

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

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Total, 34,605. Less unsold and returned copies, 10,302. Net daily average, 24,303. Net total sales, \$28,941.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of December, A. D. 1900. M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

If the wind is any indication, the ice-man's day to jubilate is not far off.

Bills for the punishment of kidnappers should have attached to them plans and specifications for catching the guilty parties.

The duke of Cornwall merely has the German measles, while all the rest of England is suffering from an attack of German mania.

A Massachusetts dog has been butchered which had a clock in her stomach. She had long been noted for being on time to her meals.

The tin can manufacturers have formed a combine and it will probably cost more to decorate your neighbor's dog than heretofore.

In Boston a saloon-smashing female merely landed in the house of correction. They still do some things better in Boston than in Topeka.

From the number of senatorial pipe dreams sent out from Lincoln it is evident that the Chinaman is not the only slave to the seductive poppy.

If Mrs. Nation could gather all her imitators together in Kansas she would have an army indeed. But her followers are happily well scattered all present.

Women are falling into the strenuous life idea rapidly these days. The latest outbreak is in Michigan. If the infection spreads much more the men will be forced to be good.

When fusionists fall to and pummel each other over the distribution of the spoils, citizens who pay the taxes are apt to question the sanity of doing things for Bryan's sake.

It is very hard to pry a popocrat loose from a public place. Witness the tenacity with which one Omsted hung on to the place for which he had long since demonstrated his unfitness.

It is sincerely to be hoped that no more of the English royal family will die before Poet Laureate Austin has passed to the great beyond or retired. One affliction at a time is enough.

Joplin has temporarily abandoned the making of millionaires out of zinc to join in the Crowe hunt. The mining industry of the Missouri town may be less attractive, but is certainly more profitable than chasing the elusive Pat.

Queen Victoria furnished many a spectacular procession through London, but none it seems will equal the last parade in honor of the dead queen. There is an unsounded depth of pathos in the coldly commercial figures that are quoted as prices for seats along the route to the tomb.

The Chinese are reported to be quietly arming. When the work has been accomplished the powers will probably swoop down on them and confiscate the arms. If the Chinese desire to have any guns left when the foreigners leave the country they would better keep them in hiding.

With the gathering of so many royal and semi-royal personages in London to attend the funeral of the late Queen Victoria, it is terrible to contemplate what the consequences would be if some of them should not be accorded exactly the proper place in the procession which their rank entitles them to.

One member of the Commercial club directory makes a good point in calling attention to the fact that the gentleman who has made the most noise about the tax levy is not the real mouthpiece of the organization. His wild desire to vicariously defy the courts through the city council is not supported by the Commercial club.

Watson, the English yacht designer, thinks he has discovered the reason America has always beaten that country in the cup races. The new challenger has the bulk of the hull much further forward than any of its predecessors. Heretofore the bulk of the English hulls have always been about three miles too far in the rear.

THE CUBAN CONSTITUTION.

The Cuban constitutional convention has done well in providing for universal suffrage. There was some apprehension that the Spanish element in the island would be discriminated against and that those who participated in the revolution would be specially favored. This was urged by a portion of the politicians, but a majority of the convention are dominated by the true republican principle, so far at least as the suffrage is concerned. The only discrimination in favor of the revolutionists is in the interest of General Gomez, whose great services to Cuba certainly entitle him to such consideration.

The qualifications for president are citizenship by birth or naturalization and if obtained by the latter, service in the Cuban army in the wars for independence for at least ten years. This will make Gomez, who is a native of San Domingo, eligible for the presidency and it is generally thought that he will be the first chief executive of the new republic. The president of Cuba will have greater power than the president of the United States, the government provided for being more centralized. However, the power of the president to suspend the laws and the departmental and municipal governments is strictly limited, while the congress is given ample means of checking any usurpation of power by the executive.

