THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to efore me this 30th day of November, A. D. M. B. HUNGATE, (Seal.) Notary Public. (Seal.) The wheels of congress are once more grinding.

Speaker Henderson will continue the role of the man behind the gavel.

That Iowa legislature may be behind congress in starting, but it will not lose much time in catching up.

It is settled that the chief deputy oil inspector of Nebraska is to be the new postmaster at Lincoln. Now, who wants to be chief deputy oil inspector? Don't all speak at once.

were destroyed public records of great size of the surplus. As to this Speaker value. Several Denver people wish the Henderson said: "The American peofire could destroy all of the public records made in the city hall.

in the newspapers that an investigation served at all times without reference of his accounts was impending. They do not do it that way in Nebraska.

If it is only a question of more money to complete the new federal building in a manner that comports with its architectural design, the Nebraska delegation to congress should not be backward in asking for it.

No matter what President Roosevelt may say in his forthcoming message the opposition orators and organs may be safely depended on to find enough of It.

Unseasonable weather seems to be playing havoe with the bank clearings to the papers a clear-cut statement of in all the large cities of the country, al- the conditions prompting the step. The though the totals are still good reflexes fall in the thermometer to produce a rise in the business barometer.

The German Reichstag has declined to enact a prohibition upon transatlantic steamers from commencing their journeys on Sunday. As the voyage takes at least seven days for most of the vessels, what difference would it make whether the Sunday is consumed at the beginning or the end of the trip?

The effort to have the democratic cougressional cancus adopt a program for legislative action fell by the wayside because it was construed to be a repudiation of the Kausas City platform. As the people repudiated the Kansas City platform at the election, why should democrats in congress be so solicitous about clinging to dead issues?

Our Dave was in such a hurry on the home stretch of his globe-girdling junket that he did not have time to stop off in Omaha even between trains. Knowing the embarrassment congress would have had to endure had it been called to order without his presence, his constituents here will do their best to bear up gracefully under the disappointment.

Chicago and St. Louis chemists who have been carrying away chunks of water served to Omaha by the Missouri for use in demonstrating the degree of pollution by the time the stream reaches its outlet into the Mississippi are welcome to all the samples they need. If amply supplied with for the benefit of its guests it is the water freely furnished by the far-famed Missouri.

The Associated Press seems to furnish a most attractive target for popocratic politics-expounders to practice on. that the efforts to use it for the manufacture of political capital for the popocrats have not met with the success where the conditions are such that by

that they had hoped.

THE FIFTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

The first session of the Fifty-seventh organization of the house of representatives will be the same as in the last congress and there will probably be no important change in the committees. The rules that have been in operation will continue with some slight modification, so that the business of the house will be absolutely in control of the majority and not subject to unnecessary able delays. The organization of the senate will also continue as in the last congress.

The session promises to be a very caucus, the duties before this congress rests upon the party in power and the way in which it meets this responsiterest and attention of the people. Quest is worthy of serious consideration. tions of momentous importance to the country's future are to be considered and determined. Among these are the construction of an isthmian canal, the Pacific cable, reduction of revenue by anti-anarchist legislation, interstate zation of reform? commerce, creation of a department of commerce, trade relations with Cuba, admission of territories to statehood, legislation for the insular possessions, public domain. An effort will be made to have duties on certain articles made by the trusts removed or reduced, but as now indicated this will not be suc cessful, leading republicans in both the house and senate believing that such a the effect to open up the question of general tariff revision and thus cause more or less serious disturbance to the business of the country. It is improb-

of gold coin for standard silver dollars. No congress in the past decade has met with a larger amount of public business prepared for immediate consion a number of important bills which will be renewed and which need hardly occupy the house for more than a few days in debate. Of these such measures as the Nicaragua canal bill, the Pacific cable bill and even the river and barbor bill, may be considered as perfected measures. The great danger that confronts congress, as pointed out by Speaker Henderson, is the treasury surplus, which is steadily growing. This is a very strong invitation to extravagance and some consicssmen have shown a disposition to measure appro-In the burning of Denver's city hall priations by the present and prospective ple do not expect any niggardliness in the treatment of the matters they require. I do not counsel that, but I of every question which should be ob to the \$100,000,000 that we are soon to

> The summary action of President Roosevelt in naming a new governor of Oklahoma to take the place of the former incumbent, who had been hopelessly involved in an official scandal, is striking evidence of the president's determination not to tolerate dishonesty in any form in any branch of the federal service.

have.

