THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.:
George B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee, printed during the month of January, 1900, was as follows:

1	24,060	17	25,200
2	24,530	18	25,110
3	24,760	19	30,380
4	24,780	20	25,755
5	24,710	21	28,440
6	24,910	22	25,640
7	25,870	23	25,840
8	24,760	24	25,530
9	24,710	25	25,715
10	24,080	26	25,840
11	24,750	27	25,980
12	32,460	28	26,535
13	25,710	29	26,220
14	26,740	30	27,030
15	25,330	31	26,626
16	24,990		

Total 803,885
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G. B. TZSCHUCK,
Sec'y and Treas.

Subscribed and sworn before me this 1st day of February, A. D. 1900.
(Seal) M. B. HUNGATE,
Notary Public.

General Roberts is the Englishman's Casey. If he strikes out now that he is at bat the game is over.

The Indian supply depot for Omaha is now fairly assured, but the army purchasing depot is hanging up in the air.

There will be less trouble in finding a suitable location for the proposed auditorium than there will be in raising the money with which to build it.

The United States is shipping coal to Spain. When the Spanish are looking for someone to make it hot for them they do not have to guess more than once.

The popocratic idea of treating political patients is much like that of the doctors of a few generations ago. No matter what the trouble, always bleed the patient.

The police board club has been worked for all it is worth by the popocratic holdups and the object of the attempt to swing it over the city election is too transparent to deceive anybody.

There is a delicate tinge of sarcasm in Frank J. Burkley's announcement of his withdrawal from the councilmanic race, that he believes "the democratic ticket is growing in strength."

It is reported that previous to the present war General Buller and President Kruger were the best of friends. This probably accounts for the warmth of the reception accorded the general on his return to South Africa.

The market gardeners have just ground for grievance when they are compelled to pay rent for standing in the open street, while property owners certainly have no authority to sell street space abutting their particular premises.

The janitors of the capitol building are requested to place a stuffed club alongside of each chair hereafter when any of the various state boards have a meeting. It will save the time of members going out into the corridors after one when it is wanted.

Senator Pettigrew is busily engaged digesting some of the valuable information imparted to him in response to his numerous resolutions of inquiry. The task has been sufficient to keep him quiet for several days and if he does a good job of it there is no probability of him asking for another meal off the same bill of fare for some time.

Members of the State Board of Transportation are suffering from insomnia. No sooner do they drop off into a little doze than some unfeeling mischiefmaker tiles another complaint against a railroad and keeps up such a howl to have it attended to that no such thing is possible as taking a nap. Unless this thing stops they threaten to change boarding houses.

It was in accordance with the eternal fitness of things that a man who had been indicted for bribery while serving as a member of the council some years ago should rise in a republican meeting to denounce the editor of The Bee because he has seen fit to recommend another man for the nomination of councilman. It is this class of "patriots" that do the howling against The Bee.

There appears to be no great desire for the position of member of the Board of Control in Iowa. The economies practiced by the board have a tendency to raise up political enemies and for this reason politicians do not covet the place, while business men capable of filling it are not looking for opportunities to work for the salary which attaches to the position. If there were as many "reformers" in Iowa as there are in Nebraska Governor Shaw would be overrun with applications.

STRIKING THE KEYNOTE.

It is announced by Associated Press that—

> The joint committee of the Pennsylvania legislature appointed at the last session to consider the election of United States senators by a direct vote of the people, with a view to submitting an amendment to the national constitution, has completed its work and today forwarded copies of its resolutions to the secretaries of state of New York, New Jersey, Ohio, Massachusetts, Tennessee, Maryland, Iowa, Kentucky and Mississippi, where legislatures are now in session.

The resolutions refer to the national house of representatives having on three occasions passed bills favoring the change and the defeat of these by the senate nonconcurring, and also to various state legislatures favoring the change. The provision of the national constitution requiring the calling of a convention for proposing amendments on the application of two-thirds of the states is quoted and the resolutions ask that the several legislatures make this request.

This is the keynote to the solution of nearly every vital problem with which the American people are now wrestling. It reaches not only the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people, which can never be brought about while the senate has a veto upon the proposition, but also the questions arising out of the evolution of the trust and the acquisition of new territory peopled with inhabitants not qualified for American citizenship.

