LT. GOV. LEE'S LURID LETTERS

A Remarkable Contribution to Psychology of Corrupt Politics.

work of Prosecutor Folk of St. Louis is the publication of John A. Lee's letters to D. J. Kelley, the baking powder trust's lobbyist, at present living at

Natgara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, Canada. It will be remembered that when the "bust-up" came in Missouri, and rotten fragments flew, the lieutenant governor of the state, John A. Lee, surresifered to Prosecutor Folk of St. Louis a \$1,000 check he had received from

Kelley. Kelley had disappeared, of course. There was some hue and cry after him and, for a time, it appeared that Lee had slowly spurned a bribe after two weeks' consideration-feeble spurning -- but soon the pile of filth was raked. Lee was a head center of the legislative holdup gang at Jefferson City and had simply gotten cold feet when the ticklish time came.

The letters of Lee are a remarkable contribution of the psychology of cor-

rupt politics. In 1896 the free silver wave got its grand momentum in the Missouri state. Democratic convention at Sedalla, Every delegate by that great state convention chosen to go to the Chicago convention was forced, before being accepted, to rise and swear that he was for free silver.

Before this picturesque and pulasant procedure was adopted the St. Louis delegation had resisted hopelessly and angrity. The St. Louis men sat in the parquette of the steaming opera house, near the stage, an island of hard, red city faces in the midst of a sea of whishes.

It was a farmers' convention and the old lads with the Galways and chin whiskers and shaved upper lips were there, prancing like old nags suldenly turned colts. The city crowd drank much whisky, scowled blackly and chewed cigars hercely and, as the sul-try day were on and grew hotter and hotter and the adamantine old free sli-ver farmers proceeded to throw every known or suspected goldbug out of the delegation to Chicago, the St. Louisans drank deeper and glared more flercely. One of them made a very good speech

His name was John A. Lee, His speech was so strong and temperate that, except for the heart-deep determination of the farmers he would have gained the point against the "swear for silver

In Kansas City the Commercial club gives a grandiloquent annual banquet, Every man in town who thinks he is somebody tries to secure a chance to pay the rather stiff price per plate and get hilarious in evening dress. Some notable national personage, vivid in the popular eye, is always secured as ora-

tor of the occasion.

Patriotism and wine flows with that abandon which has its impressive ex-cuse in the glory and honor of the town. The American eagle, it must be con-fessed, is lavishly used to add to the glory of the city. The eagle screams and Kansas City hurrays. Greatest country in the world and greatest town of the greatest country!

ew years ago I attended one of these banquets and, of all the notable speakers who furnished the oratory, I remember only one and him because of the enthusiasm of an overcome ban-

Three cheers had been given for the governor of some great state or other, who had just delivered his oration. who had just delivered his cration, when the overcome person rose on a chair and attempted, with tears choking his voice, to make a speech in favor of persons who ought to be governors.

The man whose speech had excited this outburst of the banquetter was Jno. A. Lee of St. Louis, and, therefore, of the banducture of the speech had excited this outburst of the banquetter was fore, of all that brilliant galaxy of ora-tors and their orations, I remembered only Lee, and the line: "Three cheersh for Leesh—the gon-tiemensh who ought to be gov-ernorsh!"

It is almost weird to know that the big voiced, earnest man who tried im-pressively to stem the tide at that Se-dalia convention and who made that fine speech which excited one man, at least, to tears, at the banquet in Kan-sas City, is the author of that marvel of idlory, the fetters of a man who wanted to be governor to a lobbylst, of which the following are samples:

which the following are solved with the following are solved in the following are solved in the following wills, gold Democrat, elected mayor. Senator Stone gulped and went out of town. Altgold spoke against the ticket. Bryan wrote a letter denouncing Wells, but I stood by the guns and have licked them all. "J. A. L."

"July 22, 1991. Dear Friend: I have no ill-feeling against you, but you know I can't live like a department store girl on \$3 a week. If I had margin money I would buy today. No corn left Farmers must feed their stock. December wheat will go from 69 cents to \$1.25. If I had money I would buy wheat, wheat, wheat. J. A. L." wheat, wheat, wheat.

"July 23, 1901.-Friend Kelley: If I had money yesterday to take my own advice I would be \$2,000 ahead this morning. Corn crop is destroyed, Fin-est crop of wheat in years. J. A. L."