The president in this instance has not in it to keep them busy attempting to been content merely to impose the penmanufacture political ammunition out alty of misconduct on the offender and by the express companies, who would cover up the delinquency by making accepted resignation, but has attached expected. facts seem to be undisputed that the of prevailing prosperity. It requires a displaced governor had exercised his power to contract for the care of the territorial insane wards to reward political proteges by the free distribution of stock in the favored corporation. President Roosevelt concludes his notation with this forcible and pointed

> language: The governor's confessed relations to the matter disclose such an entire lack of appreciation of the high fiduciary nature of the duties of his office as to unfit him for their further discharge. A sound rule of public policy and morals forbids a public servant from seeking or accepting any personal benefit in a transaction wherein he has a public duty to perform. A chancellor would not for one moment retain a trustee who, in dealing for the trust, reserved an advantage to himself. thought is not to be tolerated that the president can be less vigilant and exacting

> in the public interest. With a president setting up for himself and his subordinates this high standard of official conduct and public morals, there need be felt no apprehensions of degeneracy in the public service so far as the officers are responsible and accountable to him.

MARE INDIANS SELF-SUPPORTING.

The commissioner of Indian affairs, in his annual report, earnestly advocates a policy for making Indians selfsupporting. He urges that it is time to make a move toward terminating the guardianship which has so long been exercised over the Indians and putting them upon equal footing with the white man so far as their relations with the there is any one thing that Omaha is government are concerned, "Under the present system," says Commissioner Jones, "the Indian ward never attains his majority. The guardianship goes on in an unbroken line from father to son nish Nebraska with a governor, but it and generation after generation the Iudian lives and dies a ward." He thinks governor of Nebraska with a private the Indian should be given opportunity secretary. While the Associated Press may be for self-support and afforded the same open to criticism, the charge that it is protection of his person and property a part of the republican political ma- as is given to others. That being done, chine will hardly hold water. The says the commissioner, he should be grievance of our popocratic friends is thrown entirely upon his own resources not so much that it is being used as to become a useful member of the coma political agency by republicans, but munity in which he lives, or not, ac cording as he exerts himself or fails to make an effort. "He should be located

congress will begin at noon today. The that in the sweat of his face he shall tation methods may new rest in peace. importance of building and maintain- serve. ing a home." The commissioner believes that in this way the race would be improved and uplifted. He admits there are difficulties to be overcome, but he does not consider them insuper-

Senator Quarles of Wisconsin, who will be chairman of the senate committee on Indian affairs, is said to be in full accord with Commissioner Jones. busy one. As was said by Speaker Hen- He thinks the ultimate goal of the Inderson in his speech to the republican dian should be complete citizenship. It of rushing to the defense of Stucter just as will be onerous. Great responsibility gress will be asked for legislation looking to the inauguration of such a policy bility will command the profound in- suggests. It is certainly a matter that

IMPRACTICAL REFORMERS.

Why are would-be reformers as a rule so impractical? Why is it that those who constantly declaim against existremoval of war taxes, supervision and ing abuses and demand measures for regulation of industrial combinations their correction are so often found opdoing an interstate business, river and posing with equal vehemence every barbor improvement, Chinese exclusion. proposition looking to a practical reali-

These questions are suggested anew by the uncompromising antagonism to reclamation of the arid lands in the plans for improvement in different branches of government that can be inaugurated only after first receiving

legislative sanction. The inconsistency, for example, of cal year show that more than \$62,000,000 advocating more equal taxation and account of the "weed" were turned into the blocking the only means by which reveproposition, if considered, would have nue law revision can be secured is plain on its face.

ing duplicated parts of the machinery various forms (including 8,500 tons of snuff) of local government, which is absolutely able, also, that there will be any cur- impossible without amendments to the constitution and charter, is simply a rency legislation other than perhaps an amendment to the act of March, 1900, body is called into action to co-operate cigars by districts during the calendar year providing for the exchange on demand in the movement.