In regard to the debts to be assumed by the new government, it is provided that they shall be only such as were incurred in aid of the revolution from February, 1895. Whether or not it is intended to include the obligations incurred in behalf of the island by the United States military government does not appear, but the constitution framers have given fair warning to all the holders of Spanish securities issued in prosecuting war in Cuba that they can expect nothing from the new republic. They must look to Spain for the payment of these obligations, which it is hardly necessary to say means that the money paid for the securities is lost.

The constitution contains no reference to the relations hereafter to exist between the Cuban republic and the United States, notwithstanding the fact that in the order from Washington for the election and organization of the constitutional convention it was specifically stated that the convention should provide in the constitution for the relations to exist between the government of the United States and the government of Cuba. The proposition to do this met with little support in the convention, the majority holding that the question of the relations to exist between Cuba and this country was not a proper matter to be embraced in the constitution, but should be left for determination until the new government was organized. It remains to be seen what view our government will take of this when the Cuban constitution is submitted to it.

There is favorable promise that the Cuban constitution will be ready for submission to the president and congress before the close of the session. In that event the projected republic may very soon take a place among the independent states.

JUVENILE CRIME AND EDUCATION.

One case in police court recently suggests an opening for reform along certain lines of educational work. It was developed in the trial that boys who were under arrest for stealing brass and copper from railroads and other places were encouraged in their pilfering by an itinerant dealer in junk, who for some reason is not yet apprehended. It is not so much with the fact that the boys are guilty of theft as with the conditions under which they are allowed to become the tools of men who lead them into crime that the public is interested.

Compulsory education does not seem to meet the question. It is given as the result of experience by Omaha teachers that a large per cent of children attending the public schools apparently reach the limit of their capacity for absorbing mere text book information at about the sixth grade, and that many of them drop out of school either at that point or soon after. What they suggest as a remedy is that some plan be devised whereby these children, whose faculties seem to be limited in one direction, be interested in another, to the end that they may be given an education that will be useful. The plan toward which this thought most readily tends is that of manual training. It is argued that if the physical faculties of the boy or girl can be engaged when the mental faculties seem to have become saturated, that the real nature of the child will be aroused and the foundation for usefulness in society will be laid. These children seldom reach the high schools; therefore manual training or education along similar lines must be of lower down in the grade list to be of any benefit to them. Two at least of Omaha's grade schools were designed to have such departments to meet these cases, but so far no attempt has been made to put them into operation.

Omaha is no worse off than any other large city in this respect, but that is no reason why an effort should not be made to stop crime by cutting off the supply of young criminals.

SPANISH WAR CLAIMS.

By the seventh article of the treaty of peace between the United States and Spain this government agreed to adjudicate and settle all claims of citizens of the United States against Spain. From a statement made in the house a few days ago by Representative Haugen of Iowa, who is a member of the war claims committee, it appears that already 320 claims have been filed in the State department, amounting in the aggregate to \$38,000,000. Mr. Haugen said he was advised that a single firm in the city of Washington holds claims aggregating upward of \$50,000,000. It thus appears probable that when all the claims are filed they will amount to at least \$100,000,000.

How many of these claims are just can only be determined by a careful investigation. Representative Under-

wood of Alabama expressed the opinion that hundreds of them are fraudulent and he was very likely correct. At all events congress should make provision for having them most thoroughly investigated and how this can best be done is the question. At the last session of congress a bill was reported to the house providing for the appointment by the president of a commission to receive, examine and adjudicate all claims of citizens of the United States against Spain, in accordance with the seventh article of the treaty of peace. This measure was not favorably regarded and was sent back to the committee on war claims, with instructions to report a bill providing that the court of claims shall have jurisdiction.