A national constitutional convention would enable the people to make their eighteenth century constitution conform with twentieth century conditions. That many features of the constitution framed by the fathers before the age of steam and electricity for a nation with less than 4,000,000 population have been outgrown is conceded by all. That the experience of more than a century of legislation under it has disclosed many serious defects, leaving the country subject to the varying interpretations of successive federal courts, is also undisputed.

The only objection raised to a revision of the constitution by convention when it was first recommended by the platform promulgated by Nebraska republicans last year springs from the fear that the convention might inaugurate mischievous or hazardous experiments. This is tantamount to a declaration that the American people of the present generation are not to be trusted with the task of making a rational revision of the law of the land handed down by their ancestors. Such an indictment of the intelligence and patriotism of the American people will hardly stand the test of discussion.

It can be safely set down that the states would vie with one and another in selecting their most distinguished, brainy and conservative citizens as delegates to a national constitutional convention. It is also safe to predict that the convention would weigh carefully every proposition for a change and submit to the various states an instrument so framed as to be reasonably certain of ratification by the necessary two-thirds majority.

BRITISH ANTI-WAR SENTIMENT.

Whether or not the anti-war sentiment in England is increasing, it is certain that those who are opposed to the conflict in South Africa are not abating their efforts to strengthen such sentiment. There are able and influential men who continue to denounce the war as a crime and a blunder and declare that it was instigated by greed. Such distinguished leaders of public opinion as John Morley and James Bryce, of whose patriotism there can be no question, boldly arraign the government and protest in vigorous and unqualified language against a continuance of hostilities.

These people propose to carry on a vigorous political propaganda and it may prove effective, though as to this much will depend upon the course of events in South Africa. If the operations of the British forces now supposed to be taking place shall be successful, if General Roberts should win a victory that would give assurance of further triumph for British arms, the anti-war element in England would doubtless decline. On the other hand, if Roberts should suffer reverses and heavy losses it is more than likely that the sentiment against the war would grow apace. At present, however, there is no doubt that a very large majority of the English people are in favor of prosecuting the war to the bitter end and of giving the government all the support necessary thereto.

SO-CALLED ANTI-TRUST CONFERENCE.

The so-called anti-trust conference closed in disorder. Called as a non-partisan movement against the monopolistic combinations, this gathering of free silver democrats and populists soon manifested its true character as an agency for promoting the interests of the Bryan democracy. It was dominated from start to finish by men prominent in the advocacy of free silver and of the doctrines of the Chicago platform. There were in the conference some anti-trust republicans, chief among them Mr. Monnett of Ohio, who as attorney general of that state made himself known to the country as an earnest opponent of trusts and who was made permanent chairman of the conference, but these republicans were a small minority and exerted no influence upon the deliberations.

Even Chairman Monnett was unable to relieve the conference of its partisan character, exhibited in the adoption of resolutions denouncing the financial bills fixing the gold standard and in the free trade declaration of the platform. Mr. Monnett felt called upon to tell the conference that it was the republican party which had placed an anti-trust law upon the federal statute books and if that law is not being enforced by the present attorney general of the United States a democratic attorney general had also failed to enforce it. He might have gone farther and stated that when a democratic congress, of which the present leader of the party was a member, had an opportunity to adopt legislation directed against the trusts it failed to do so.

Controlled by the advocates of free silver and free trade, the declarations of this so-called anti-trust conference will have no weight with thoughtful people. Such men as Altgeld, Weaver, Jerry Simpson and George Fred Williams cannot be trusted to find a wise and practical solution of so complex a problem as that of the trusts. It is a question that calls for the highest order of statesmanship and thorough honesty and sincerity in its treatment. It is not a political question, but purely economic; not a matter for partisan controversy, but one to be considered entirely on practical lines. The democratic leader has been discussing this problem for two years and as yet he has offered no practicable plan for its solution. The Chicago conference, dominated by his adherents, has also failed to do so. As an alleged anti-trust conference this gathering of free silverites, free traders and Chicago platform supporters was a distinctly popocratic enterprise which will deceive no one who has the intelligence to discern the scheme.

Meanwhile the anti-trust cause is growing and thoughtful men will continue to address themselves to the task of finding a wise, practicable and effective way of remedying the evils and averting the dangers of the monopolistic combinations.

SERIOUS IF TRUE.