The protest against our cumbersome and unsatisfactory judicial system, by which the decisions of the highest court in the whole country that twelvementh living by manual labor. They belong to Bryanism still further beyond the possideration. There failed in the last ses. of appeals are made by commissioners numbered 5.565.000,000. without legal responsibility or constitutional standing, must remain un- the preceding year and reflected the freer for McKinley than to espouse the cause of answered until a legislature submits a consumption due to general prosperity. constitutional amendment enlarging the supreme court and that amendment becomes effective by ratification of the people at the polls.

Yet we see the men who profess ardent devotion to all these reforms depurpose of putting desired reforms into practice.

Would not a little more practical politics on the part of the reformers produce more tangible results?

be organizing in opposition to the proposed parcels post for fear this exten-A custodian of public funds in Ken- counsel that conservative consideration the mail order houses to their detriment. paired. No one would dream, I told him, service has doubtless worked to the disadvantage of certain classes, but the benefits have been more than made up to the people as a whole. This is true. for example, of the rural free mail delivery, which at first encountered vigorous objection from the country postmasters and crossroads merchants, but it has none the less continued to find constantly greater favor. We believe the country merchants exaggerate the dangers to them to be apprehended from the parcels post. The parcels post is in operation in European countries, taking the place of the service rendered here be the chief sufferers by its introducthe change quietly in the form of an tion and whose opposition to it is to be

> The prompt action of Chief of Police Donahue in suspending a patrolman pending an investigation into charges brought against him of attempted blackmail is the best evidence that could be given to the vendors of well-defined rumors that corruption and grafting are countenanced in our police department. If this species of blackmail were common among the police officers we may be sure that they would all be trying to self and his scrapbooks contain 45,000 colprotect one another. The fearless de- umns of newspaper comment. termination of the chief to stamp out crookedness at its first appearance is proof positive that it has never gained

any foothold. We are inclined to wonder whether if the shady bond deals had been perpetrated under the management of a populist state treasurer, the fusion press would have been as ready to expose and denounce them as has The Bee and other republican papers with a republican treasurer. Perhaps they would, but we seriously doubt it. We remember how almost all the big and little pop guns rushed into the breach as defenders when the insurance holdups were uncovered three years ago under the late populist state auditor.

The city building inspector is making another campaign against dangerous structures and has asked the Advisory board to condemn several of the most flagrant examples. The city ought not to be compelled to wait for some accident involving loss of life or limb before the building ordinances are enforced, yet it has been the invariable experience that owners of dangerous buildings resort to every legal technicality to evade the condemnation edict

Omaha may not be permitted to fur accepts the privilege of furnishing the

And Buy "Gold Bricks."

Washington Star. Don't laugh at the children for writing letters to Santa Claus. Some grown people write letters in answer to green goods advertisements.

Great Anxlety Vanishes

Minneapolis Journel. The rural carrier who has feared that the extension of the classified civil service to ment.

prudence he can support himself and him to pass an examination in Latin, chifamily. He must be made to realize rography, spelling, geography and transpor is appounced that the carriers will be eat his brend. He must be brought to chosen for manifest fitness for the work recognize the dignity of labor and the from the vicinage of the route he is to

Progressive Improvement.

Boston Herald. It is the opinion of the secretary the interior that the only good Indian is the kind that has been trained to work for a living. On the whole, this is an improve ment on General Sheridan's somewhat famous definition.

Journal's Apology Below Par.

Neligh Yeoman. The Omaha Bee accuses the State Journal is therefore to be expected that con- it excused and defended Bartley when he was going wrong. Certainly those of us who remember the persistency with which as the commissioner of Indian affairs state treasury was all right then will require other than Journal evidence to convince them that all is square at present.

Our Living Ex-President.

votes.

New York Evening Post. We have only one living ex-president. A peculiar interest thus attaches to the health now been long enough retired from active public life for the acerbities of political controversies to soften, and even his most earnest opponents in the past are steadily coming to recognize the sincerity, courage and patriotism which always dictated his course. Mr. Cleveland should have many but there were elections elsewhere. Nean extra session of the legislature of the assurance that old age will be rendered is to say, it kept its place in the line. It possibly be a good thing. Indeed, most the very people who have been making happy by the general recognition that he ship subsidies, increase of the navy and the most noise in advocacy of various was one of the strongest executives the nation has ever had.

