

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, Editor. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: Daily Bee (without Sunday) One Year \$6.00...

OFFICES: Omaha, The Bee Building, South Omaha, City Hall Building, Twenty-third and N. Street, Omaha, Neb. Chicago, 149 N. Dear Street, Chicago, Ill. New York, Temple Court, 27, 29, 31, Washington, 30, Fourteenth Street, Bronx City, 41, Fourth Street, New York, N. Y.

CORRESPONDENCE: Communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed: Omaha Bee, Editorial Department, Omaha, Neb.

BUSINESS LETTERS: Business letters and remittances should be addressed: The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha, Neb.

REMITTANCES: Remit by draft, express or postal order payable to The Bee Publishing Company. Only 2-cent stamps accepted in payment of mail accounts. Personal checks, except on Omaha or Eastern exchanges, not accepted.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION: 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 August, 1900, was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Number of copies and Total. Rows include various circulation figures for different days and totals for the month.

Notary Public. The base ball season is about at an end, but the people will not lack for excitement as the foot ball season is in sight.

The republicans of Vermont have an election today. There are not enough democrats in the state to make them count.

Old King Coal may be a jolly old soul, but he is planning to charge extra too much for the pleasure of his company.

The Nebraska school for the deaf secured a silver medal at the Paris exposition. The committee on awards evidently knew the politics of the management.

Nebraska popocrats are a little slow in responding to the call of their candidate for president to organize campaign clubs. The popocratic campaign is short on ginger this year.

One of the local newspapers is seeing visions of a wide-open town in Omaha. These visions always come when some political contest is about to be decided, either at a primary or a regular election.

General Roberts has issued his proclamation formally annexing the Transvaal to the queen's domain. Up to the present, however, he has been unable to secure personal service on President Kruger.

Prosperity stories cover Nebraska almost as thickly as the cornfields. Nearly every citizen in the state can make a prosperity story out of his experience during the four years that McKinley has been president.

A fleet of English war ships is now off the New England coast, but Boston need not be alarmed. The ships are on a friendly visit and the United States squadron is on hand to see that good order is maintained.

It was called all the way from Europe that a boy 3 1/2 years of age has been unearthed in Paris who is a veritable musical prodigy. The boy prodigy from Nebraska who makes chin music will have to look to his laurels.

Wageworkers can afford to take a day off for Labor Day this year, whereas four years ago they had so many days of enforced idleness that they were only too glad to work when employment offered, whether on holidays or week days.

Kentucky democrats propose to repeal the Coebel election law because it is unpopular. The bill prepared to take its place indicates, however, that democracy proposes to retain its grip on the election machinery of the state just as firm as it dares.

A Pennsylvania firm is starting in to manufacture artificial milk which it asserts is perfectly harmless and just as good as that offered by the family cow. If endorsements of its sanitary quality are wanted, Omaha offers the services of its police judge.

Republicans of Douglas county must not allow themselves to be diverted by side shows from the main issue in the coming primary. The issue is: "Who does the party want to be supported by the legislative delegation for United States senator?" The only way the preference can be made effective is by registering it for delegates to the county convention favorable to the candidate desired.

The stories of atrocities committed by the allies, and particularly by the Russians, in China, if true are certainly no credit to the white soldiers and it is to be hoped they will prove untrue or exaggerated. In refraining from looting and uncalculated assaults upon non-combatants the United States and Japanese forces have laid the foundation of future good will of China, but in a measure all countries must suffer from the prejudices the excesses of the Russians are bound to create.

BRYAN'S LABOR DAY TEXT

"The laborer is worthy of his hire." On this day set apart for the consideration of the wage-workers, let each man inquire whether the man who toils enjoys a fair share of the proceeds of his labor and if not let him apply a remedy.

This is the text which William Jennings Bryan gave out in advance of Labor day for the consideration of American wage-workers. A more ingenious appeal to prejudice has seldom if ever been made. It is designed to impress upon the toilers the idea that they are not getting a fair share of the proceeds of their labor and naturally calculated to arouse in them a spirit of discontent with their lot.

Bryan points out no remedy, but leaves the inference that relief to the underpaid and overworked laborer can be had only by a change of the head of the national government. The average American wage-worker, however, is not likely to play the role of the dog in the manger. He will not drop his meat into the pond and jump after the magnified reflection in the water.