The statements made by Charles E. Macrum, ex-consul of the United States to the Transvaal republic, are serious if true. He alleges that his official mail was opened by the British censor at Durban and that a cable dispatch which he filed in the interest of an American in Pretoria was refused absolutely by the censor at Durban. If these things were done they were indignities to the consul and to the government he represented which call for explanation and apology, but it should not be hastily assumed that they are true. The resolution of inquiry regarding these statements offered in the house of representatives and referred to the committee on foreign affairs should be promptly reported to the house and passed, so that the country may as soon as possible learn what the State department has to say in the matter. Meanwhile a Washington dispatch states, on the authority of an unnamed official of that department, that there is nothing of record to support the statements of Macrum. It appears that he reported in a general way that mail did not reach him promptly and the matter was investigated by the department, with the result of finding that no unnecessary delay existed.

As to what Macrum says about American interests in the Transvaal republic being neglected by our government, that he was left in the position of a British consul and not an American consul, and concerning a secret alliance between America and Great Britain, it is scarcely worthy of serious consideration, though it is to be expected that the enemies of the administration will try to make something out of it. American interests in the Transvaal were not endangered and as to the interests of British citizens there Macrum was simply directed to look after them just as the interests of our citizens were looked after by British consuls in Spain when the United States was at war with that country. It was a perfectly legitimate thing for our government to do and did not place him in the position of a British consul, though his prejudices may have caused him to so regard it. The talk about a secret alliance is rubbish, as Secretary Hay some time ago pointed out in a published letter. It will be just as well, however, for the secretary of state to dispose of this charge by an official declaration, since otherwise many may accept it as true.

If British officials at Durban have improperly interfered with American mail matter they should be called to account for it, but we should not conclude that such is the case upon the bare testimony of an ex-consul whose official conduct is somewhat clouded.

Candidate Bingham declared in an open meeting that he is proud to have the friendship of Mr. Kelby. To this friendship there certainly is no objection. Mr. Kelby is a gentleman and is loyal to the corporation he serves. No disrespect was intended to him by the publication of Mr. Bingham's telltale letter. What is objectionable in the relationship between Mr. Bingham and Mr. Kelby is the fact that Mr. Kelby is managing Mr. Bingham's mayoralty campaign, while at the same time he is the political attorney for a railroad company. Mr. Kelby's management indicates, if it does not positively prove, that Mr. Bingham is not his own man, but somebody else's man. What the people of Omaha want is a mayor who is not the property of any corporation, but one who is in a position to treat all fairly, while at the same time protecting the public interest. Another damaging disclosure of Mr. Bingham's letter is his apparent intimate relation with the manager of a franchised corporation which enjoys valuable privileges from the city of Omaha. The candidate who starts out with such backing cannot get the support of the rank and file of the republican party.

Popocratic assessments upon the officeholders are coming so thick nowadays that some of the stockholders may ask for an order of court to displace the present management and substitute a more economical one. Perhaps they would not mind paying so much if there was any certainty that the insurance against removal, offered by the committee, was of any value.

Treasurer Meserve doubtless carries that $200,000 of uninvested school money around in his hat. There is no place in his office for it and the fact that it is not earning any interest, as the treasurer's report shows, indicates it is not deposited in the banks. An arch enemy of the banks such as popocratic officeholders are supposed to be would under no circumstances favor the money power by allowing the banks to use such a sum of money without paying interest on it.

Councilman Bingham was an avowed candidate for mayor before last fall's election. As candidate for the highest office within the gift of the republicans of Omaha it was his duty to give loyal and active support to the republican ticket. But Mr. Bingham did not show the slightest interest in the success of the ticket. On the contrary, he sulked and remained away from republican headquarters and republican meetings, while his most intimate associates and followers were openly knifing the ticket on the pretext that the defeat of the ticket would damage the chances of Frank E. Moores for renomination. In other words, Mr. Bingham gave aid and comfort to the common enemy last fall in order to improve his own chances for nomination this spring. By so doing he absolved the republicans from giving him support in the event of his nomination. A man who is willing to destroy the party that he may build himself up is not entitled to the support of the party.

The delegates to the republican city convention will be charged with a great responsibility. It will devolve upon them to place in nomination candidates for municipal offices who will command the confidence of the great mass of voters.

Big Boost for Calamity.

Washington Post.

Thirty thousand Chicago laboring men out of employment. This is the largest ray of sunshine Mr. Bryan has observed for some time.

A Doleful Inquiry.

Buffalo Express.

Does any one know a logical reason why Hawaii should be made a full territory under the constitution of the United States and Porto Rico should not?

Where and When?