Tobacco as a Revenue Producer.

New York Herald. Internal revenue returns for the last fixtreasury, being an increase of \$3,000,000 over the previous year's receipts.

There was a notable decrease in the consumption of the cheapest class of cigarettes. The support of schemes for consolidat- The domestic production of tobacco in its was 160,000 tons. We state it in this form because the figures given in pounds seem liberation. Nothing could more clearly However, the debating society suggestion almost incredible.

waste of energy unless the law-making Tobacco Journal, giving the production of voted for McKinley. They went to the The protest against our cumbersome alone was converted more than 11,000 tons This was an increase of 13 per cent over

"WHERE BULLETS WHISTLED."

Siege of Pekin Legations "a Com paratively Trivial Thing."

"Really, I was astonished to find what comparatively trivial thing that 'siege of crying as politicians all who favor an legations' was," says Dr. Nevins in a New extra session of the legislature for the York Sun interview. "Staying as I was at together considerable or large bodies of the British legation, I was in the place in which all the foreigners took refuge. I be won and temporary advantages held for situation and prevailed. But no sooner got up one morning before breakfast and a season by the rewards and perquisites of had the fusion machine—which was simply looked around the place. It is a large square inclosure of about thirty acres. At diagonally opposite corners I found some traces of bombardment. But there was no tail is destined to wag the dog. Nebraska retail merchants are said to sign of any attack upon the old temple in which most of the people were, nor was there anywhere about the legation buildings. I seked the minister how he had mansion of postal facilities would build up aged to have the place so successfully reimprovement in the postal that the place had ever been bombarded. To my utter astonishment I found that none of the buildings I had been examining had been hit at all; they had not been fired on. The Chinese had every opportunity to fire

on them, but did not. "Take into consideration then the fact that no non-combatant was killed or wounded, and that no one died of disease during the 'siege,' and I think we have new and less romantic view of the whole proceeding. I had women-who did not know what exceptional opportunities I had for confidential conversations with the authorities-tell me most thrilling stories about the whistling of bullets which came through the windows. Some told how their children became accustomed to the whistling of bullets and really enjoyed the sound. do not doubt but that the women really believed the stories. They certainly en joyed the relation of them. But-" The clergyman waved his hand back and

forward as though he were blowing away smoke that had obscured his mental vision.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

St. Louis boldly challenges superstition by deciding to break ground for the fair on Friday, December 20. Captain John B. Ford of Pittsburg, "the father of American timplate making," has

just celebrated his ninetieth birthday. The late Governor Pingree of Michigan kept all the printed comments about him-

John F. Carroll, who may be the next

leader of Tammany hall, is said to be a young man as was Croker himself Score heavily for the pipe. Experiments in the Swiss army have revealed advan-

tages in discipline, cheeriness and endurance among the soldiers who smoked on the march. Sancho Panza invoked a blessing on the man who invented sleep, and the Indiana scientist who has discovered a method of

storing up sunshine for use in winter will deserve a great many of them if his invention works. Prof. Payne of the University of Michigan, in a recent lecture, said he had com-

mitted to memory while following the plow in his boyhood days Pope's "Essay on Man" and could, if called upon, recite the whole classic from memory now. The suicide of a Colorado judge, who lay on the ground with a stick of dynamite

under him and lighted the fuse with the cigar he was smoking, has put another weapon into the hands of those who claim that the use of tobacco shortens life. The mother of the Chicago quadruplets whose husband fied, says marriage is a fail-

ure. In this instance there came first twins then triplets, then quadruplets-nine babies in three years. How anyone can figure this record as a failure is a problem passed up to the congress of mothers. The military service institution of the

United States has awarded the seaman prize for 1901 (\$100 in gold) for the best essay on "The Utilization of Native Troops in Our Foreign Possessions" to Captain C. D. Rhodes, Sixth United States cavairy, and the essay submitted by Colonel J. W. Powell, U. S. A., was found worthy

Once in a great while a bunch of farmers get a chance to show their regard for policemen who jolly country "Rubens" and "hayseeds." A New York policeman, charged with crooked work, secured a change of venue from New York City to Albany, expecting to obtain a brand of Justice superior to the home article. He was not mistaken. It took a jury of farmers only an hour to soak him with a fine of \$1,000, with imprisonment in default of pay-The wonder is they did not send him the exercise of ordinary industry and include him will make it necessary for up for life