The workmen of America have reason to be gratified and satisfied with existing conditions. While they may not in every instance get their full share of the profits from the product of their toil, they know enough to know that the capitalist employer must assume all risks and bear all losses incident to the enterprise in which they are engaged. Four years ago, when commerce and industry were prostrated, employers were driven into bankruptcy by the menace of free trade and free coinage, and while hundreds of thousands of wage-workers were idle and in want no products were turned out and no profits shared.

Now that prosperity has been restored and every man willing to work has an opportunity to earn fair wages, paid in good money in return for honest toil, Bryan's attempt to sow discontent for the sake of political glory and office is to be deprecated, if not denounced. If Mr. Bryan really desired to improve the condition of workmen he would desist from advocating policies that would be disastrous to them, as well as to the whole country, and he would rejoice with them at the marked improvement of their condition and the unexampled prosperity they are enjoying.

STILL RANKS COMMERCIAL RIVALRY

While Omaha has doubtless been damaged by the slump in the census exhibit, its rank and importance, as reflected by its bank clearings, will compare favorably with commercial rivals. While Minneapolis and Kansas City have undisputed right of way ahead of Omaha, half a dozen cities of much larger population are behind Omaha in the matter of bank clearings. For example, Rochester, with a population over 200,000, shows bank clearings only one-fourth as large as Omaha. Milwaukee, with a population of 287,000, is more than \$500,000 behind Omaha in its clearings last week. The clearings of St. Paul are \$2,000,000 less than those of Omaha for the week. And Buffalo, with a population of more than 300,000, falls \$1,000,000 short of Omaha's clearings. Denver, with a census population 30,000 more than Omaha, is 45 per cent behind Omaha in the weekly clearings table.

These figures representing the commercial activity of various business centers are scanned closely by investors and capitalists and form one basis of their estimate of the relative commercial importance of cities, and Omaha can well afford to challenge comparison on those lines.

EVADING THE QUESTION

Mr. Bryan has not yet answered the question whether or not, if president, he would direct the payment in silver of obligations payable in coin. In his speech at South Bend, Ind., he said that he had never had one moment's doubt about the correctness of the position taken by the Kansas City platform on the money question and added: "Now I find the republican party declaring the silver question the paramount issue of the campaign and some of them are saying that a democratic president could ruin the country, no matter if he did not have a congress or a senate to agree with him. The republicans have been in power four years and have had unlimited control of legislation, and I cannot believe that they have left the law so that a democratic president could ruin the country in a single month."

This is simply evasion. It does not meet the question as to whether or not Mr. Bryan would attempt to take the country off the gold standard by paying government obligations calling for "coin" in silver. The secretary of the treasury has clearly and conclusively shown that this could be done. He has pointed out what classes of obligations might be paid in silver. Mr. Bryan does not say that he would not pay out silver, at the option of the government for these obligations, but evasively remarks that he cannot believe the republicans left the law "so that a democratic president could ruin the country in a single month." This is quite characteristic of the popocratic candidate.

A Bryanite administration and congress could not ruin the country in a month or a year, but it could do an immeasurable amount of injury. This country cannot be industrially and commercially ruined, yet we know what harm can be done, what disaster can be wrought by democratic policies. Seven years ago there was a democratic administration and congress. The year before it came into power the country enjoyed a high degree of prosperity. The industries were active and labor well employed, a tariff law was enacted which reversed these conditions. It brought about industrial stagnation and created a great army of idle labor. This country was not ruined, but the injury suffered by all interests was beyond computation. Had that not been a sound money administration the disaster would have been infinitely worse.

The Bryanite party stands for both war on the policy of protection to American industries and labor and unsound money. It would reduce the opportunities of labor and pay the wage-earners in depreciated dollars. This would not

quite ruin the country, but it would have results so damaging that a generation would pass before there would be complete recovery from the effects. The question which every man now doing a profitable business and all who have remunerative employment desire an answer to is, whether if Mr. Bryan is elected president he will adopt a course that would destroy financial confidence, unsettle all business, stop enterprises and put a check to prosperity. There is no assurance in what we have quoted above from Mr. Bryan that he would not do this.

THAT ALLEGED ALLIANCE

The fact of the United States and Russia being in practical accord in regard to China is fatal to the Bryanite charge of a secret alliance between England and the United States. The entente between this government and that of the czar is regarded in England with disfavour and distrust. Public feeling there, as voiced in the press, is that of astonishment that the United States should have committed itself to "follow the Russian lead" and of course of doubt as to the sincerity of the promises of Russia. There is no friendly sentiment in England toward Russia and so influential a paper as the London Times declares that neither honor nor the interests of England will permit her to follow Russia's example. This may prove not to be the view of the government, but there can be no doubt that the British cabinet is displeased with the situation, although it may conclude that it is expedient to fall in with the Russian-American proposition, particularly if it should be accepted by France and Japan.