The difficulty is that the court of claims has before it enough work to occupy its most diligent attention for several years. Mr. Haugen said: "On December 1, 1899, there were 440 trial cases and 240 law cases on the calendar of the court, and for December 1 of last year the number was 1,144 trial cases and 394 law cases. The business of that court, according to the calendar, has increased nearly 50 per cent." In view of this Mr. Haugen thought that to refer these new claims to the court of claims would be nothing less than repudiation. On the other hand there is the objection to a commission that it would be expensive, but if it is necessary in order that American citizens having just claims may have them adjudicated within a reasonable time the question of expense should not be seriously considered. The government has not a very creditable record in the matter of settling claims and it should not make the record worse than it is.

Unquestionably the court of claims is the proper tribunal to adjudicate these Spanish war claims. But in any event the people want these claims subjected to the most thorough investigation, so that the government shall be called upon to pay only such of them as are meritorious and just. The framers of the new Cuban constitution have adopted the provision for universal suffrage and so hedged about the provision for the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus that the rights of all appear to be well protected so far as the organic law of the land is concerned. If the government is finally inaugurated in the island on the lines laid down and good government is not the result will simply be because the Cuban people are incapable of governing themselves. The United States has guaranteed the people a fair start and they are rapidly approaching the point where they must work out their own destiny.

West Point isn't the only place. A student in an Illinois college had an eye knocked out by a jovial fellow classman who thought the victim too attentive to his studies, while down in Ohio two enthusiasts who happened to differ on some point of college administration proceeded to pummel each other during the chapel hour, while their partisans cheered them on, to the great scandal and discomfiture of the chaplain. Cannot Mr. Driggs for a moment pause and turn his torrential stream of adjectives toward these offenders? Young soldiers are not so much worse than young civilians.

English society people are already beginning to speculate upon the effect of the ascension of a new ruler. They are fondly hoping that the daylight receptions, which the age of the late queen made necessary, will be discontinued and the more brilliant evening functions substituted. The new king may make some changes in the social realm, but the smart set is likely to discover that just at present the official head of the country has many more weighty things to occupy his attention.

Utah is still paying the penalty for being headquarters of the Mormon church. It easily serves as a target for members of congress who may seek to gain a little publicity for themselves by firing at the Mormon church. If the Edmunds law has not been effective in stamping out polygamy it is not likely that cutting off the appropriation for an agricultural college will do much good. The Mormons as a rule learn agriculture on the farm.

Indiana courts have set an example in dealing with men who sell their votes which other states might do well to follow. A large number of men have been arrested on that charge and those convicted have been disfranchised for terms ranging from ten to twenty years. If the work is kept up the crop of purchasable votes is likely to be decidedly small in a few years.

A Distinct Advantage.

Washington Post. Pat Crowe has one great advantage over Crazy Snake. The former is being pursued by detectives.

Last but Not Least.

Chicago Record. In spite of all that has been said, Senator Towne's last act very likely was to draw his pay.

Beating the Mourners.

Detroit Journal. Another proof of the generosity of the Boers is furnished by their not having captured anybody but John Bull since the death of the British queen.

Warm Welcome Home.

Philadelphia Chronicle. We learn with pleasure that Mr. Patrick Crowe, late of Omaha, is unobtrusively quartered in a secluded section of our busy little city waiting for the clouds to roll by. We welcome Mr. Crowe as a distinguished visitor.

Kindness Better Than Shot.

Philadelphia Chronicle. The news that thousands of people have died, while thousands more are on the brink of death, by starvation in a single province of China does not seem to stir the sympathy of the nations as similar news from India did not long ago. Even the nations represented in the political complications there, while very properly insisting that the government shall make no discrimination between Christians and anti-Christians in its aid and those who are hereafter to be made any effort to furnish relief themselves. Yet so called a splendid opportunity for the exercise

Christian nations to practice Christianity. A few tons of rice distributed where they were needed would have saved thousands of people from death. It would do a great deal more to instill respect for Christian principles than many tons of shot and shell, especially when distributed by such agents as have been delivering them during the recent disturbances.

The Broomstick as a Bluffer.