Let Us Debate

Brooklyn Eagle (inc. dem.) The recent elections have been discussed Bryan. They saw, or thought they saw, an by the Commoner. It finds consolation in advantage in voting against him. When them nowhere. It makes a special effort he says no man who earns his living can to break the force of the blow in Nebraska, point to such advantage he makes a thorbecause in that state the editor of the Com- oughly characteristic statement. It is a moner made a special effort to prevail specimen of Bryanism. It is so rankly against his adversaries. He was signally ridiculous and so ridiculously rank that unsuccessful. As a prophet he is now the difficulty is to accept it with other than without bonor in his own country more a smile, a smile of sympathy. For five particularly. Not only has he been twice years the administration has been in rerepulsed all along the national line, but publican hands. In the interval the masses the commonwealth in which he lives has have found something to do. They have treated him with particular severity. He been paid in money as to value of which accounts for it by saying that the repub- they have had no misgivings. Incidentally, licans furnished free transportation to the they have been paid more rather than less. voters. That should be remembered in It may be stated as a fact indisputable that Nebraska. Those who accept a pass in ex- they did not vote to their own disadvanchange for a vote, take a bribe. The charge tage. It cannot be stated as a fact indisis that thousands of Nebraskans sold their putable that had Bryan been elected, they The inference is that those who would have fared so well. sold their votes would, but for the sale, have supported the ticket Bryan sought to all over the country is suggested by the elect. In other words, he impeaches those Commoner. It says that a large amount who share his views, but who were not of educational work must be done, that honest enough to give expression to them the large dailies cannot be relied upon at the polls. It is a strange bid for con- to do it and that it cannot be done ensolation. However, there are fortunately tirely through the democratic and popuof Grover Cleveland. The ex-president has others ways of accounting for what hap-listic weeklies. True enough. The large pened. There is no necessity for assuming dailies cannot be relied upon to do any that wholesale corruption brought about educational work such as Bryan would

dered. Nor has it ever been the evil fortune of such a man to be so impoverished in explanation. "Surely," says the Commoner, "no man who earns his living can point to any ad- in which during a great war eminent men vantage which the republican party brings or can bring to the masses of the people." This makes its appearance in cold type. That is to say, it was the outcome of detake the measure of the writer. Many is excellent. Not that the trusts will ever A table published by the United States millions of citizens of the United States ballot box as representatives of the ness in this country; not that expansion 1900 shows that in the New York district masses. They largely outnumbered those is debatable, but that discussion sharpwho voted the other way. There were ens the faculties, gives clearer outline to what the Commoner calls the masses. They sibility of resurrection. By all means let were persuaded that it was safer to vote us have the societies.

state had gone to the polls, the Common-

by some of the Commoner's subscribers,

kept its face turned against one of its own

sons. Its sentence was a crushing climax.

It was withering. It was the seal upon a

the lot of a standard bearer to be so une-

quivocally and so universally cold-shoul-

The organization of debating societies

the result. If the people of but a single advocate. They know too much. They know better than to clamor for the money er's explanation might have been accepted of the Mexicans. They know better than to clamor for the suppression of all trusts. Even the least enlightened of years yet before him and he already has brasks lined up with other states. That them has discovered that combination may of Bryan's political intimates have made the discovery and taken advantage thereof -for a consideration. As to expansion, condemnation which has almost literally no imperialism, that is as a story that is told qualifying feature. Never has it fallen to It is a fact not only accomplished, but irreversible. Its irreversibility is now being conceded by even the democratic and populistic weeklies. It is not out of place, in passing, to quote the prime minister of England: "We need such encouragement, for England, I believe, is the only country write and speak publicly as if they belonged to the enemy." His lordship bas made a mistake. He overlooked comparatively recent history in the United States. be suppressed; not that 50 cents will ever settle a dollar's worth of indebted-

LOOKING BACKWARD AT FESION.

