THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR

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Net daily average GEO. B. TZSCHUCK. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 20th day of November, A. D. 1201. M. B. HUNGATE. (Scal.) Notary Public.

The inflation of the census of 1890 aging.

Over \$1,000,000 is said to have been lost in the "blind pool" recently operated in Boston. It is not expected that the is safe to say that the recommendation The more serious difficulty will

upon.

The flood of bills has already swamped the clerks of both houses of congress. The clerks have the consolation of knowswamped later.

Just at this moment Omaha does not want a first-class hotel nearly as much says Mr. Gage, "why we should be decoming year in the total of city, county for the people and for which the people as it does capacious modern warehouse pendent on the auxiliary navies of and school taxes. An impartial aspay in taxes. It has come to pass in some dobbing concerns.

Boss Croker again announces that he will retire from Tammany leadership, and Australia will in itself furnish the He should stay until after the spring roundup, as the herd has evidently drifted badly and the services of an experienced hand are needed.

Iowa's prison census shows a marked tirely sound and practicable. decrease in population during the past year. Perhaps the resident population of the penitentiaries could be profitably brought up to the normal by rounding up the bank robbers so active of late.

The National Live Stock association has exhibited good, practical sense in ordering the printing of all undelivered speeches in its future record. In this it only follows the example of the bucket shop men who record all options for future delivery.

Selling galvanized brass watches for solid gold is an imposture that lays the dealer liable to severe penalties, but the paper that buncoes advertising patrons by bogus circulation claims goes right on preaching business morality while getting money under false pretenses.

Order having been restored there, the United States marines have been withdrawn from the Isthmus of Panama. Other nations which pretended to be lieve the landing was only the prelude to a permanent occupancy can now reare to their nightly rest with no specter to harass them.

The National Live Stock association wants Uncle Sam to go out of the iand business just as soon as it is practienble to do so. But who is to take Uncle Sam's place and who is to own the land? The policy has been to reserve the public domain as homes for the homeless and not as preserves for he cattle kings.

An ordinance to protect patrons of barber shops from the barbers' itch is pendng in the city council. If the ordinance is passed in time it will afford an opportunity to the eminent jurist now ocsupying the police bench to pass upon the inherent rights of men to expose hemselves to anything that is catching without restraint or hindrance from the nity council.

Some of the delegates to the Pan-American congress appear to be deternined upon having arbitration of intertational differences even if they are conpelled to fight for it. The delegates who favor the old method of settling lifferences have the better of one argument-it is cheaper to carry on a war in the South American plan than it is to sum than it has been supposed that lee lawyers.

The milk dealers have appealed to the rity council for protection against the nvasion of their domain by the owners of single cows, who are specially fafored by a lower license than is exacted rom the dealers. If this ordinance goes be challenged as too high. The estibrough we may look for a combination imong the owners of private cows and considerably in excess of that of the in issue of watered stock that will dilute previous commission and undoubtedly

SECRETARY GAGES REPORT. very likely several millions below what There is a great deal of useful infor- the canal will cost. mation for the financial and business in-

the beginning of the next fiscal year.

IMPORTANCE OF IRRIGATION.

ing that in doing that it would be con-

Another eastern paper, the Baltimore

News, in discussing this subject, says:

"There is an empire in the west which

for years to come will serve as a home

for the overflow for the teeming popula-

tion of the east, provided pains are

taken to make available the natural re-

sources of that empire. While Ameri-

cans are talking reciprocity and seek-

ing foreign trade, they should not over-

look the fact that a market may be

developed at home through the reclaim-

ing of the arid west which would de-

mand more manufactured goods prob-

ably than all of the foreigners with

There is certainly a very practical

idea in this that is worthy of most seri-

ous consideration. This great arid re-

gion of our own country, the reclama-

tion of which is unquestionably feasi-

ble, and which is capable of supporting

when reclaimed a population almost if

the country, presents a proposition that

THE ISTHMIAN CANAL REPORT.