Chicago Chronicle. A bluffer has been dodging from sticks wielded by wives, and now comes Mrs. Carrie Nation laughing at a laboring with that heretofore formidable weapon in the hands of a fellow woman, and exclaiming: "What does a broomstick amount to?" It would appear that man has all this time been but the craven victim of a domestic bluff.

The Nation Overlooked.

Buffalo Express. One of the overlooked clauses of the new army law gives the president authority to call the militia into the service without the consent of congress, but congress granted this power by inadvertence, it was a most fortunate oversight. What could be more silly than a system which requires a special act of congress to decide whether soldiers shall be allowed to eat beans or rice?

Working a Cuban Grant.

Philadelphia Ledger. The people who are determining to have congress endorse payment of the Cuban war bonds issued by Spain set a low estimate on congressional integrity. For congress to do anything toward coercing Cuba into payment for those bonds would be an act of the grossest ingratitude. The promoters of the project probably argue that money will do a great deal in a skillful lobby, and \$450,000,000 is a prize worth striving for.

Talking Back at the Barbers.

Portland Oregonian. Barbers dislike working 365 days in the year. Nobody likes them. They dislike working 365 days in the year. Nobody likes them. They dislike working 365 days in the year. Nobody likes them. They dislike working 365 days in the year. Nobody likes them.

Election Contest Threatened.

Minneapolis Times. His imperial majesty Edward VII is not secure in his title. Advice from Boston is to the effect that the "Order of the British Empire" and the "Order of the League of Great Britain and Ireland" do not recognize his succession, claiming that the rightful heir to the throne is Princess Mary of Bavaria, who should be consecrated and crowned as Mary IV of Great Britain and Ireland. The news, we fear, was called to Edward. It should have been broken more gently, possibly in a neat letter from the queen of the Holland Dames society Lavina and resident for the nonce in New York.

NERVE OF THE CHINESE.

Instigations that the Allies of Civilization Are Burglars.

Philadelphia Times. The Chinese have had the impudence to suggest that the treasure which the forces of civilization have looted and carried off and reckoned in abatement of the indemnity demanded. The foreign ministers reject this proposition with contempt. The powers, they say, have been at the cost of sending their burglar a long distance and they must have their expense paid. They do regard to the profits of the burglary. Otherwise they will take anything there may be left and keep possession of the house as further security.

The mistake of the Chinese has been all along in supposing that they had any rights in China. The great powers are not even agreed that the Chinese have a right to live, though they all agree that they have no right to keep anything that the foreigners want. Those of them who have attempted to defend their homes, and were not killed in the attempt, must be put to death or otherwise punished now, and the rest must give up their property and crawl in the dust at the feet of the Europeans. On those conditions the beneficent powers will allow the Chinese emperor to return to his capital, of which, however, they will retain the military control.

Having already agreed to do all that the Chinese could possibly expect, they were politely asked to be informed what the powers are going to leave off killing and looting. The German minister, we are told, "disapproves of the tone and contents of the Chinese notes; they have no business to suggest that the powers should be ordered to defend their homes; the only chance for them is in the fact that the ministers are afraid of one another, and as they cannot agree upon the division of the spoils they may be compelled eventually to leave something in China to the Chinese; it will be only what they cannot get away with."

RECOGNITION OF THE MULE.

Popularity and Achievements of the Great American Cracker Jack.

That the American mule has succeeded in kicking his way into international recognition through his value as an integral part of war equipment is not surprising to those who have had any acquaintance at all with his remarkable powers of aggression, without his indomitable ability to have his own way, but the progress which this recognition has made since the breaking out of the Boer war has gone a little farther than most of us had dared to expect. It has gone so far as to call for official recognition at Washington, where a bulletin has been issued covering the statistics of the mule in the United States and showing how rapid has been the growth of the value of and demand for this animal in the last few years. Memphis, which was at one time the great mule city of the United States, has been compelled to surrender the title to Louisville. The city of Philadelphia makes her New York and Chicago, but New Orleans comes very near to getting into the Louisville and Memphis class by returning a mule census of 3,400. Fairbanks of the Indian Territory is reported to have a mule population of 1,000—exclusive of the democratic politicians, who are stubborn enough to persist in their effort to blind the people to the true reason of their movement for the calling of an extra session of the legislature.