Nebraska lack cohesion, and the indications disgustingly corrupt and disregarded the point to decreasing power and importance. Interests of the state and of the people and It takes great and righteous principles and willfully defied the law, and a feeling prewise and just policies to permanently hold thoughtful men. Temporary victories may offices, but there can be in the nature of the a kicked-out branch of the republican macase nothing permanent in fusion-anything to beat the republicans. The democratic they began where the other fellows left

Bloomington Echo (rep.): The year previous to the time the people's independent and democratic parties fused in this county the populists cast on the county ticket from 800 to 850 votes and the democrats cast from 150 to 200 votes. At that time the populists were electing about all the candithe little vote of the democrats has grown until the populists next year will only have one simon pure populist in the courthouse. viz. the clerk of district court. The balance of the county officers are old-time democrats. The same state of affairs holds good over the state.

Beatrice Democrat: Some years ago th republican party held unquestioned sway in this state. Their great strength was the cause of their undoing. The only fight of consequence that a candidate had to put up was in the republican convention. But the party became so corrupt that the better element rebelled, and the result was the or ganization of the alliance, which became the pop movement. This disintegration in the republican camp was very properly encouraged by the democrats, but instead of standing out and saying "Here, gentlemen, we have nominated honest men for office, while your party has selected dishonest men; take your choice," a few democratic manipulators slid over into the pop camp and tried to strengthen the new organization by according them all the offices and simply asking democrats to vote the pop ticket. What we should have done was to win those republicans who became populists to believe in the principles of democracy as the correct theory of government. Instead of that, we told them that the eastern democrats and western republicans were alike dishonest, and built a bull chip fire that raised a blinding smudge, and then all joined in a ghost dance, while a few of our leaders mixed medicine and parceled out the prospective offices among themselves. Instead of teaching the pops to respect democrats and democratic principles we aided them in the formation of a creed that we did not believe in and that they themselves deserted as soon as the craze for office wore off. Now they have gone back to the republican party.

Kearney Democrat: Several fusion statesmen, including Mike Harrington, Edgar Howard and W. H. Thompson, passed judgment upon Nebraska fusion in The Omaha Bee last week, no two agreeing upon any one proposition, except that a few wheezened-breathed, politically knock-kneed and broken-down republican soft-snap hunters had found a profitable stool to sit on around the public crib. Harrington and Thompson want to continue the shell game until they locate the ball, but Howard, having tried it along honest democratic lines and "got it" squarely in the neck, is satisfied that while it kept a few republicans out of office, fusion has been a sad and sorrowful experiment to the democratic party. None of these statesmen have touched the vital spot. Fusion has not only been a party disorganizer, but it never offered anything in return. It did not even have a sentiment in common with the democratic party. It began life with the screet and hardest-headed class of defunct republican officeholders in the country as leaders and organizers. These men started their new organization by heaping vituperation and vilification upon the democratic party and its administration. They vilified the democrats ten times to where they thought of the republicans once. To them Cleveland was a hideous ghost, stalking in the barnyard of prosperity. They built up populism, and then fusion, on the political pody of Cleveland's administration, when they knew that Cleveland had inherited a bad mess from his predecessor and made the very best out of it. But it was democratic, and that suited their purposes, and they made the most out of it. When Bryan and his followers first thrust fusion upon the democrats in Nebraska in the person of Holcomb for governor and a score of not done with any political principle or tion had no principle, neither had it any party. The only thing it had in view was mins carried Des Moines and Polk county

"office, salary and provender." The move ment met with temporary favor solely be-McCook Tribune (rep.): The fusionists of cause the republican machine had become vailed that anything that would dethrone the machine would be acceptable. Fusion was conceived in the emergency of the chine-been instated in the statehouse than off and at the close of the Poynter administration was as brazen-faced in its corruption as was ever charged against the Bill Stout gang, only they were some what more sanctimonious in doing it. it not been for fusion and its death-dealing ffect upon all and everything i touched the democratic party in Nebraska would today be in a solid column and ready to face and defeat any political foe that dared to cross swords with it. As it is, it has no state leader, no state organization and but little if any hope for the future, and all because it was made a tool to satisfy the pop greed and scramble for office by becoming a party to fusion, a thing with out principle and an incoherent mass with out a party name. Until the party passes into the hands and is directed by brains that display honest intentions and sincerity of purpose the ranks of democracy will con tinue to grow thinner and weaker and those of the republicans thicker and stronger.

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Etchings of Men and Events at the National Capital.