The report of the Isthmian Canal com-

mission, now before congress, discloses

nothing the public was not already in-

formed of. It unqualifiedly favors the

Nicaragua route as being in all respects

Nicaragua, according to the commis-

sion, can be constructed in less time

than would be required to complete the

Panama canal and will cost consid-

erably less, taking into account what

would have to be paid the Panama

company, which is a very much larger

company would ask. The estimated

cost of completing the Panama canal

is also much larger than any hereto-

fore made, but it must be assumed that

in this matter the commission was care-

ful not to overestimate. It is safe to

predict, however, that its figures will

mated cost of the Nicaragua canal is

which we do business."

The report of the commission will terests of the country in the annual re- doubtless put an end to discussion in port of the secretary of the treasury, regard to routes, since further contro-The general public will be chiefly in versy is manifestly useless. There is terested in the recommendation that no doubt that a large majority in conrevenue be reduced. The indications gress favor the Nicaragua route and quick assimilation of American principles are that at the end of the current fiscal when the bill for the construction of a year, June 30, 1902, the surplus will canal is introduced there will be little reach \$100,000,000 and Secretary Gage delay in passing it. The commission is of the opinion that it will be safe to recommends that the government acreduce revenue to the extent of \$50,000. quire control of territory ten miles wide 000. He recommends the repeal of all the from sea to sea and expresses the opin- of anarchy. It has been followed there this miscellaneous taxes known as war taxes, ion that there will be no difficulty in week by a lynching, the first time in the saying of them that "they are in their arranging terms with Nicaragua and state for a year or two. Some 200 men nature vexatious, in some instances op Costa Rica. We shall doubtless have took part and they doubtless included many pressive and, separately considered, to pay handsomely, however, for so yield but small revenue." Perhaps con- much territory. There seems to be nothgress will not be disposed to cut off so ing now in the way of carrying out much revenue as the secretary of the this great enterprise. The treaty with treasury suggests, though there is no Great Britain concedes everything our doubt it could be done with entire safety. government has asked, the protocols Communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed: Omaha Bee, Editorial Department.

but it must make some reduction, or the with Nicaragua and Costa Rica assure party in power will certainly suffer in a satisfactory arrangement with those but it must make some reduction, or the with Nicaragua and Costa Rica assure the congressional elections next year, countries, which it is presumed are To continue taxes that are vexatious anxious to have the canal built, and we and oppressive when the national treas- have the money to carry on the work. ury is accumulating money at the pres- Such being the situation there is no apent rate cannot be justified. It is true parent reason why the enterprise should there will be heavy expenditures by the not take practical form early in the government in new enterprises, but coming year. these should not be so large as to re-

NECESSITY OF RETRENCHMENT.

quire the revenue the government is now getting. The people should be relieved The paramount question that interof unnecessary taxation and in the inests the taxpayers of Omaha and Dougterest of the business of the country the las county is tax reduction. The burgreat flow of money into the national den of taxation which has been growtreasury should be checked as soon as it ing heavier from year to year must be is practicable to do so, which will be at lightened in some way before any considerable rise in the market value of Secretary Gage urges modifications of

real estate can be hoped for. the national banking law, with a view There are only two ways by which to enabling the banks to increase their this relief can be had. One is by greater note circulation. It is the asset cur- economy and retrenchment in the rency plan and the secretary of the management of county, city and school treasury thinks it would result in a affairs-the other by a more equitable large addition to the bank note currency. distribution of the tax burdens through at the same time relieving the govern- the assessment of corporate property 30,160 ment of the necessity of carrying so and franchises and personal property 30,110 large an amount of gold as at present that have heretofore been undervalued for redemption of legal tender notes, or escaped taxation altogether.

