

A wave of extreme heat, as trending from the Mississippi Valley to the Atlantic coast, skills scores of persons in the big cities.

**July 18.**—John Hyde, Chief of the Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Agriculture, which is involved in the cotton leak scandal, resigns.

The shares of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, bought from H. H. Hyde by Thomas F. Ryan are placed in control of the Equitable trustees.

July 19.—Elihu Root takes the oath of office as Secretary of State.

Mr. Morton dismisses Thomas Jordan, comptroller of the Equitable, for refusing to explain the society's loan of \$685,000 from the Mercantile Trust Company.

**July 20.**--The New York Assembly fails to adopt a resolution to remove Justice Warren B. Hooker from the Supreme Court bench.

Governor Higgins, of New York, recommends a legislative committee to investigate the whole field of life insurance.

The teamsters' strike in Chicago is apparently at an end, many of the men surrendering unconditionally.

**July 21.**—By the explosion of a boiler on the U.S. gunboat Bennington, in San Diego Harbor, thirty-nine men are killed, and nearly 100 are wounded.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson appoints a new board of four men to prepare the Government crop reports, and adopts new methods to prevent "leaks" in advance.

**Effervescent.**—Little Bobby had never tasted soda water before, so he knew nothing about the after-effects of the foamy drink. Uncle Lewis took him to the corner drugstore and "treated" him to a glass, and Bobby gulped it down, then in a moment put his hand to his face, saying :

**Getting Even.**—During the South African War, when that country was under martial law, every letter which was sent home had to pass through the hands of the Press censor.

A private in the Monkishire Volunteers had sent four or five letters home, telling his parents about the doings of the regiment, which portions had been obliterated by the censor, and were therefore unreadable on their arrival at the destination.

He decided to get square with the censor, and at the foot of the next letter he wrote the following words:

At the censor's office the letter was opened and read as usual. The officer in charge spent some time in tearing the stamp from the envelope so that he could read the message which he was certain he would find there.

At last his patience was rewarded; but his feelings can be better imagined than described when he read these words :

[illegible]

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