On November 1 the Treasury department put into circulation the first of its new issue of \$10 buffalo bills. The note is so camed because of the central figure, which s a large buffalo, standing in a position as though to charge on an enemy. It is the largest single figure ever placed on a treasury note and, at the time the design was adopted, fear was expressed by some that it was hardly suitable. It has been found that small vignettes are more serviceable, as they take up the ink more readily than a large figure. Although the buffalo bills have been in circulation less than four weeks, says the Brooklyn Eagle correspondent, a number of them have found their way back to the treasury for redemption, being either too mutilated, smeared or disfigured for further use.

In all of the bills thus returned the buffalo has been sadly disfigured. The explanation for the short life of these bills s that they were put into circulation before being properly cured. None of the notes of the new issue is more than a couple of months old and some of then have not been from the press more than thirty days. When it is possible to do so the treasury officials subject their paper currency to a treatment of six months or a year before sending them out. That much time is required to permit the ink to be come thoroughly absorbed and to let the paper dry out. This is called the curing process and it is a very important factor in the life of a note. There was a great demand for \$10 notes at about the time the new ones came from the Engraving and Printing bureau and the buffalo bills had to go out before they were properly cured.

Frank W. Bicknell of Des Moines, Ia., one of the best known political writers of the west, is in Washington. Mr. Bicknell has received an appointment under the Depart ment of Agriculture to investigate conditions in South America, with a view to securing information of value to prospective investors there. He is accompanied by his wife, who will go south with him. He exnects to be gone at least one year and possibly two years.

"When I left Des Moines," said Mr. Bicknell to a Washington Post reporter, "Representative Hull was very til and I under stand it is doubtful if he will be here to the opening of congress. He was taken sick early in the fall with some sort of lung trouble, but was well on the way to recovery until he went outdoors to vote This brought on a relapse and he has been in a serious condition since.

"I do not believe the claims of the anti-Hull men that the captain will have such a hard fight on his hands for renomination next spring. He is opposed by Judge Prouty of the district bench of Des Moines who has quite a following, but I think the Prouty men are more noisy than numerous other pops for other state offices, it was In my opinion Prouty doesn't stand one chance in a thousand. Many of the friend political party in view. The conglomera- of Mr. Cummins, the newly elected governor, are opposed to Hull, and, as Cum-

by a big majority, they figure that a Cummins candidate for representative can de the same thing. This is where they are mistaken, for many of Mr. Cummins' stanchest supporters are Hull men.

If President McKinley's portrait is put on one of the postage stamps of this country, as dispatches from Washington have said is likely to be done in case the Post. office department brings out a new issue, his portrait will be the ninth of a president to be used in that way.

As the regular series of states, excluding the Columbian, Transmississippi and Pan-American exposition issues, has now been in circulation with only slight changes in water marks and the like since 1890, a change of some sort is expected soon by philatelists.

Ever since Uncle Sam's postoffice began making stamps, in 1847 or thereabouts, the face of Washington has appeared on one of the stamps in every regular issue and with a single exception on a stamp of low value and general use. Benjamin Franklin's face has always adorned stamps of low value and has thus become familiar to people who send or receive letters ever since 1847.

Presidents other than Washington whose faces have appeared on the stamps are Jefferson, Jackson, Lincoln, Garfield, Grant, Madison and Taylor.

Of the stamps of higher values the 8-cent stamp now bears Sherman's picture, the 10cent Webster's, the 15-cent Clay's, the 30cent Jefferson's, the 50-cent Jefferson's, the \$1 stamp Perry's, the \$2 Madison's and the So Marshall's