Obviously, if there was a secret alliance or understanding between the United States and England our government would not have joined with Russia in this extremely important matter, in which British interests are involved to perhaps a greater extent than those of any other power, without first consulting England. It would have been bound by such an alliance to ascertain the views of the British government respecting the Russian proposition before taking action. But this was not done. The administration found the Russian position in the main satisfactory, because in essential respects in harmony with the declared policy of the United States, and it promptly assured Russia of this without the slightest consideration as to what the British government might think or desire. In this, as in every other step the administration has taken in regard to existing affairs in China, the course adopted was absolutely independent of British influence.

If any evidence were needed to demonstrate the utter groundlessness of the Bryanite charge of a secret alliance between Great Britain and the United States, certainly none could be more complete and conclusive than is furnished in the correspondence between this government and that of Russia, which has caused so great surprise and chagrin in England as to cause the leading newspapers to urge a combination of European powers in opposition to the Russian-American policy, while the British cabinet hesitates to declare its attitude. Thus another false assumption of the Bryanite party is disposed of, but it is not to be expected that it will make acknowledgment of it. On the contrary, it is safe to say that with its usual unscrupulous disregard of facts and its wanton perversion of every act of the republican administration it will continue to appeal to the prejudice of a portion of the people by alleging an Anglo-American alliance.

Bryan could not resist the temptation to inject politics into his labor day speech at Chicago. Governor Roosevelt, on the other hand, kept clear of everything which could be construed as partisan. The trouble with Bryan is that he has only one remedy for all the ills of life—the Kansas City platform. As the majority of the people refuse to take the prescription, even at cut rate prices, it might be better to try a new nostrum if he wishes to stay in the trade.

Here is a sample heading from the Nebraska popocratic organ: "Kansas Populists—Fifty Thousand of Them Assemble to Hear Bryan Accept the Populist Nomination at Topeka." Further down in the text, however, we find the following: "Bryan's matchless oratory filled the 50,000 listening ears, and 50,000 hands added 25,000 voices in applauding him." Why not apply the sacred ratio of 16 to 1 in expanding the crowds, "For Bryan's sake."

Spainiards in Mexico subscribed liberally to make up the deficiency in Spanish war ships due to the operations of the United States navy. The naval register shows no new ships and now the donors want to know what has become of their money. The democratic collectors for the Boer relief fund might explain how such funds are disposed of under the expense account.

One feature of the musical festival not entirely understood is that which promises the surplus earnings as the nucleus for an auditorium fund. If the prospects for the enterprise hold good this fund ought to start with a neat sum, which would encourage our people to increase it and bring to final consummation the long-planned auditorium.

The United States of Colombia has just finished up the job of suppressing a rebellion of more than usual magnitude and while it has its hand in the fighting game proposes to engage in a limited round contest with Venezuela. Wars are the fate at present and South America cannot afford to be behind at its own game.

The Open Back Door. Philadelphia Ledger. Russia may lead the allies out of China, but it is in a position to slip in again through the back door.

A Pertinent Question. Cleveland Plain Dealer. A writer in an eastern journal remarks that the late Col. P. Huntington was old at 16. He never had any real boyhood in fact. It was all drugging with him to

day of his death. His playtime never came. Probably he wouldn't have known what to do with it had it come. Was the game really worth the candle?

One Prophecy Fulfilled.

Washington Journal. We'll take it all back. Mr. Bryan did make one prediction in 1896 that has been fulfilled. He said: "We intend to stop borrowing money in Europe." And we have.

Wasting Precious Time.

Globe-Democrat. Most of Bryan's speeches will be delivered in the form of a Kansas City platform. His speech at Topeka to the notification committee of the populists he entered into the money question and made plain his preference for the free coinage of silver. He refrained from saying what action Mr. Bryan takes would be that from the day of his inauguration, he would endeavor to "do something for silver." Is there not warrant for the fear that his election itself, months before the day of his induction to office, would precipitate a panic upon a colossal scale?

Mr. Bryan hides his time, declining to avow his policy until he considers the occasion ripe. But no man can doubt what that policy will be.