"Aug. 3, 1961 .- Grateful for your promise of help, and I admit I deserve

"Oct. 17, 1901.—I did not think you would go into printing business. If a fellow does not try he will never succeed. Layton was around to see me the other day. Can't we fix up some plan to get business for Interstate Grocer? You know I am your friend and am ready to stand by you. Good business principles, however, should not be overlooked. If alum fellows have any money we should take away from them, why not let me get it? I stand by my friends. I always stand by people who stand by me. On account of my necessifies I do not want to miss an opportunity to raid the commissary department of the enemy. J. A. L."
"Nov. 14, 1901.—Send me five dollars. "Oct. 17, 1901.-I did not think you

"Nov. 14, 1901.-Send me five dollars, as I need \$4 to \$5 every time I go out. "March, 1901.—I got \$1,000 for my rallroad committee."

"Nov. 30, 1901.—I beat Bryan 594, Dockery 2.458 votes. Man against me was ex-grandmaster of Masons and now grand potentate of Shriners. Pretty good work for a scrub, wasn't it?"

"December, 1901.—I have a scheme to get up a trade paper combination. We could force the trusts and big cor-porations to give us advertising.

"Feb. 26, 1902.—Am not making any money. Have stood by all and will again in future. You will see from enclosed slip that I am a member of the St. Louis 101. Must have money to keep my standing; need \$70 to start. You ought to give me a job for the National Health society at \$150 a

"March 10 .- You worry me with your If you go in I will handle the never needed any. I have been comwines and everything on expense and neglect my business, to my loss and unfoing. I saw the other day and told !

grander and a superior and a superio The latest sensation in the tragic, him you wanted to fight the fool adul terations the next time. The first word he uttered were 'Good,' Would no he give up a retainer right away! so we could use some of it in the coming campaign this fall. You know wha such talk means. If you want to con trol the situation out here I can hold I and no one else can without an enorm ous outlay, but I must be put on the payroll. I can't do business and spensenatorial friends were in to see n esterday and took dinner with me at cost of \$390. I like you. You are a good fellow, a joily good fellow, and have been kind to me and mine social-

ly and otherwise, but business is busi-ness and must be awarded to those who control the situation, and I con-trol it. I control both and can make then work for me without change and work like the devil. Otherwise I could and would ruin them. They dance to my music and have told me that they were subject to my orders.
"I have been true and faithful day and night and have taken all the abuse.

need \$150 every month to take care of the situation with and no more. The advertising you give is an outside mat-ter and does not count. I am not kicking or howling. I am only reply-ing to that ha! ha! letter of yours. (Signed) "J. A. L."

"March 15, 1902 -- Friend Kelley: It waren to, 1922.—Friend Resiey: It would have lost interest in matters out here and are indifferent. I would like to know your atfitude and conclusion at once, so that I can go to the opposition and make overtures to them. Even if you should desire to withdraw all advertising for papers and climaters. l advertising for paper and eliminate Il expenses I could easily go to the opposition and make up for it. If you are going to desert me I want to be so informed and be given a chance to re-inforce my position or make honorable terms of capitulation to Yours truly, JOHN A. LEE.

March 17, 1802.—Dear Friend: 1 am confident an effort will be made at re-peal legislation next time. I want to do a lot of work. Get \$1,000 from state and \$1,800 from merchants' association. These fellows are going to put up a great fight. Two alum men just in to see me. There are twenty of them in a combination. I shall say no more. I am not a beggar or a pauper, but if you don't do mything there are ways of getting money that I know of. There are other opportunities that can be seized, but I am grateful to you for courtesies extended. Yours truly,

"March 19, 1902.—Dear Friend: Stone is working for Orchard, Farris & Mor-ton, and they are going to hep him. I want to see them defeated. If they are defeated it will save me embarrassment in placing them in committees. Please don't use long envelopes. They are rotten. Get some small ones. Do you burn my letters? I de yours as soon as I read them. P. A. L."

"St. Louis, March 21, 1902-Dear Sir and Friend: Your letter is at hand. It appears you are better posted about matters out here than I am. I am not afraid of spies nor courts. I make courts and prosecuting attorneys and they all love me. Let's be good friends and have no business relations. The game is too small and don't pay. You say what you can do and what it will cost and then you will play—without my co-operation. You call the game off as soon as you can, please, I am tired of it. I am too busy to talk to cheap

people.