1921,835 the plan contemplating the impounding With the new year the first step of greenbacks. The asset currency idea should be taken by city, county and has been pretty fully discussed and does school governments by the abolition of 30,384 not appear to have made a generally sinecures and the application of busifavorable impression. Mr. Dawes, the ness methods in all departments. While former comptroller of the currency, ex- none of the local authorities can change trustee who, in dealings for the trust, repressed the opinion that asset currency the law creating permanent officers and such as is proposed in current plans is fixing their salaries, there is a large unsafe and that the need of an asset field where the pruning knife can be has done Omaha an incalculable amount currency in the transaction of current applied with good effect without imof injury with foreign investors, but business is not great enough to justify pairing the efficiency of the service. In high taxes have been much more dam- any radical change in our system of due time the largest saving can be bank note issue. It is very probable effected by the school board through a that this view will be found to prevail thorough rearrangement of the system, among a majority in congress. The which is top-heavy and needs readjustmatter may receive consideration, but it ment at the base.

management will ever be able to see of Secretary Gage will not be acted encountered in the effort to equalize this principle. the tax assessments so that the consti-The secretary submits argument for tutional provision requiring every coran American merchant marine, recom- poration and individual to pay taxes in mending legislation providing for the proportion to both property and franing that most of the bills will be carrying of ocean mails in American chises shall be enforced without favoritsteamships, for which he says the time ism or discrimination. With reasonable ties, especially in cities, is the "rakeoff." is opportune and the conditions propi- retrenchment a reduction of from \$50,tious. "There is no longer any reason," 000 to \$100,000 can be made for the buildings that will accommodate large European powers for our ocean mail sessment would without question add localities that a man's worth to his party service." He argues that the establish- several million dollars to the grand as- is valued by his shrewdness in rob ment of a complete American ocean mail sessment roll, with a corresponding reservice to Europe, Asia, South America duction of the tax rate.

If the property owners of Omaha and backbone for an American system of its business organizations can get tocommunication by sea. It is very prob- gether to work out a plan designed with able that congress will take favorable this end in view, they can accomplish a action upon this recommendation of the great deal without waiting for the aid secretary of the treasury, which is enor consent of any legislature or consti-

The report of the state auditor shows It is a most encouraging fact in conthat the indebtedness of the state is and Trend of Community - of - Interest nection with the irrigation question that has been for a number of years increastoday there is a great deal of eastern ing at the rate of \$100,000 per year. So sentiment in favor of the reclamation of far as the ultimate result to the state is the arid regions. We referred only a few | concerned, it is immaterial whether this days ago to the expressions of one of represents regular or extraordinary exthe leading daily papers of the east to penses. Such a condition may be good this subject, in which it eloquently and business, but in private affairs it would forcibly urged the duty of the governsoon lead to the bankruptcy court. If ment to do something for reclaiming there were no other reason than this the arid lands, most conclusively show- condition, it would be a good investment to have a special session of the legislatributing in an inestimable way to the ture, which could devise means to rebuilding up of the national welfare, establish the state's finances on a solvent

> If the friends of irrigation could persuade Commissioner Maxwell not to project himself too far into the front in the discussion of the irrigation problem before congress they would materially improve the chances for the passage of a rational bill. It is as well known in Washington as it is in Omaba that Maxwell is not agitating this subject for his henith, but that he is the hired representative of heavy interests, and such men seldom wield much influence.

that every nation in Europe envices the United States its treasury surplus and each one rejoices that no other country possesses it A treasury surplus of that size to back up some of the ambitions of is saying a good deal. Europe would be an endless source of will give the people all that trouble for other nations. The United people insist upon it giving them. not equal to the present population of States is content, however, to put up a "Keep off the grass" sign and allow ought to command attention second to Europe to worry along with its own

none other with which congress has to troubles. The Real Estate exchange has succeeded in unloading the Greater Omaha consolidation scheme on a committee of tifteen citizens and that committee has turned over the task to a sub-committee of five distinguished gentlemen qualified in legal lore, but that fact should not preferable to Panama. A canal through | deter the members of the exchange from devising some plan that will bring about a reduction of taxes under the existing county, city and school board manage-

> A certain class of Cubans seek for a pretext for believing the United States intends to obtrude itself into purely Cuban affairs with the persistency of a woman who has looked for a man under the bed every night of her life. The authorities at Washington might be excused for showing impatience with this constant impugning of their motives. and that they have not done so is an added credit mark.

> > A Profitable Game. Boaton Globe.