Conspicuous Mobility.

Washington Post. Kruger has changed his capital again. In this respect he almost equals Aguinaldo's record. The "mobility" of the Boers, of which we heard so much earlier in the war, is again becoming conspicuous, but in another aspect.

Signs of the Last Ditch.

Washington Post. The release of 1,800 British prisoners by the Boers is indisputable evidence that the defeat suffered at Mafeking was serious. But it speaks well for the humanity of the Boers that they release prisoners when they are no longer able to care for them properly.

Lawmaking Overdone.

Boston Globe. An illustrating case of over-legislation, which Secretary Taft emphasized in his letter before the American Bar association in Saratoga, it was stated that there were enacted in 1899 4,834 general and 5,525 local, special or private laws, making a total hardly entitled to be called a grand total. It is a "civilized" as well as a "barbarian" military accomplishment. Forty years ago, when the French and British allies occupied Peking, the vandal looting of the imperial palace scandalized the world and the disgraceful proceeding was wound up with the burning of the summer palace by order of the British commander.

Baltimore Sun. It is a noteworthy fact that during all this wholesale robbery by white soldiers the Japanese, whose adoption of western world methods is of a comparatively recent date, held aloof from the looting. Troops of the Mikado, whose training was largely under European and American officers, watched the disgraceful plundering connived at by men who had been brought up in the very same schools as their preceptors, but their respect for the recognized rules of warfare restrained their greed for loot.

Philadelphia North American. At Peking the same scenes of savagery have been repeated, only in a less degree of ferocity, but not of greed. The dispatches say that millions of taels in silver have been seized as booty by the triumphant allies, although it was announced that arrangements had been made to police the city. "The looting at Peking proceeds industriously and openly," a correspondent writes. He said to the eternal honor of the United States army that while the officers of every other nation ignore the repressive order of the conduct of our soldiers is beyond criticism. Their highest praise is that all the allies ridicule them for their abstention.

Good and Efficient Navy. Let us have a good and efficient navy, as powerful at least as that of Germany, but let us not go daft on war ship construction. And let us be reasonably careful not to get hysterical because the war of 1898 has required a temporary increase of the army. If, however, some of us must get excited on militarism, let us avoid proposing, as an antidote, a career of unlimited naval expansion that would cost billions of dollars and employ a great army of sailors and marines.

Mahomet Goes to the Mountains.

New York Tribune. It was the faith of Mahomet Bryan that the mountain would come to him, and a half acre plain in the vicinity of his domestic perch to give welcome to that expected visitor. But the mountain won't come. Only two or three small delegations have appeared and no more are in sight. Mr. Bryan, therefore, like the prophet of old, will have to turn his back to the unmoving upland—in other words, he will continue and extend his stumping tours up to the election, leaving his home platform unattended. Like his other one, it was built in the eclipse and stands only for a waste of timber.

Evidence of Good Faith.

Philadelphia Ledger. President McKinley's response to the invitation of the peace party to appoint members of an International Board of Arbitration has been to request our two living ex-presidents to accept the first two places in the American membership of such a board. He could not do more. It will be interesting to note that the moving upland—in other words, he will continue and extend his stumping tours up to the election, leaving his home platform unattended. Like his other one, it was built in the eclipse and stands only for a waste of timber.

WAGING WAR IN AFRICA.

Methods of the British in Subjugating the Boers. Washington Post. It is hard to believe, but nevertheless true, that Great Britain has used the same methods of subjugation in Africa which stamp the South African campaign as one of the most ferocious in the annals of war. Unable with 230,000 men to force the 8,000 or 10,000 Boers still remaining to give up their arms, Lord Roberts is putting into effect methods of striking terror which are little short of the savagery of Geronimo and Sitting Bull. The recent shooting of Lieutenant Hans Cordue at Pretoria was a case in point. It was a case of a British officer appearing to have been mere fiction on the part of Roberts' partisans to bolster up his waning popularity. The conception of the police in England, who are so confident of their own infallibility, is an inspiration of insanity and impossible of execution.

A recent Pretoria dispatch in the London Standard says: "The Boers signed a train at Bronkhorst and on the line between Pretoria and Middelburg. Two of its occupants were wounded. In accordance with Lord Roberts' warning, all the farms were fired within a radius of ten miles."

News like this is flashed over the wires with painful frequency. Even some of the less fanatical English papers are growing serious over such acts of barbarism and are asking if there is not some mistake. A couple of Boers fired at a military train, perfectly within their rights as warriors, and every man in the train was killed. The direction is burned to the ground.