The total value of American mules exported to foreign countries in 1899 was \$16,000, while the figures for 1900 show a total value of \$3,919,000—an increase of 24,600 per cent. The demand for mules for use by the field forces of the British army in the Transvaal campaign and elsewhere in the service of foreign troops. He is trusted by foreign military experts for his hardihood, relied upon for his steadiness of habit and exalted moral and physical endurance. It is quite plain to be seen from the tenor of the reports about him that he has been much better treated abroad than at home. There has been no occasion to discard him because of the unusual activity of his heels, nor has his voice raised in plaintive monotonous at the break of dawn and the shutting down of eve, betrayed the position of his army to the enemy. He has been a constant source of a troubled session and a nightmare thing. This growing respect for the mule abroad must naturally inspire increasing respect for him at home. He is worth more any day than the average horse and those who hereafter to be made any effort to furnish themselves vulnerable to the charge of lack of education.

HOW HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF.

Lost of Power and Obstinacy the Peccol of Britons.

Leslie's Weekly. Has England learned anything from adversity? This query will arise as a consequence of Premier Salisbury's ostentatious refusal to offer the Boers anything better than an immediate and unconditional surrender. The tone of the head of the British ministry of 1900 will recall that of his predecessor of 1778. Lord Salisbury's Africa have a striking resemblance in tone and tenor to those of Lord North a century and a quarter ago. Will the ultimate outcome be the same now as it was then? This latter question finds a point and a significance in the recent victories which the Boers have been gaining over the British, notwithstanding the fact that the British go, have won some battles.

Samuel Adams, Patrick Henry and a coterie in Boston, Williamsburg (then the capital of Virginia) and a few other places wanted separation from Great Britain from the days of the stamp act, back in 1765. Washington, Franklin, John Adams and most of the other colonists, however, were against separation, even when Lexington put the patriots in arms. All that Washington and the majority of his compatriots sought at the outset was the restoration of the rights of Englishmen. The language of Queen Victoria's first minister of today recalls the temper which governed England's rulers in that age of madness and stupidity in the first half of her grandfather's reign. Probably the Boers will be bludgeoned in the end, but the war which some of the British generals predicted would close in three months has now been under way fifteen months, and the termination is not in sight. An expenditure of \$100,000,000 has been expended and the war is not yet over. The present outlook is that the expenditure will reach \$600,000,000. Meanwhile the British have recently suffered several defeats more sweeping and disastrous than they have met since Montevideo, the capture of Gibraltar at Ticonderoga in 1783, or since Washington and Yorktown overwhelmed Cornwallis at Rochambeau in 1781.

Perhaps separation and independence by the Americans would have come ultimately, even if there had been an Alfred and a Gladstone in the places of George III and Lord North, for the interests and aspirations of the Americans would necessarily diverge farther and farther from those of the British as time passed. It is significant, however, that British writers and statesmen of today ascribe the separation to the blindness and obstinacy of the king and his prime minister. The London Times, on the day after the centennial celebration of the battle of Lexington, in 1875, declared that if the British empire of 1775 had remained intact until then its capital would be in New York or some other point in America, and the Times on that account rejoiced in the separation. Ex-Premier Disraeli, a few weeks ago, who regrets the separation, drew a glowing picture of the transfer of the British empire's capital to this side of the Atlantic, which would have taken place long before this time if the disruption had not come.

England and its American subjects would be a preponderance in population, resources and power that they would be the arbiter of the world's destinies. Let England's statesmen of today beware lest in their blindness and obstinacy they ultimately create a United States of Africa.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Emperor William has officially confirmed the honorary doctorate recently conferred upon United States Ambassador White by the Berlin Academy of Science. The fight between Kentucky moonshiners and United States revenue officers was about as disastrous to the revenue as the average South African war. People who own corner lots in the town of Parsons, Pa., are not in a "booming" mood just now. Parsons stands over a coal mine and the coal mine shows signs of caving in.