Vale's gate receipts for the foot ball seahe lacteal fluid beyond the chalk line. Is a more trustworthy estimate, though son will reach a total of about \$75,000. The the front.

late game with Harvard netted \$35,000. Is it not more profitable to educate the feet than the head?

Hark, the Dole-ful Cry. Baltimore American. Hawaii wants an appropriation of \$10,-000,000. There is no doubt of the island's

Where the Order is Needed

Springfield Republican. There was organized in Anderson, S. at the time of the assassination of Prest dent McKinley an order for the suppression members of the order for the suppression of anarchy

> Following Notable Examples. Detroit Free Press.

We let a single company control the sugar business of the country, a single company runs the illuminating oil business and two companies do all the telegraph business of the country. Are the railway magnates much to be blamed if they suppose that they will be permitted to combine the railroad lines into a balfdozen or so great systems?

entirely feasible.

How War Pinches Values.

Springfield Republican. The depreciation in stocks on the London market since the beginning of the Boer war is of astonishing extent. Taking 325 representative stocks straded in there, including American rails, the English Bankers' Magazine finds that the depreciation in two years amounts to \$750,000,000, But as there has been a very large advance in American securities listed on the London exchange, the depreciation in British securities must have been much greater than is represented. Nor does the worst appear to have been passed.

THE RAKEOFF IN POLITICS.

of Oklahoma's Governor Timely Warning

Baltimore American (rep.)

President Roosevelt removed William M. Jenkins, governor of Oklahoma, because it was shown by his own statement that Jenkins had made an arrangement by which he would reap a benefit amounting to \$10,-000 or more from a contract between the territory and a sanitarium company which was to care for the insane of the territory. Mr. Roosevelt in his letter says: "A chancellor would not for a moment retain a served an advantage for himself. The thought is not to be tolerated that the president can be less vigilant and exacting

in the public's interest." This is the whole case in a nutshell, and is just what was expected of the president. Mr. Roosevelt has often in public speeches declared that the same rules of honesty and fair dealing should prevail in transacting the business of the people that are observed in the dealings of one man with another and his actions in public office have been squared strictly in accordance with

The politicians are finding out that they have in the president a man to deal with who is courageous and who will go to the root of any matter when he gives his de-

One of the great curses of American poll-The chief aim some politicians have in securing office is to get as much as poscity of all he can without being discovered and his supporters strive to keep him in office, having an eye to mutual profit. It is not to be wondered at that those who profit by the rakeoff die hard in politics. The astounding part of the business is that people anywhere in the country submit to being held up and robbed by those they would decline to trust in any ordinary

transaction of private business. GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP

> Deals in Railroads. United States Investor.

A great deal might be said regarding the future of transportation facilities as a result of the "community of interest" deals. The question resolves itself into two parts; first, will the public interests be served as well as at present if a number of great systems are united and kept under private management; and, second, will the public interests be served as well as at present if number of great systems are united and placed under the control of the government? On the first point we have our doubts. Past experience has shown that when a number of roads traversing the same section of country have been welded together under one management, the public have speedily begun to complain of a curing what it is, we incline to the opinion that the northwest in particular and the country in general have more to be afraid of than to reloice over, in connection with the transportation situation, as a result of such deals as the one just consummated by Messrs. Morgan, Hill and Harriman. The case becomes different, however, when we look at the transportation problem in the light of government ownership. We do not attach much importance to the argument. so commonly advanced, that the railroads government control than under private con trol. It amounts to a certainty in our mind that the ratiroads would be as effectively handled by the government as the Postoffice department now is, and that some things the people are tolerant and allow the government to pursue a shiftless course, but not in matters which they know

for a certainty affect their pocketbooks. The people of the United States allow the government to draw from them every year an extravagant amount of money to be spent in useless ways, but they do not consciously permit the authorities at Washington to de anything that will impede the operation of their various industrial pursuits. They think they know what they need and they make the government give them exactly what they think they want. Now, in the matter of railroad privileges the public know what they need and under government control of the railroads they would unquestionably get what they wanted. The government could not tamper with the railroads, even if it wanted to; its shortcomings would be too easily detected and too quickly denounced to ad mit of the supposition that the roads would be managed in other than a most efficient manner. Consequently, we do not believe that the public would be losers, from the point of view of transportation facilities. if the outcome of the Northern Securities company deal should be to turn the rallroads in question over to the government of the United States. Whether the government would be justified in taking them at the prices which the present owners would be likely to insist on, is quite another question. No doubt a most audacious attempt will be made "to stick the