This is not civilized war, but the act of an Atilla. And yet this is only a trifle in the chapter of horrors which this remarkable campaign is producing. What follows is not told by the English correspondents, but reaches the outside world through continental European channels—the fact that nearly a thousand helpless women and children have been turned out of house and home by General Roberts' orders and told to leave the country. Many have been the wives and little ones of the deported Boer prisoners, of whom there are 4,000 in St. Helena and 2,000 in Ceylon. Others belong to the patriots still fighting in the ranks of Generals Botha and DeWet. Their security is guaranteed by Roberts in his emanation. Their fate is ten times harder than that of the foreigners who were ordered out of the Transvaal by the British, who at least may return to their native countries. The Boer women and children are to quit their homes on the plea that their care is a hardship to the British army. Where shall they go? Bereft of their protectors, and with their homes falling as loot into the hands of this chivalrous English army of horsemen, they are to quit their faces to the African wilderness or appeal to the generosity of the Kaffir tribes.

Yet there is no evidence of yielding on the part of the Boers. Everything else having failed, Lord Roberts not long ago opened negotiations with Botha and other leaders of the Boer cause—four in all—offering them princely bribes to lay down their arms. Botha was assured of generous treatment if he would surrender. The conditions were that he should receive a pension of £10,000 a year from the British government. Similar propositions were made to others. It is one of the brightest tributes to the patriotism of the Boer leaders that these offers were scornfully rejected.

The Cuban teachers are now viewing Havana in the light of their American experience. Wonderfountain should be made General Buller's permanent headquarters. He is a constant source of surprise to the whole world.

During the sixty years that Judge Keagan of Texas has been in public life he has kept up his farm. He now has a fine ranch of 500 acres near Palestine, Anderson county, to which he will retire when he surrenders his office of railway commissioner.

After deliberation the legal department of a southern railway system has decided that a man in a neat and becoming shirt waist may ride in a coach containing women. At the same time the chairman of the National Association of Fire Insurance Agents at Milwaukee called the meeting to order retired in a careless costume. Thus the great reform forces ahead.

Pudd'nhead Wilson had a theory that every man has his peculiar and individual thumb-mark. This theory is being put to test out in Iowa, where the experts are trying to find out who stole \$29,500 from a package on the road from Chicago to Burlington. The thief left the imprint of his thumb on the package, and every man who is known to have had the package in hand has been required to give an impression of his thumb in wax.

Several descendants of the post Longfellow have been enjoying the hospitality of the Ojibwa Indians away up at Desbarats, Ont. These Indians are descendants of the Sagamores, so pretentiously treated in "Hiawatha." Ming Longfellow, the poet's daughter, has been formally adopted into the tribe. A select corps of chiefs, braves, squaws and papooses gave in presence of the visitors and beneath the primeval trees of Desbarats islands a dramatization of the famous poem. The performers were garbed in burlesque costumes, with headresses of feathers.

SINISTER SILENCE

Philadelphia Ledger. The press reports announce that Mr. Bryan, being asked by an interviewer for his policy on the money question, replied that he would take his own time and method of making known his views. As he has not yet given to the public his formal letter of acceptance of the democratic nomination for the presidency, perhaps he is reserving the enunciation of his policy for that occasion. It is true that Mr. Bryan made a speech at Topeka in Indianapolis, but he contented himself with a discussion of the question of imperialism, and expressly asserted that in a formal letter he would give consideration to the other principles proclaimed in the Kansas City platform.

His speech at Topeka to the notification committee of the populists he entered into the money question and made plain his preference for the free coinage of silver. He refrained from saying what action Mr. Bryan takes would be that from the day of his inauguration, he would endeavor to "do something for silver." Is there not warrant for the fear that his election itself, months before the day of his induction to office, would precipitate a panic upon a colossal scale?

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Chicago Post. It is to be hoped that the reports from Tien Tsin are exaggerated, that the purpose for which the treasury is being plundered is misunderstood. The picture of the soldiers of the allied army giving themselves up to looting and robbery is not an inspiring one, no matter what the circumstances may have been.

Cleveland Plain Dealer. It is not the first lesson the Chinese have had that looting is a "civilized" as well as a "barbarian" military accomplishment. Forty years ago, when the French and British allies occupied Peking, the vandal looting of the imperial palace scandalized the world and the disgraceful proceeding was wound up with the burning of the summer palace by order of the British commander.