San Francisco Call.

After all the furs and feathers England gets her Alaskan harbor at last. Uncle Sam may awake to the realization some day that the acquisition of new cousins is expensive business.

American Coal in Foreign Markets.

New York Mail and Express.

The shipment of American coal to Mediterranean ports at the rate of 10,000 tons a week is regarded by military experts in Europe as foreshadowing some warlike movement among the continental powers and this view is supported to some extent by the fact that England is doing its utmost to divert these cargoes to its own ports by taking all the coal it can get at prices in advance of the contract figures.

Plans to Improve the Army.

New York Herald.

The characteristic defect of most bills introduced to improve the army is a tendency to seek mainly an increase in size, and not an elasticity of form that will enable it to accommodate itself to the expansion demanded in war or to the contraction imposed by peace. The first essential is to reorganize the system, confessedly ancient and bad, by creating a scheme which will secure the greatest efficiency with the least waste of energy and money. This, difficult only on the surface, has been resisted for years, notably by certain vested interests in the staff corps, which seem to be as potent in estopping radical reforms as the National Guards of the different states were previous to the war in opposing the needed extension of strength.

A Senator Without a Party.

Chicago News.

Senator Wolcott is the victim of a cruel fate. He belongs to a party that is morally pledged to the establishment of the gold standard and he comes from a state that is largely interested in silver mining. Hence the senator is found somewhat like the boy upon the burning deck, standing upon his international bimetalism plank. He approves the finance bill, which declares the gold dollar to be the standard in the United States, yet he declares that a gold standard is a bad thing. He excoriates Bryan for advocating free silver, but he says all the world will be advocating it in a little while. He speaks for the administration policy, but he regrets that the senate is thinking of making bond interest specifically payable in gold. In a word, the senator wishes the political advantage of gold without sacrificing any of the political advantages of silver.

Huge Volume of Exports.

Philadelphia Record.

January exports of breadstuffs, provisions, cotton and mineral oils, as reported by the Bureau of Statistics, aggregated in value $64,329,593. In January, 1899, exports of these commodities, which constitute about 70 per cent of our outgoing foreign traffic, amounted to $74,729,763. The total for seven months of the current fiscal year is, in round numbers, $447,000,000, as against $465,000,000 for the corresponding period of last year. Exports of breadstuffs for the seven months noted have fallen off about $12,000,000, and cotton exports over $20,000,000, while petroleum shipments have increased by more than $12,000,000, and provision exports have maintained the high average of the past two years. Conditions in foreign markets at this time are decidedly favorable to a continuance of the current heavy demand for our leading staples of international trade.

PERSONAL POINTERS.

It rather looks as though Clark's (of Montana) financial views were buy-metallism.

The first successful flanking movement of the war was the capture of that flock of sheep by the Boers.

Sealskins will cost 50 per cent more this year than last. American purchasers have gobbled up the entire supply in the London market.

Senator Harris of Kansas is said to be the most taciturn man in congress. He is the despair of all interviewers and has rarely a word to say for publication.

"Fighting Bob" Evans at one time of his life intended to be a miner and went west at the age of 16, arriving in Salt Lake City with $200 and a navy revolver.

According to the latest dispatches from the seat of war in South Africa, General Joubert seems to be determined on crossing the Tugela river a few times himself.

Ambassador Choate was recently asked by a distinguished English nobleman: "To what station in your country does Mr. Vanderbilt belong?" He answered: "To the Grand Central station, New York."

The recording of the will of the late John I. Blair of New Jersey shows once more how the wealth of rich men is overestimated. His property will foot up about $5,000,000, when most people thought it was at least ten times that.

One result of the Molineux trial is the avowed decision of one of the jurymen—an undertaker, by the way—never to serve as juryman again. "I shall simply go and pay my fine of $100 or $500, as the case may be," he says, "and let it go at that. I wouldn't go through another such case as that again for a good farm."

HERE AND THERE.

Buffalo is putting a large sum of money, between $1,000,000 and $2,000,000, into the Pan-American exposition, and has determined to have at least one enduring memorial of the show. One of the buildings planned will be a permanent structure, and will be turned over to the Historical society at the close of the exposition. It will be built on park grounds and so designed that little alteration will be required to fit it for permanent use. Omaha rejoices at the forethought of the Buffalonians and their ability to do as they plan. We had cherished a hope for some enduring memorial of the Transmississippi exposition, but circumstances confined it to pleasant memories.