William Smith, who died at North Attleboro, Mass., the other day, was quartermaster of the Keosauqua in the war of the rebellion and had charge of the pivot gun that sealed the fate of the Alabama. The "goatee" or diminutive chin whisker, shows signs of coming into favor among the population of Long Island, owing to the popularity of L. Roberts, who has for many years worn this braute decoration.

A little more than \$16,000 has already been contributed for the proposed memorial in Boston of the late Governor Roger Wolcott. Most of the contributions are in small amounts and children seem to be eager to aid.

Vice Admiral Barrera, maritime prefect of Brest, has reached the age limit and retired from the French navy. He is one of the few Frenchmen knighted by an English monarch. Vice Admiral Barrera, knighted him for his services at the wreck of the Drummond Castle.

Probably the most conservative institution outside of China is the British museum. Although it is seventy years since the quill pen yielded to the age of steel, the museum authorities persist in supplying quills, which are invariably broken when there is occasion for using them.

John D. Rockefeller goes through the same routine every day at noon in regard to his lunch. He enters the little restaurant absent-mindedly, takes with a start when the waiter approaches him, hesitates over his order and then always calls for a ham sandwich and a glass of milk.

Political gossip in Washington are already beginning to consider Republican presidential possibilities for 1904. Senator Fairbanks of Indiana, Vice President-elect Roosevelt were the two men most frequently mentioned, the Indiana man having a slight lead. Four years from now Mr. Fairbanks will be in his 53d year.

The Peabody institute of Peabody, Mass., has a picture of the late Queen Victoria which the queen gave to George Peabody in recognition of his great philanthropy. It is a half-length miniature, framed in gold, is valued at \$50,000 and is inscribed: "Presented by the queen to George Peabody, benefactor of the poor, 1850."

Much has lately been written of Edward VII's connection with certain leading Jewish families of London. In 1881 he was the first member of an English royal family to attend a Jewish wedding. This was at the Central synagogue when Leopold de Rothschild married Miss Marie Perigle. He also witnessed the marriage contract together with Baron Alphonse de Rothschild.

Major General O'Grady Haly of London, who went to Canada a few months ago to command of the Canadian militia, has come to Loggerheads with a portion of the people of the Dominion. The general was asked to lend a military band for a political meeting in Quebec, but declined on the ground that the meeting was of a partisan character. In consequence the press of the party he offended has made a vigorous attack upon him.

A Solar Plethora Blow.

New York Tribune. It is a hard lesson which the supreme court teaches Chicago in deciding that this city has no natural right to inflict its sewage on the rest of the country.

ETCHINGS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Scenes and Incidents Around the Hub of National Politics.

The swan song of thirty-day Senator Towne of Minnesota, delivered last Monday, contained 20,000 words, and cost the United States \$1,000. A computation made by a correspondent of the New York Herald shows that Towne's salary as senator amounted to \$312. His mileage from Duluth to Washington, delivered last Monday, amounted to \$258, so he will draw about \$1,000 for filling Cushman K. Davis' seat for fifty-six days. His speech today contained 20,000 words. Thus Towne has been paid by the United States just 5 cents a word for his speech. Towne had prepared another speech, but did not deliver it, so it will not count in the calculation. The suppressed speech attacked the entire policy of the republican party, trusts, ship subsidy, finances and imperialism, but the party leaders induced Towne to devote his speech entirely to the Philippines.

Events in the life of Senator Towne of Minnesota have within the last year or so crowded this and fast upon each other. He says the Washington Times: His nomination by the populist party for vice president during the recent campaign was an exceedingly high honor for so young a man, and there was "a little twinkle in his eye" that day or two when he mounted the steps and took up the vice presidential gavel, which was handed over to him temporarily by Senator Frye.