Reclaiming the West

Brooklyn Eagle

America's high destiny justifies the exten- desert and when one considers what might tion of its principles over new lands; it be done by federal management imaginajustifies the accessions of alien territory tion is startled and gladdened by the posand the preachment to strange peoples of sibilities. It is an empire that lies fallow doctrines which will lift them out of bar- beyond the mountains, an empire wherein barism and idleness, but, surely, it calls for millions who now overcrowd cities may the redemption of its own territory before live in the comfort and freedom that are any other thing. Of our country but a denied in stony towns. To make homes for small part is inhabited. Nearly a third of these millions it will be necessary that the t on the farther side of the Missouri is so government prepare the way. The cost thinly settled that whole states do not com- and the labor are too vast for personal pare in population with single cities in the undertaking. Forests must be planted east and vast areas are not habitable under to insure constancy in water supply; reserpresent conditions. We can add hundreds voirs must be created by damming valleys a flash, Mr. Roosevelt took the resignation thousands of square miles to our hab- in order that the supply may be ample in from his unwilling hand and, turning to a itable domain by converting the arid region volume; canals and drains must be dug etenographer, briskly said: to fertility. And, albeit there was a time across the country for miles, with gates when a proposition of that sort would have and dikes and other such appliances, and has resigned and there is a vacancy in the been as awe-inspiring as the turning of the there must be uniformity in laws respect-Atlantic into the Sahara, the experiences of ing rights to use of water. Most of the the past score of years have shown it to be arid land is in what have recently become states, but by the same authority or co-In the cast we are sweeping away our operation whereby forest reserves and forests, mile on mile, exterminating the national parks, Indian and military reserspruce, the pine and poplar, to feed the vations and experimental stations have saws and pulp mills, and are thereby ex- been secured for public uses, the needed posing the soil to the blaze of the sun, ponds and canals could be created.

destroying the vegetable mold, converting And, apart from the immediate gain of the hills to eminences of rock that are this great conversion of the American deswashed bare by rains instead of storing ert, the gain, that is, to settlers and to the them and causing the country to suffer from industries which they will create, is the extremes of drouth in summer and from profit of the whole country by the increase in its output and the guaranty of permafloods in spring. But it is hopeful of the future of the country that, while this de- nence in improved climatic conditions. For vastation goes on in the older states, the water has a tendency to recreate its supply. newer ones are applying the scientific cor- Irrigation in the west has made tree plantrection for these evils and are even aiding ing feasible; tree planting, in turn, has innature in planting. Eastern rivers are creased the springs, deepened the brooks shrinking and western ones will gain, and increased the rain and dewfall. Land Parts of New England are threatened with has risen tenfold in value under these condesertion, while the west grows. The men ditions. In the desert it must rise an hunof the west had to confront the conditions dred. Wrong, partial and arbitrary exerthat we are slowly creating in the east and cise of power respecting water rights and they proved themselves equal to the task, rates have made irrigation in some states In overcoming the difficulties they developed difficult and have given risen to legal and a splendid race. It has been a matter of even physical contests, but that is largely surprise to the investigators to find that because no general attempt has been made arid land was the best land. The desert has to secure a large and permanent supply. not parted with its stores of nutritious mat- Exactly how comity between states is to be ter, augmented as they have been by the secured will depend on congress. It may vast herds of animals that have traversed be needful to revise the constitution before them, and they await only the magic of mois- we can reclaim the desert. Then let it be ture to burst joyously into bloom. In Egypt revised. No issue before the nation is so and other countries, where irrigation is important. necessary to produce crops, the yield is more abundant than in areas of correspond-

We cannot say in our easy, scornful country east of the Mississippi by an aver- its displacement from foul, dense centers abounding. It would be absurd in this We shall, moreover, be doing that which it people not to use them. It does not imply is a providence of this republic to do, and expenditures for manures in order to that is to show to other nations the way obtain a yield of crops. Every river that to larger wealth, a larger health and a mancourses through the country is turbid with lier state.