"I must get my campaign fund together for the race in 1904. I will have to have \$25,000 and I will have to get into a game where the limit is higher. Stone, Dockery and Cook have formed a combination against me and I have got to whip it. The deal is Stone for renator in 1902, Dockery for senator in 1904, Cook for governor. It is no use in your attempting any work out here, except you intend to remain in the game. except you intend to remain in the game after next January. Nothing will go

except with my approval.
"A word from me will turn things either way. Don't get offended, my friend, at my talk. I like you, but businers is business, and plain talk is best. Yours, (Signed) J. A. L.

"Aug. 10, 1902.-Friend Kelley: I do not intend to do anything rash this session. Nothing in sky rocket or comic or der, but I intend to personally contro tings and not let Dockery boss te job. How could a man so puerlle, so judi-

rously foolish, so toad-like, be elected leutenant governor of Missouri?

But it's simply true. Kelley, at present staying beyond Folk's reach at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, Canada was the agent of the baking powder trust in getting legislation to prevent the sale of alum baking powders. He published a journal in New York called the "American Queen," devoted to the interests of "pure foods." He had a "National Health association" to back e scheme of freezing out the alum

baking powders.

The game in Missouri consisted of introducing a "pure food" bill, supposed to be backed by the "Missour: Health association," a fulsomely faked society for which Senator W. I. Stone was at

The game worked. The pure food law was passed. The "bust up" came in the attempt to repeal it in the next session. Thereby Kelley got laid on his back and, now, in his Canadian retreat, gives out the former Heutenant governor's letters which, being a wise lobbyist, he dld not burn.

But how on earth could a man of Lee's character become lieutenant governor of

My idea of it is this: Lee, the politician, was the same as the cashier who steals money to cut a dash. A young man is a hall fellow well met; he is bright; he rises steadily in in the bank—and he becomes cashier. Perhaps it is only \$2,500 a year.

This man is all right except for his seething secret passion to be a great personage. His vanity is so gigantic that it is contemptible. But he hides it —being wise even in his contemptible vanity.

He dreams of being president of the bank; of being a Neapoleon of finance. As a matter of fact he is simply an average bright man. He is no genius. Not a drop of the Napoleon in him. He joins clubs. He lives in a fine house. He writhes with folly-born ambition, which his associates do not suspect. He is a cool madman, lidding his madness.

He steals and plays the markets and nother cashier goes wrong.

Lee's letters show a man of ordinary ability with a mad ambition. He thought he could become governor of Missouri, when he was merely a hope-

less third-rater. He regarded himself as in the policital game with the great men of the state-and tried to play the part by boodlingtoo vain to recognize his abject feeble ness in that line—a poltroon hold-up,

man with shaking hand holding the pis His business in St. Louis-running some trade papers—was not profitable.
His salary as ileutenant governor was picayunish. He wanted to cut a dash.
And so we have a man whose letters to Kelley reveal his weak side—a mere human tond, swelled up to think himself

MARK TWAIN-BARBER.

The Bald-Headed Man Mistook the Hu morist and so Did Others. New York.-Mark Twain began to get eady for the yacht races by having his panama straw hat of the vintage of 9s brushed up at a hat cleaning booth. It took a long time to clean the hat, and while waiting for the job to be finished the author was the victim of a dozen or more cases of mistaken iden-He was mistaken for everything rom a banker to a norist within 20

The cloud of dust that flew from the Panama as it made about 1,000 revo-lutions a minute on the cleaner's electwic wheel choked Clemens, and the fill wind from the wheel made als cigar burn sideways, like a "three for five," which it wasn't, for he said so.

To get out of the draft Mark Twain moved along the corridor to wait in front of the next stall, which happened to be occupied by a florist. One woman thought he was the proprietor.
"It you are sure those daffodlis were cut fresh this morning," said the wo-

man, "I would like a dozen."
"Madame I am not sure," replied Mark, "Your question has taken all the tuck out of me. I am not allowed

to sell blossoms myself. I merely am the door attendant." Thereupon Mark opened the door of the florist's place and bowed the wo-man in. Then he moved along to the next place, where they gell elevated oud tickets. A fat woman hurrying

through the arcade stopped in front of him and asked breathlessly:
"Do you transfer to Huckleberry?"
"I thank you, madam. I have a sort of sneaking liking for Huck Finn my-

The woman screamed, grabbed her blid, and fled.
The author of "Huckleberry Finn" hen sidestepped over in front of the lgar stand, where he held his ground ill a shirt waist sort of a young man, earing open work socks, came along and exclaimed: "Say if you've got any cigars differ-

ent from what you're smeking your-self, I'll buy some." Remarking that he couldn't sell to minors, Mark Twain crossed the arcade and stood in front of the barber shop, where a batd-headed man stopped in front of him and remarked:

"I'll take a dozen bottles if it will give me a head of half like yours. Hold on, though. Is yours real?"