Marriageable maidens of various ages and some experienced people have given their views on "How to Manage a Husband." These well-meaning people have thrown a flood of light on the subject, and doubtless blazed the right path for many just entering upon the arduous task. But there is much to learn. A Brooklyn woman furnishes a plan warranted to produce the desired result. Unfortunately, the authorities did not approve, and she was called into court to explain why she did not stick to the gentle methods usually practiced. "Oh," she replied, "I have tried all those, and the only difference is that the wear and tear comes all on the woman. Gentle methods don't do if you're dealing with a man, especially if the man happens to be your husband. I've tried the discipline of tears. There's nothing in it except loss of beauty. I've tried coaxing. There's nothing in that. I've tried scolding. It's no good, except to keep up the fray all night, wake up the children and spoil one's temper. I've tried sitting up for him. It only amounted to loss of sleep. I got no sympathy for it.

"I don't want you to think that I whipped my husband for nothing. I didn't mind working for him. A woman expects to do that. But when, after a hard day's work, he got to criticising my looks and saying I wasn't as good looking as I used to be, and that I was getting old and worn out—well, I thought it was about time to prove to him that I wasn't so old and worn out as he imagined, and so I spanked him."

More power to her elbow.

American sympathy is pretty well divided just now between the British and the Boers, the Tagals of Luzon and those who are trying to rub into them a few degrees of civilization. If there is sympathy left uncalled for, there is a splendid opportunity to dispose of it nearby, among the struggling members of the Yaqui nation. The Yaquis are original settlers of Sonora, Mexico, and resent assumption of the Mexicans to rule them. In a circular addressed "To the American people," the junta of the tribe thus states the case:

"The Yaqui nation has begun its struggle for independence, because it is not natural that a superior race submit to an inferior.

"To a certain extent the friendliness of the Yaquis for the Americans has precipitated the present war, the inevitable result of which will be the independence of Sonora.

"In May, 1898, when the Americans were fighting the Spaniards the Yaqui nation offered for the service of the United States 2,500 soldiers, fresh from the battlefield, sweet with liberty. The Mexican government in its hatred for the United States prevented the Yaqui soldiers from helping the United States and ever since has heaped injury and indignity upon the Yaquis.

"The Yaqui nation will no longer tolerate the Mexican army in Sonora. That army is composed of criminals. Mexico, instead of improving its convicts, places them in the army that is meant to hold the Yaquis in subjection. Thus it is that Sonora is the dumping ground for the criminals of Mexico. The Yaquis will not have dishonest men among them, whether Mexican convict or official.

"The Yaqui nation has established a provisional government, the offices of which are at Babispe. The Yaqui army headquarters are at Oposura in winter and Potam in summer. All Americans are welcome to enlist.

"In the event of the success of the Yaqui people over the robber Mexicans, no foreigners, except native-born Americans, will be allowed into Sonora for ten years.

"The property and persons of Americans in Sonora will be protected by the Yaquis in every way. All Americans are warned against Mexicans who commit murders ascribed to Yaquis.

"The Mexicans kill two birds with one stone by assassinating our friends, the Americans, and defaming us in the eyes of Americans."

When David Hiley, a wealthy farmer of Kokomo, Ind., offered $1,000 to any one who would save his wife from drowning David Rutherford jumped in the water and, after a hard struggle, brought the woman ashore. This was last spring. Rutherford brought suit for the money recently and a jury has just awarded him the full amount. If Mr. Hiley ever has occasion to sue for damages for the loss of his wife's affections he may add the amount of this verdict to the sum asked for.

A FUSION SIDESHOW.

Quaint Collection of Theorists Airing Their Views in Chicago.

Chicago Tribune.

A glance at the personnel of the conference called in this city by the American Anti-Trust league will dispel any hope of a broad, non-partisan discussion or of any practical results. Whatever the intentions of the leaders of the movement may have been, they have brought together a narrow-minded collection of Bryanites, populists and advocates of crank theories. The anti-trust conference held in Chicago last summer had some dignity of personnel and it discussed the subject with more or less judgment and practicality. Its speakers included republicans as well as democrats, capitalists as well as theorists, business men as well as dreamers. The aggregation of talent now to be found in Central Music hall is chiefly drawn from the silver wing of the democratic party, and its deliberations cannot be expected to result in anything better than the ideas already vociferously announced by Colonel William Jennings Bryan.