Senator Mason took in the situation with keen delight. Senator Allen was speaking at the time, but he cut in at the earliest opportunity. Senator Mason said to Towne a little note, saying: "You stuns are many. The punishment fits the crime."

Senator Towne replied with the following note: "I don't know about the punishment, but the crime, but think of me breaking a record. One term in the house, one month in the senate, and one hour in the vice presidential chair."

The Washington Star suggests that it is a good thing that the river and harbor bill comes up during the rainy season, when the water courses for whose improvement appropriations have been made can be clearly traced. This recalls the reply of General Grant, when a southern congressman came to him and inquired if he would approve a bill for the improvement of a certain river in his state.

"Let me see," said Grant, "didn't I cross that stream in the campaign of '61?" The congressman, who had served the confederacy, remembered very well that he did, and said so.

"Well, then," said the president, "I will approve that bill on one condition." "What is it?" asked the congressman, anxiously.

"It is," answered Grant, "that you will amend the bill so as to provide that the stream be macadamized."

"Ever since 1869," writes a correspondent of the Chicago Tribune, "Captain A. D. Loeffler has opened the door for every public man and for every applicant for office who has called on the president at the White House. All these years he has stood guard at the little door which opens into the president's room, and he is said to know by sight more prominent people of the last thirty-five years than any other living man. Captain Loeffler moved during the civil war in the cavalry branch of the army, but has always been on the payroll of the War department. The other day he was placed on the retired list of the army, but he will still hold his place at the door. He opened the door for Garfield, Hayes and McKinley, when each of the three was in turn a congressman from Ohio. He opened the door later when each of them was president and others came to pay calls."

Wouldn't it be remarkable if Mrs. Carrie Nation came to Washington on February 22 to smash the saloons in the capitol? "I heard a very interesting conversation as I came down town to the street car this morning," said Representative Stark of Nebraska, to a Washington Post reporter. "I sat behind two women who were wearing the badge of the Woman's Christian Temperance union. They were discussing the feasibility of raising a subscription for the purpose of bringing Mrs. Nation to Washington, and having her attack the restaurants in the capitol. They said that they did not know whether she would come here or not, but thought that the effort ought to be made, as it would focus national attention upon the selling of liquors in the capitol. They mentioned Washington's birthplace as the appropriate place for the saloon smashing event. I am going to await further developments with great interest."

It is seldom that anyone who is not entitled to the privilege of the floor of the senate manages to slip by the keen-eyed doorkeepers who guard the entrances, reports the Washington Times. Their watchfulness, however, has not prevented the book agent at that. The feat was accomplished through a combination of unlimited assurance and prosperous appearance.

How half an hour before the opening of the day's session a middle-aged man, who in small amounts and children seem to be eager to aid. Vice Admiral Barrera, maritime prefect of Brest, has reached the age limit and retired from the French navy. He is one of the few Frenchmen knighted by an English monarch. Vice Admiral Barrera, knighted him for his services at the wreck of the Drummond Castle.

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BUDGETS OF BIG NATIONS.

Expansion in Expenditures of the Leading Governments.

It is interesting to speculate on what the annual expenditures of the leading civilized nations will be at the end or even at the middle of the present century if they keep on increasing at the pace set by the nineteenth century.

Great Britain's imperial government is now spending money, not including Boer war expenses, at the rate of over \$500,000,000 a year. That is an increase of 400 per cent for the last century and of 84 per cent since 1871.

France under the great Napoleon and when he was carrying on his stupendous wars was spending a total of \$225,000,000 a year. For 1900 its expenditures, in a time of peace, were almost four times as great. Its population has increased less than 30 per cent since 1815, while its annual budget has increased 400 per cent.

The German empire, created only thirty-one years ago, has nearly trebled the total of its annual expenditures in that short of time. In 1900 they footed up nearly \$