A patriot, a man of genius, a man has been found that the actual market sanely audacious prevision, a man of eastvalue of the plant foods carried to an acre ern culture and of western experience is in an ordinary irrigation system is over \$9 president of the United States. He could season-more than the average farmer signalize his administration in no grander and in no more excellent way than by There are in our west 500,000,000 acres great work and of the great duty of reof arid land which are yet in the public claiming the west on the lines the Eagle gift. Wonderful results have been obtained sets forth today.

A woman, Mrs. Maria Ferguson, of Los Etchings of Men and Events at the Angeles, has issued the first directory o Dawson City, Yukon and Alaska. It is a book of 900 pages.

Jan Kubelik, the new violinist, is a goodlooking fellow and can play, they say, but his hair is a couple of inches short of the proper length for an artist. Dr. William Harper of the University of

conclusions based on something over a thou-

sand analyses are that the desert soil.

and easily washed out of the ground.

mineral riches. In and about Tucson it

thinks of spending for fertilizing material

through individual efforts to reclaim the

PERSONAL NOTES.

in almost any part of the world.

Chicago has accepted the offer to become director of universal educational congresses at the world's fair in St. Louis. Hon. Terrence McGovern, who was defeated at Hartford, Conn., on last Thursday

has been starring this season in "The Road to Ruin." No comment is necessary. Herbert C. Hoover is one of the highest salaried men of his years in the industrial world. At the age of 29 he is in receipt of \$33,000 annually for his services as a mining

expert. A party of small boys with a gun fired nto a powder house near Utica, N. Y., and effected a scattering. Unlike a similar incident near Omaha years ago, the Utica

kids escaped with their lives. Governor Stanley of Kansas objects to the settling in that state of a little company of waifs from a New York foundling hospital on the ground that it would be introducing an ignorant and victous element.

"More than one community," says the Boston Transcript, "will watch with interest Omaha's attempt to ordinance barking dogs into good behavior or out of the world. Notwithstanding the truth there is in the adage about the safety of a barking dog. a dog who persists in barking unintelligently is a noisome nuisance."

J. N. Adam, who has presented to the city of Buffalo the splendid organ built for the Temple of Music at the Pan-American exposition at a cost of \$18,000, is a well known merchant and a municipal reformer. He was for some years a member of the Board of Councilmen of Buffalo and in the recent ampaign was elected a member of the Board of Aldermen.

Masculine modesty respecting mortuary display receives a severe jolt by the action of a Virginian who bequeathed \$1 each to his wife and nine children and the rest of his cash assets, about \$10,000, for the erection of a watertight vault, "commodious and beautiful," to enclose his remains. The family contribution should be devoted to carving an appropriate epitaph on the vault.

GRUNTS OF THE SPOILSMEN.

Pie Distributors Think the President Has the "Blg Head." Philadelphia Bulletin (rep.)

There is a good deal of growing and grumbling reported from Washington to be on private tap among the republican leaders over the way in which the president has declined to honor the recommendations of not fewer than four members of the national committee, each of them having been turned down individually, one after another.

Louisiana and Texas and Kentucky have been thus disposed of, and now the veteran from Missouri, "Dick" Kerens, with Marcus A. Hanna and Stephen B. Elkins behind him, finds himself halted, with more than a likelihood that his voice in the bestowal of patronage of that state will hereafter cease to be potential.

But in all the whisperings and mutterings which have been coming from them to the effect that the president is troubled with 'the big head," they have failed to produce any reason which shows that in each and every instance he has not done his full duty o his office and to the country.

It looks as if the old hunkers and shad; bosses in the national committee are going government," it ever the question of state to have a hard job on their hands this ownership of the railroads comes actively to winter if they attempt to "work" Roosevelt along the regulation lines.