Mark didn't open his mouth or move so much as an eyewinker.

"Well, I'm d-d," said the bald-headed man, "it's the most perfect piece of wax figure work I ever saw. It beats the crowned heads of Europe in Twenty-third street. ty-third street.

Before halting again Mark Twain looked carefully at the signs and quickned his pace to get by a manicure par-ior, ran by a book stall, dodged away from a soda fountain, and finally stop-ped in front of the arcade entrance to the bank. It was about closing time and the bank doors being locked, a belated, excited man with his bands full of checks and drafts rushed up and demanded to be let in

'Listen," the author whispered horsely in the other man's ear, "I'm waiting to get in myself. I've just sent a boy up for a jimmy and some dynamite and he'll be here most any min-The other man dodged out to the

Broadway entrance to get into the front door and warn the bank. Mark Twain got his hat, then stopped long enough in the Western Union booth to telegraph his pastor, the Rev. Joe Twitchell, that his resolution against cussing was all off, and then handed an unlown car Chicago Tri. boarded an uptown car.-Chicago Tribune.

DICKENS ON THE STAGE.

Latest Version of "David Copperfield" Delights the Gallery-Paderewski and Other Famous Musicians at Work on Grand Operas - Gossip of European

Special Correspondence London, Aug. 8.-There was uncom-

at the Adelphi only proves answ the truth that whereas the great novelist's characters and plots are probably im- drawn by Hablot Browne for the mortal, yet the treatment of them-the exaggeration, the buriesque, the ultra-

dimensional market and a second of the secon come lay-figures-is not according to London, Aug. 8.—There was uncom-mon interest in the latest attempt to day reader of Dickens slurs over these put Dickens on the stage. But "Em'ly" poculiarities, and gets as much pleasure as ever out of what is underneath, reconstructing for himself characters who are not at all like the illustrations editions of Dickens. But when you put Dickens on the stage, the peculiaritie have to become the outward and visible victous vice, and the ultra-virtuous virtue, the tendency of the women to be-

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Mr. Caldwell is one of the most remarkable men in the west. He expects to finish the Agricultural building at the World's Fair, St. Louis, within 50 days and the Horticultural building in less time. Caldwell is a Delaware man and holds the world's record for rapid building, won when he erected the West Baden hotel in Indiana, containing 612 rooms and 8,600,000 bricks, finished in eight and one-half months,

NEW MILLION DOLLAR CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH.

DICKENS ON THE STAGE | dull young prig; Little Em'ly becomes vague and colorless, and Urlah Hoop becomes impossibly 'umble and creepy. In the latest stage version of 'David In the latest stage version of David Copperfield" the scenes alternate chiefly between Mr. Wickheld's office, where Uriah Heep and Mr. Micawber hold forth, and the ark, where good old Dan'l Peggoty, Ham, Steerforth and Little Em'ly play out their tragedy. In the end Steerforth is brought into the Yarmouth cottage to die, but Ham is permitted to live, and avidently with good prospect of marrying Little Em'ly. after all. The staginess of it all made the more fashionable parts of the Adelphi semewhat uneasy on the opening night; but pit and gallery were wildly enthusiastic. An interesting feature of the performance was the appearance of Madge Lessing, of music hall fame, in the unwonted part of Little Em'ly, in which she probably did everything that could be done to make the character something more than a doll.

Ignace Jan Paderewski is spending the summer at his beautiful home near Morges in Switzerland, putting in mest of his spare time on the new opera he is writing to the libratto of Catulle Mondes. Although his French opera could hardly be called a success, his hope for undying fame as an operatic composer is said to be undimmed. He is now a rich man, whose ussets probably now a rich man, whose assets probably dom," has had a queer experience in this connection. It was rather a good comedy, and just missed being a succas. It was only a little too old-fash mount up to a million dollars, and his position as the greatest fiving plants in generally considered secure. But the fame of plants is fleeting and Padeewski wants to be remembered. He has finished a cantata which will be reduced this season by the choir of the hilharmonic society of Warsaw in the ianist's native Poland. He is now inking of making a tour of Australia next season.