The president of the conference thinks the cure for trusts is to be found in national ownership of the railways. Another wants the "repeal of all special privileges." Still another calls for the impossible in the shape of the initiative and referendum. Congressman Sulzer is sure every trust in the land could be destroyed under the act of 1890 if the president would only enforce it. He should inquire of ex-President Cleveland why he did not do so. The governor of South Dakota wishes the mines and the means of transportation to be "transferred from the few to the many." Another, less modest, would do away with all vested rights in property. Still another sees salvation in the suppression of bank notes, and several pin their faith to the single tax. The only idea on which there appears to be anything like unanimity is the excellence of a debased free silver currency.

In its resolutions attacking the sound money currency bill now before congress the conference fully revealed its animus. These resolutions are conceived in the same spirit as that of the delegate who believes every man should have the right to issue paper money on his own responsibility. With many wild adjectives these reformers denounce the idea of compelling a man who has borrowed gold to pay his debt in gold, which would "demonetize silver and all paper money dollars, enslave the people, and destroy the republic to the end that free government may perish from the earth." The adoption of these silly resolutions by the conference stamps it with its true label. It might save itself further trouble by indorsing the Chicago platform in toto and adjourning sine die.

COMMENT ON THE TREATY.

Washington Star: It is rather audacious for the opponents of the new treaty to suspect that Great Britain would undertake to knock out the Boer republic and the Monroe doctrine simultaneously.

Indianapolis News: The temper that demands exclusive control of the canal will not be regarded by the nations of the world as evidencing a peaceful purpose. It is not to be imagined that they would contemplate with satisfaction the fortification of this waterway by our government, and the assertion of the right to close it to the commerce of the world. These things should be kept in mind by the opponents of the treaty. Possibly we might be strong enough to work our will in the face of a world-wide opposition—but is it worth while?

Philadelphia Times: Let the treaty now pending in the senate be confirmed; let the Nicaragua canal be pushed forward as rapidly as possible; let our navy be increased to enable us to command the high seas which are approaches to the canal and let us have the support of the civilized world in this great enterprise by making it an open highway in peace and war. If an enemy can get its vessel into the canal let it do so, but we should be well equipped on sea to make it impossible for a hostile fleet to enter at either end or to come out in safety if an entrance was effected.

New York Times: The argument that an isthmian canal that we did not have the right to close against our enemy in time of war would be a source of danger to us is weak, shallow and utterly unconvincing. Protect it as we might a waterway under our control would be too dangerous a place for our enemy to trust itself in for the thirty-six hours or so that it would take to pass through. With our fleets in command of both entrances access would be perilous enough. But the greater danger would the enemy in the strait. And this would be true of a canal under general guarantee and protected by any nation on earth.

Detroit Free Press: It would be far more commendable and encouraging, it seems to us, if the opponents of ratification would give their thoughts and enthusiasm in larger measure to commercial matters and less to military. It is placing the infrequent necessity above the constant. It is substituting the cause of wastage and destruction for the source of increase and progress. If all the canal controversialists would attend strictly to the problems of home development and advancement—political, industrial and social—it is more than possible that they would come speedily to realize that there are domestic projects and improvements more urgent and beneficent than an isthmian canal of any kind at this time. But it is difficult to get the statesmanship of the times, especially the "world supremacy" style of statesmanship, to give a little thought to the needs and interests of the old United States. It is too true in the present state of the legislative mind that distance lends enchantment.

Chicago Tribune: Nothing can be plainer or more irrefutable than the proposition that if the powers of Europe, Great Britain included, are to enter into partnership with the United States in the political control of the Nicaraguan canal and are to insure its neutrality this country cannot be expected to pay more than its fair share of the cost. All who are to profit by the canal, commercially or otherwise, should be prepared to contribute out of their abundance to the cost of its construction. If the neutrality of the canal is to be guaranteed by the joint assurances of the powers of Europe, we should like to have the joint assurances of the same powers that they are prepared to put their hands in their pockets and do something toward building the canal and maintaining it afterward, provided the tolls shall not be sufficient, as they probably will not be, to cover operating expenses. If we are to have political partnership let us have financial partnership, and to the extent that each power is to be benefited let it pay.

ENGLAND IN SACKCLOTH.

Boer Successes Cause Much Searching of British Hearts.

London Telegraph.