Mr. Gorman will meet with a warm reception when he takes his seat in the senate next March, says a letter to the New York Tribune. No matter how much they may criticise the politician, no matter how dis tasteful his methods may be, German, the man, is warmly liked by his former colleagues in the upper house of congress, where he began life as a page more than half a century ago. In those early days the political ambition of the future senator from the state of Maryland was born, the profession, which he had the opportunity to study from the inside, appealed to him and he made castles in Spain wherein he dreamed of himself as a great senator clapping his hands to some small boy to come and do his bidding. Young Gorman proposed, however, to go west and carve out his fortune. There seemed to him no prospect of advancement in his native state, and he piled up his pennies with a hope some day of making a career on the other side of the Alleghanies. He would doubtless have carried out his intention had it not been for the counsel of Stephen A. Douglas, who took a deep interest in the boy. "Stay in your own state," he said, "study politics and come back to the senate some day: it is a simpler matter than it seems." advice of the "Little Giant" decided him. Young Gorman remained in Maryland, which state, his opponents say, he has time and again carried in his inside pocket, doing as he chose with its people and its fortunes. Seriously, his personal influence can hardly be overestimated. "I went to the senator," said one of his followers, discussing the recent election in Maryland, "to protest against a measure which he was advocating. I was violently opposed to it. and believed when I sought him out that nothing could alter my opinion. Mr. Gorman listened to me with the greatest courtesy and let have my say without uttering word until I had exhausted all my arguments. Even then he said very little, very, very little, and how the little he did say made me alter my whole point of view I have never been able to understand."

WHITTLED TO A POINT

Philadelphia Press: "What lovely black "Yes; hereuitary."
"Ah! I suppose her mother—"
"No, her father. He was a pugilist."

New York Sun: "It's a small village." "So small they call a shop a store?"
"Oh, smaller than that. They call a store

Chicago Tribune: The guide was showing him the big trees.
"This one," he said, "is supposed to be about 2,000 years old."
"What a twentieth century club it would

Pittsburg Chronicle: Mrs. Gaddle-My husband's so slipshod. His buttons are for-ever coming off. Mrs. Goode (severely)—Perhaps they are not sewed on properly. Mrs. Gaddle—That's just it. He's awfully careless about the sewfully

careless about his sewing Brooklyn Eagle: Mr. Newlywed (solicit-ously)—And how do you get along with the butcher, love?—Oh, splendidly. He is such a generous man, Mortimer. When I order a four-pound roast he always sends one weighing six or seven.

Chicago Post: "No, it wasn't a marriage

for love. It was simply one of conven-lence, and they're tired of it already."
"How do you know?"
"I asked her where they spent their honeymoon, and she said they hadn't had any honeymoon—it was all glucose."

Indianapolis News: "I maintain," she said, raising her voice, "that the old and oft repeated assertion that women talk more than men has no foundation whatever in fact."

"Then why," asked the man in the case, "is our common language universally called the 'mother tongue." "is our common lan Chicago Tribune: "It seems to me," ex-postulated the traveler, "you charge an awfully high figure for a ride across your

"But where will you find another raff-way." argued the ticket seller at Colon, "that affords such a fine view of a revoku-tion from the car windows?"

Yonkers Statesman; "I'm getting a little suspicious of our bookkeeper," said one of the partners to the other.
"You are?" said the surprised one.
"Yes; I'm afraid there's something crooked with his books."
"What in the world gave you that idea?"
"Why, yesterday a band of music passed the office, and the bookkeeper never left his desk for a moment to look out of the window!"

THE SONG OF THE SETTLEMENT.

H. A. Bashford in London Spectator I sing a song of the West land.
Though how shall a song but fatt
To capture the blue horizons
That swallow the prairie trail:

And how shall letters and paper Imprison the breadth of life! They know, who travel the prairie. Who know the song of its strice.

The shouting nights, when the blizzard is reeling across the plain.
The lazy hum of the west wind
At play with the gleaming grain. The sigh of the sleeping grassland

To the low-hung golden moon. The song of the waving wheat tops Ablaze with the crown of noon. The low hoarse voice of the hunter. His eyes, and their warning sleam, That creep in moocastned silence. The old log-trail to the stream.

The sudden rap of the rifle.
The fall of a startled moose,
The day-long wait—and at evening
The songs in the old caboose.

The glint of snow through the shadows, The echo of sharpened steel, The crack of the falling timbers, The poplar's earthward reel.

The ring of sleighs on the home-trail, The glummer of lights afar. The glow of the shanty firelight. The gleam of the evening star. The wall of wolves in the darkness.

The children's song in the light. The large sweet grip of the daytin The awe of the great deep night

But how shall letters and paper Bring aught of its life to you. The fruitless toll of the many. The scant success of the few;

The hopes and fears of the prairie, its word to the sons of men; Nay how should a volume hold it, Inscribed with a human pen?