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RUSSIA'S PEACE PROPOSALS. Detroit Free Press. There is nothing else so dangerous in connection with the Chinese situation as the jealousies and suspicious animosities of congress in the premises, yet where a trust is not actually engaged in the carrying of interstate or foreign commerce it has not been reached under this law. The Sugar trust, the Kansas City Live Stock exchange, the Addison Pipe company and other trusts are being placed under the ordeal of this law and come through without a mark.

So far as anything has been done to down the obnoxious combinations it has been accomplished by indirect means and in a little better than an uniform verdict that cannot be enforced. Uniform legislation of the most stringent character can alone make any headway against the combines and they carefully see to it that there be no such uniformity.

Chicago Chronicle. As nearly as can be made out the crafty Muscovite, having snatched up the entire district of Manchuria, is now anxiously willing that everybody should withdraw from Peking. It is scarcely to be wondered at that this proposition excites great indignation from der kaiser, whose operations in the vicinity of Kiao Choo, though they promise favorably, are by no means near completion. But it is a sad, selfish world.

New York Tribune. It is well to bear in mind, moreover, that while the publication of this proposal may come as a surprise to many, the text of the memorandum shows clearly that it is not the result of sudden impulse, but of deliberate judgment, and that, moreover, it is intended to be acted upon, if at all, with the agreement and cooperation of the other powers, and only at such time as may be deemed expedient by those best qualified to judge of that matter. It is emphatically no order to scuttle.

Washington Post. The record of the United States in connection with the Chinese crisis can only be viewed with pride. We have played our part well in the Orient. In the march upon Peking and the rescue of the beleaguered Americans our little army, under the leadership of General Buller, has upheld the country's glory. More than this, the handling of delicate international questions involved in the invasion has thus far reflected the highest credit upon the nation. American diplomacy has been conducted with admirable tact and skill. It has been signally successful. We may, therefore, reasonably put an abiding faith in the wisdom of the negotiations now under way.

PERSONAL POINTERS. The Cuban teachers are now viewing Havana in the light of their American experience. Wonderfountain should be made General Buller's permanent headquarters. He is a constant source of surprise to the whole world.

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LABOR AND INDUSTRY.

"Chinese labor unions exist not only in New York, Chicago and other large cities, but also throughout the Pacific states, and are especially strong in California. The union among mechanics, shoemakers, clothing makers and laundrymen."

General Secretary McKimble of the Brotherhood of Carpenters, in his last report shows that the organization has a membership of 425. The eight-day day is established in 35 cities and towns and the nine-hour day is being secured in 100 cities. The Brotherhood gained 15,000 members in 1899 and now has 48 local unions.

The executive council of the American Federation of Labor has instructed President Tompkins to communicate with the Ohio and Pennsylvania State Federations of Labor, asking them to appoint committees to meet some time before the second Monday in October, to adjudicate the controversy over typewriter machine tenders.

The Pittsburg Telegram, in discussing the question of labor-saving machinery, notes that labor-saving machinery costs from \$150 for a given quantity to \$1. In putting paper the old-time system cost \$100 for what can be done for 50 cents. In boot and shoe making for the cost in \$25 for turning out a certain amount of work with machinery that cost \$50 under the old system. In bread baking one-third of the time is spent in doing the work on an average, that was formerly required by hand labor.

Including the mills now in process of erection, there is invested in the pulp and paper industry in Maine about \$20,000,000. Six thousand hands are now employed, with a payroll for labor of \$1,000,000 a day. Next year the number of hands will be 7,000 and the payroll \$1,700,000 a day. The logs consumed this year will cost \$2,000,000 and the product will be worth \$10,000,000. More than \$3,000,000 worth of logs will be needed and they will be turned into pulp and paper worth \$10,000,000.

Rev. Charles M. Sheldon of Topeka, Kan., was interviewed while in England by an American amount of work with machinery. Among other things he said: "I have never seen a man who has built a house in America, where I live, as it did eight years ago. Why? Not because building is more expensive, but because the timber and stone and iron and mortar are any less common than they used to be, but simply because the machinery has improved. Sixteen years ago I saw a man who had built a house in America, where I live, as it did eight years ago. Why? Not because building is more expensive, but because the timber and stone and iron and mortar are any less common than they used to be, but simply because the machinery has improved. Sixteen years ago I saw a man who had built a house in America, where I live, as it did eight years ago. Why? 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