The greatest blessing of the war is its complete and damning exposure of our national weaknesses. In every department of public life our methods are out of date. We feast on words and trade upon tradition. We are ready to indulge at any moment in an orgy of rhetoric upon "the glories of our birth and state," until, in the very absence of any practical efforts to enhance or maintain them, they threaten, in the words of the old poet, to become "shadows, not substantial things." We forget that, though the camel may exist for a period upon its own hump, the process cannot last forever. We have been like the Brahmins in our pride and Mandarins in our methods, and that is a bad combination. Sir John Seeley has taught us that we won our empire in a fit of absence of mind and we are only beginning to realize that we shall require a very constant and active presence of mind if we are to preserve it. We have rejected the tenets of the Manchester school and adopted the principles of imperialism, but we have never made an effort to replace the old political machinery of a little England by a practical organization equal to the maintenance of a real imperial system. In one respect we have never shaken off the most fatal delusion of the Bright and Cobden period, when nations were regarded as the separate departments of a pacific co-operative society lending its harmonious energies more and more to the work of universal provision. A state of things in which the energies of rival nations would be bent upon the effort to sell the same thing to the same customers seems never to have entered into the prophetic soul of the Manchester school to which we owe most of the political mischief that we are forced to remedy today.

We ourselves have taught other nations a very different philosophy and we have given no more frequent phrase to the current political discussion of every country in Europe than this, "the struggle for life." It is the root of the whole evil that, while every nation is alive to that inexorable law, we have regarded ourselves as possessing some rightful and secure monopoly of the oldest and most profitable department in the universal co-operative society. While other nations are exerting every faculty and straining every fiber to carry off the prizes of politics and commerce, and ceaselessly seeking to perfect the equipment with which they strive for success in the competition of peoples, we have complacently gathered idle flesh. We have relaxed our efforts, lost our initiative, flattered our own superiority instead of observing the marvelous progress of our neighbors, and we have abandoned ourselves to the deadly delusions of a vain and lazy fatalism. We have the greatest empire in the world, without the shadow or the vestige of imperial institutions in politics. We have a House of Commons which ought to be the powerful heart of national life, but is divided into two parts, which think more of preying upon each other than of promoting a healthy circulation in the body politic. We have a commerce, the greatest and the most cosmopolitan in the world, but admittedly less progressive by far than the trade of America or Germany or Belgium or Japan.

Our educational system is a byword for confusion, and is carried on without the slightest effort to direct it with clearness and certainty to the service of the state. Our government departments are the most expensive and least efficient among the bureaucracies of the powers. We have even lost our old advantage in physical development. Sir William Napier, in a splendid passage, shows how the superiority of the British physical type struck foreign nations with admiration during the Napoleonic wars. But we have acquired a passion for looking on at athletics, while in Germany universal military service has led to such a steady improvement in national physique from generation to generation that the clothes of the average Prussian Grenadier in the war of liberation would fail by several inches to fit the average German of today.

That is the state of things which has resulted from generations of government by rule of thumb, while other nations have been raising discipline into a religion and preparation into a science. "Restraint and discipline" said Burke—in this, as in other respects, a hundred years before his time in his preaching to nations—"these are what form the education of the world." They are certainly what form the education of the German, who sacrifices a portion of his life to the service of his country, but makes up for the time given to patriotism by greater keenness and energy in business, and is as devoted to work as we are to sport. Let us not envy patient, plodding, indomitable Germany, whose only genius is an insatiable desire to learn all that is to be learned from others and an infinite capacity for taking pains. Germany deserves every atom of her success, for every department of her national life is governed by the word "thorough," and it will carry her further yet at the expense of supine competitors, unless the present accounts of this empire are audited in time and some considerable change is effected in the method of management. If the picture we have drawn were the only side of the question, there would be a discouraging end to the argument.

But it is not the only side. We have the strongest position for defense and attack in the world. We have a greater social solidarity than that of any other country. We have still a long lead in commerce. We have an immense preponderance in wealth. Foreign observers have again and again admitted that our military aptitude and fighting material are superior to those of any country in Europe. We are, above all, rich when we bring our minds seriously to bear upon a subject, in saving common sense. We have resources, men and money, mechanism and morale, sufficient, if properly employed, to make us invulnerable for centuries. We have intelligence enough to utilize our advantages, and we must set about and work now or never. The policy of England must be more alive, more scientific, more earnest, more exacting toward citizens and ministers alike, if order is to be evoked out of administrative chaos. The thing not only can be done. It must and shall be done. In the moment of trial the touch of Ithuriel's spear has proved the substance of the nation true; and to any suggestion that this generation can fail in the great task to which we are called we reply in the words of that Chatham who derived his title from the scene of Lord Rosebery's speech, "Never, never, never!"