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Much adverse comment has been pro voked by the unusual display of flowers on the desks of members at the opening congress. In quality, variety and quantity of floral offerings the display surpassed that of former years. Senators were particularly favored, some members being hidden Tribune correspondent says the display was 'especially distasteful to all the older members, particularly in view of the fact that this was the first time they had come together officially since the terrible tragedy t Buffalo. Hundreds and probably thousands of dollars were wasted on flowers for hard-headed statesmen, most of them men beyond middle age, and all of them looking exceedingly foolish as they peeped out from behind their floral intrenchments.

"The result was a vast amount of talk among the senators themselves looking to ward the adoption of a rule forbidding the display of floral gifts within the senate chamber. Many of the most elaborate pieces, as is well known, come from needy sycophants in the departments, who hope in this way to curry favor with their sena tors."

The guides who steer tourists about Washington to the various places of inter est have a new attraction to offer to their patrons now. When they apy a party of lightseers and have failed to secure engagements by offering the usual inducements they ask

"Would not you like to see the Roosevelt

children? Most of the tourists admit that they would, and the guide starts off as though he were leading the way to a cage in which the children were kept for exhibition purposes. The tourists are taken to the White House and into the east room, the southern windows of which look out on the private lawn of the White House. Pulling aside the curtains the guide peers out and as generally there are several of the presi- wear exdent's numerous family out in the yard, he "There, ladies and gentlemen, is little Kermit, the president's son," or "little Ethel, the president's daughter," case may be. The presidential children have become used to this scrutiny. They pay no attention to the visitors, and if they are digging in an old flower bed they keep right on turning up the earth as though the east room windows were not filled with interested spectators.

Visitors to the capitol last week saw ovel sight, which at first caused some alarm from its resemblance to a fire. A fire engine was at work out in the plaza sending a stream of water on the marble walls of the splendid building. The dust, the English sparrow, and his more agreeable congener, the common house pigeon, in the course of the year, manage to soil the white walls, and nothing short of the powerful pumps of one of the best engines in the city will wash the grime and fith away. force of firemen clad in rubber boots and coats were kept at work sending the water into the pooks and crannies of the Grecian capitals on the massive pillars and into he recesses of the sculptured figures of the ornaments in the tympanum of the house and senate gables. Even the heights of the great iron dome were splashed and flooded, and hardly any part of the immense structure escaped a relentless bath n addition to the work of the engine a arge force of capitol employes, with scrubbing brushes and plenty of soap, attacked the worst places which did not yield to the washing given by the engine.

A correspondent of the Chicago Post furnishes the following illustration of the manner in which the president disposes of officeholding double-dealers: A federal officeholder from a western state whose term ie nearly up was at the White House the

other day. He was aching to get a reappointment and thought he could insure it and at the same time please the presiden by tendering his resignation on the theory that he would thereby leave him free to act. So the federal job-holder walked up to President Roosevelt and after a few preliminary remarks added that he had his

resignation in his pocket. "I want you to feel free to not, Mr. President," said he, feeling that he was doing a very clever thing, "and while I hope to be reappointed there is my resignation at your

If the caller thought the president would eagerly tell him to keep his resignation or say, "Well done, good and faithful servant; go back and hold your office three years longer," he was disappointed, for, quick as

so-and-so office."

Before the officeholder could collect his scattered wits he was in the ante-room vaguely wondering what had happened to his clever scheme to "get solid" with the chief job dispenser.

He then broke all speed records getting to his congressman, whom he told of the result of his visit and begged to go at once and try to repair the damage he had done. The congressman lost no time in calling on the president and, as tactfully as possible, told him that his constituent had not meant to resign at all, but merely intended to place his position at the disposal of the new administration.

"Ridiculous," the president exclaimed is his rapid manner. "If he didn't mean to resign why did he come here with his resignation? There is no sense in such actions. It's ridiculous."

The officeholder will probably be reap pointed, as it is not unlikely President Roosevelt saw through his little feint and mischlevously decided to teach him a lesson and discourage "grandstand plays."

SAFETY OF RAILROAD TRAVEL.