Eugen D'Albert, who is perhaps Padereski's most formidable rival, and who has rather the start of his Polish brothin the matter of operatic work, has also just finished an opera on text by Ru Jolf Lothar, which is to be produc-ed at Prague in October. In fact the continent is likely to get a surprising amount of new grand opera presently. George Henschel, who was the first of the Boston Symphony Orchestra's dis-toguished line of conductors, has completed another opera "Nubia." which will be produced at Carlsruhe next season; and Hermann Zumpe, the Munich conductor has completed a grand opera based on some of the Buddhistle le-gends of India, which is to be produced at Munich next year. Last but not east, Anton Dverak will come forward again in Prague next October with his new olpera "Armide." After all this surprising output Heinrich Conreid can have no cause for complaint of the lack of new material by men big enough to be worthy of the American grand opera

Perhaps music for the stage is lookg up. At any rate, Mark Ambient's test comedy "A Sung Little Kingoned and stagey and goody-goody for condon taste. The author conceived the ingenious idea of turning it into a musical play, wrote a lot of lyries for it and got Walter Slaughter to write the music. In the new form it was carried forth to the provinces, where it has been so well received that author and manager are now thinking of bringing it back to London.

Mrs. Kendal is going to stray away to the lecture stage in the early part of next year with a series of recitals, nostly Shakespearean.

Haddon Chambers, who has been at work for some time on a comedy for Maxine Ellict, sails for New York in Octber to superintend the production of

96 th Ot. and Central Park Weert.

The above is from first photo-

graph taken of the new Christian Science church, almost completed

Science church, almost completed at Central Park, West, New York. It will be the costllest place of worship in New York and will seat 2,500 persons. Three years ago Mrs. Augusta E. Stetson projected the church and it will be fully paid for at a cost of \$1,154,000, when opened this fall. The building strike did not affect work on the church although it has done so on almost all other buildings during the

all other buildings during the

his new play "The Golden Silence" in

which Virginia Harned is to have the

Brandon Thomas, known to fame in

America as the suther of "Charley's Aunt," has joined the company with which Beerbohm Tree is going to present "Richard II" next month. The company faclades Lienel Brough and Oscar Asche and his wife Lily Bray-

Ethal But, dear, you went to the cocking school only three months.

Madel (of Besten)—Oh, that was authelent. I learned to brown bears to perfection and cook exclusion in six different

"Darling," said the sweet little wife, "I have just bought a pair of shoes for \$8 and a pair of alk stockings for \$6."
"Great Scott!" exclaimed the poor husband, "I wish I had married a mermaid."

"Entile is pretty elever"
"In where the train we say in the only slow turned instead of taking a lists I remarked "Why, when we were going through the white going for the control of the

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AIR AS A FERTILIZER.

CAVCAVIAN WALNUT DOOR of 96 52 Be 100 4 1

At the sitting of the International hemical congress today, Dr. Frank, of Charlottenburg, spoke on the utiliza-tion of the free altregen of the air for gricultural and industrial purposes.

Dr. Frank said he had discovered a method by the employment of electrically obtained carbide, of transferring nitrogen from the air into compounds of amide and evanogen, which provided raw materials for the manufacture of compounds sales of provided carboniae s rumoniac salts, prusslate of potash ad cyalde of potassium. Calcium nitrate so made had proved

to be an excellent manure, which open d up to agriculture an inexhaustible ree of nitrogen independent of for Bir William Ramsay, who is staying Ilh Prof. Fischer, will be present toporrow with the Hofman gold media, by the German Chemical society, and Prof. Mocason, of Paris, will receive the society's medal at the same time.

This bonor has nothing to do with the International Chemical congress—Ber-lin Correspondent of London Express. VILLAGE LIFE.

We prefer to live in a small town where all the people sympathize with you in trouble, and if you haven any trouble will hunt up some for you.— Formosa New Era.

A MERCIFUL GUILLOTINE.

In the market of Gotherburg, a gul When ordinary men think they are tremendous—look out. They are as bad as they are crazy.

PAUL THILMAN.