Comrades Out of a Job.

New York Sun.

Having nominated himself for senator, the Hon. Jerry Simpson of Medicine Lodge proceeds to nominate a kindred spirit, the Hon. Sucker Rod Sam Jones, for vice president. Jerry says that "there is a strong sentiment in Kansas and Nebraska" for Mr. Jones. While he cannot fill the place of the Hon. August Pinkpank, Toledo Jones is a lively citizen and makes Rome howl when he takes the automobile. But he may nominate himself for president on a straight Jones ticket.

LEADING TO A LAUGH.

Somerville Journal: The most self-sacrificing person in any household is always the one who reads the evening paper last.

Indianapolis Press: "But why," they hastened to ask him, "should you have been so careless as to light a match in the powder magazine?"

"I thought I would set the room off so nicely," he answered, with his last breath.

Detroit Journal: "This open door is very draughty and irritating, but I suppose I ought to be glad they didn't remove the whole side of the house!" exclaimed the emperor of China, with something of the spirit of the philosopher.

Chicago Post: "Do you think he's a real nobleman?"

"I know he's not."

"What makes you so sure?"

"He's been devoting himself to a girl with no money."

Philadelphia Press: "These people," remarked the cheerful man, "who constantly complain that this is a hard world make me tired."

"Why, don't you believe it?" asked Wheeler.

"No, I don't."

"Huh! You never attempted to ride a bicycle, did you?"

Indianapolis Journal: "What is arbitration, pa?"

"Well, it is a good thing for you, Tommy. When your mother wants to whip you I coax her off and when I want to whip you she coaxes me off."

Detroit Journal: The storm broke, in the drama.

"Yet will I cleave to thee forever!" cried the heroine, drawing her mackintosh more closely about her frail figure.

At this the wind whistled.

But the thunder merely clapped, betraying better breeding.

Washington Star: "War is a terrible thing," said the philanthropist.

"It is," answered the Filipino. "That last retreat of ours was almost as bad as a six days' bicycle race."

Washington Star: "I likes ter gib advice," said Uncle Eben, "but I hates ter see folks so satisfyin' to a man dat he encourage other folks to hustle, while he sits down an' takes a good loaf hisself."

Somerville Journal: Smythe—What will you sell your house for?

Blones—Well, my asking price is $4,800.

Chicago Tribune: "Hello, Gayman! I am sorry to see you in this fix."

"Yes, here I am, with a broken leg. And only a few days before I fell and broke it I drove an agent of a casualty company out of my office for bothering me about taking out an accident insurance policy."

"That's too bad. How do you put in your time?"

"Kicking myself with the other leg."

WATCH OUT.

Minneapolis Journal.

When th' days begin t' lengthen, an' th' night grow short a bit,
Then th' cold begin t' strengthen—mebbe you have noticed it.
Then when you leave your firesides, an' go out ter a walk,
It's best t' keep your mouth shet, an' not attempt t' talk;
Fer th' man who makes th' weather an' hands it out to us
Is rather an uncertain, unreliable kind o' fuss.
An' he don't pay no attention to what he is about,
An, a cold wave's like t' strike you ef you don't watch out.

When th' day is slowly fallin' an' th' cold, gray twilight falls,
An' th' frost begins t' sparkle all around th' cellar walls,
When you hear th' north wind soughin' through th' branches uv th' pines,
An' a-swingin' an' a-swayin' are th' bare wistaria vines,
You can bet that there's a cold wave comin' down from Calgary,
That will make you hump up double, an' freeze up th' mercury;
Fer there's never but one meanin' when th' winds begin t' shout,
An' th' cold wave's like t' git you ef you don't watch out.

When th' loosened snow is flyin' o'er th' fields so still an' white,
An' th' sun shines kinder sickly, an' gives out a grayish light,
When, no matter what you're doin', it's hard work, t' keep warm,
You kin put it down as sure that there's goin' to be a storm;
So fill th' big o' woodbox ez full ez it will hold,
With seasoned beech an' maple that shines almost like gold.
Pull down th' winder curtains, an' draw a mug o' stout,
Fer th' cold wave's goin' t' git you ef you don't watch out.