Less Loss of Life and Injury Than or City Streets.

St. Paul Pioneer Press Such an awful disaster as that which oc-

curred on the Wabash railroad near Seneca. Mich., on Thursday, when two passenger trains running at the rate of between fifty fashion that these are matters that concern and sixty miles an hour collided, emashing ing size that depend on rains. Organic only posterity. Posterity is our own flesh both trains and causing a terrible loss of matter is apparently stored in the earth and and blood and he that would consign that life, is calculated to make nervous people to any disadvantage is a barbarian. The shudder at the perils involved in journeys moral and material prosperity and political by rail. Of the 500 persons on board, at west of mid-Kansas, is richer than the power of the American people depend on least seventy-five were killed and many more injured. No other railroad casualty age of three times as much potash, six of population and its easier diffusion over is recorded in this country which involved times as much magnesia and fourteen times healthful spaces of country. With the arid so great a loss of life-not even the memoras much lime. The settler has often to regions of the west under control and in able disaster of Azetabula, for only sevcontend with salt, but that is readily soluble process of reclamation, we shall be able to enty were killed in that accident. It will offer a home to every lacking citizen and not diminish the nervousness of the timid Here then is raw material of fertility add immensely to our human resources. traveler that this disaster was due to au erroneous reading of an order by the engineer of one of the trains. It was one of those mistakes to which fallible human beings are liable; and it is this uncertainty n the operation of the human machinery that directs the movements of trains which furnishes an element of peril greater than any defects in the physical machinery which is directed by the more fallible man. But although railroad deasters from both causes are not infrequent, taking the vast operaidentifying it with the beginnings of the tions of all the railroads in the country into view, yet, as a matter of fact, statistics show that upon the average a man is about as safe upon a railroad train as in the streets of the city where he lives, or even safer; that is to say, taking the whole num ber of passengers traveling on railroads during any given year, there is much less loss of life than occurs as the result of accidents in city streets, even after eliminat cars. Moreover, it has been demonstrated hat the ratio of casualties to travelers by railroad is far less than those to travelers by other modes of conveyance-less than those caused by runaway horses alone. So that really such occasional disasters afford no cause for the slightest degree of nerrousness about traveling by rail.

LAUGHING GAS.

Philadelphia Press: Junior Partner—By the way, talking of unexpected windfalls. Borroughs telly me he has come in for some money.

Senior Partner—That's so. Just tell him
he can go out again without it.

New York Sun: Grandma—I'm worried about Sally's baby. Grandpa—So am I. With two grandmoth-ers an' the doctor all workin' ag'in each other, as you say, you can't tell what'll

Chicago Tribune: "My friend," inquired the man in search of information. "would you mind telling me the exact difference between a shine and a polish?" "Fi' centa." responded the child of sunny "Pi' centa," responded the child of su Italy, who owned the boot-blacking es lishment

Chicago Post: "You have stolen my ideas," asserted the struggling author. "True," admitted the successful plagfarist. "but the knowledge that you have been of assistance to so great a man ought to satisfy your abbition."

Washington Star: "Does your son know much about farming?"
"I should say he does," answered Farmer Corntossel. "He says he reckons he'll go to town an' make about a million dollars an' then cum back an' run this farm proper.

Somerville Journal: "Why do you wan-der aimlessly from place to place?" asked the good woman of the tramp. "Because I don't know any other way to wander," said the unimaginative roamer.

San Francisco Bulletin: Biggs-Suffering Aesop! Look at Bluggers! Did you ever see such seedy-looking clothes? Buggs-They are surely a trifle bad, that's Biggs But when I knew him he used to year expensive and well fitting clothes. "Yes," but he's rich now."

LOOK CHEERFUL.

Somerville Journal. No matter how depressed you feet, Look cheerful! A gloomy face is ungenteel, Look cheerful! Nobody cares about your woes, Each has his sorrows, goodness I So why should you your grief dis Look cheerful!

Though you are blue as indigo. Look cheerful!
You're prettler when you smile, you know.
Look cheerful!
The world abhors a gleomy face.
And tales of woe are commonplace.



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