

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.
PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.
Daily Bee (without Sunday), One Year, \$6.00
Daily Bee and Sunday, One Year, \$8.00
Illustrated Bee, One Year, \$7.00
Sunday Bee, One Year, \$4.00
Saturday Bee, One Year, \$1.50
Twenty-fourth Farmer, One Year, \$1.00
DELIVERED BY CARRIER.
Daily Bee (without Sunday), per copy, 2c
Daily Bee (with Sunday), per week, 12c
Daily Bee (including Sunday), per week, 15c
Sunday Bee, per copy, 3c
Evening Bee (without Sunday), per week, 30c
Evening Bee (including Sunday), per week, 35c
Complaints of irregularities in delivery should be addressed to City Circulation Department.

OFFICES.
Omaha—The Bee Building, Twelfth and Broadway, City Hall Building, Twelfth and Broadway, Council Office, Council Office, Chicago—560 Unity Building, New York—Temple Court, Washington—Fourteenth Street.

CORRESPONDENCE.
Communications relating to news and editorial matters should be addressed to The Omaha Bee, Editorial Department.
BUSINESS LETTERS.
Business letters should be addressed to The Omaha Bee, Business Department.

REMITTANCES.
Remit by draft, express or postal order, payable to The Omaha Bee Publishing Company. Only remittance accepted in payment of all accounts. Personal checks, except on Omaha or eastern exchanges, not accepted.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.
State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.
I, George B. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, depose that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily Morning Evening and Sunday Bee, printed during the month of December, 1901, was as follows:
1. Total number of copies, 30,109
2. Copies of regular subscription, 26,390
3. Copies of single copies, 3,719
4. Copies of Sunday Bee, 100
5. Copies of Evening Bee, 100
6. Copies of Omaha edition, 100
7. Copies of other editions, 100
8. Copies of unsold and returned copies, 10,008
9. Less unsold and returned copies, 10,008
Net total sales, 20,101
Net daily average, 30,101

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 3rd day of December, A. D. 1901.
GEO. B. TSCHUCK,
Notary Public.

Stick to it for a week at least.
Uncle Sam has hung out a new sign: "This is my busy year."

The letter carrier and the expressman can have a sigh of relief at the passing of the holiday season.
From the brisk competition to get it, that criminal division of the district bench seems to be the judicial prize package.

The latest combination is that of all the great electrical manufacturing concerns. Stockholders should keep an eye on the safety fuse.

An eastern paper accuses Iowa of having designs of moving the national capital to that state. Most Iowans seem to find it easier to move to the capital.

Omaha people paid over \$10,000 to see Henry Irving and Ellen Terry, but up to this time Omaha people have contributed less than \$300 to the McKinley memorial fund.

The latest news from New York is to the effect that Tammany has sworn off holding office for at least a year, and the people will use their best endeavors to make the abstention permanent.

Who will look after the tender cabbage plants and sensitive onion shoots in the penitentiary greenhouse now that Joe Bartley's services have been abruptly terminated by Governor Savage?

The several democratic candidates for the Kentucky senatorship have opened headquarters at the state capital. They will be forced to open something else that before they secure an election in that state.

Emperor William of Germany has not only ordered a yacht built in this country but has asked the daughter of President Roosevelt to christen it for him. Nothing but the best satisfies the emperor.

Now that Superintendent Penrose has returned from his Kansas City auditorium inspection tour it is to be hoped he may be able to devote a part of his valuable time to an inspection tour of the public schools.

Wanted, five first-class business men who are willing to devote their entire time to the management of the prospective metropolitan city of Omaha for a period of three years without pay and without prerequisites.

Statistics show that during the past year \$13,000,000 was added to the endowment funds of educational institutions in this country. Like the federal treasury, the philanthropist has a surplus and is willing to put it to a good use.

It is scarcely worth while to make any forecast for the Omaha auditorium based on the experience of St. Louis with its Exposition hall. St. Louis has a population of more than 900,000 and the revenue comes chiefly from home patronage.

The next thing on the carpet is the organization of the new Board of Education, which starts out in an atmosphere clarified of well-defined rumors and ought to be able to see its way clear to effect a few reforms within its own sphere of action.

Cuba started off well by having an orderly election to name the first president of the new republic. If they keep up that record and drop the Spanish-American habit of pulling off revolutions every change of the moon, the United States can congratulate itself on having done a good job down there.

LET CONGRESS MAKE HASTE SLOWLY.

It may be regarded as absolutely settled that the American people favor the construction of a canal that will connect the Atlantic and Pacific oceans without unnecessary delay. It is also absolutely settled that the isthmian canal, whether by the Nicaraguan route or the Panama route, shall be built, owned and operated by the government of the United States. The judgment of the American people is against any partnership with a private corporation in the ownership of the canal, and this is the spirit in which congress proposes to deal with this great project.

While the general impression, based upon the report of the Isthmian Canal commission, favors the Nicaragua route, the American people would prefer that congress make haste slowly in fixing the location of this gigantic enterprise. Taking it for granted that the United States government intends to build, own and control the canal, it still remains an open question whether it may not be more economical and beneficial to acquire the Panama canal at reasonable cost than to undertake the construction of a canal over the Nicaragua route.

The first question with which congress must grapple is, which of the two routes for the isthmian canal presents the least resistance from an engineering standpoint? The report of the commission describes the engineering difficulties presented by the two routes and their respective advantages. With apparent candor the commissions gives assurance that the water supply is adequate on both lines, but while the regulation of the water supply will be automatic at Panama, it will depend on the experience and judgment of the operator at Nicaragua. The completion of the harbors as planned for both routes would yield little advantage to either, but all other advantages, including those of maintenance and operation, favor the Panama route.

It is conceded that the Panama route would be nearly 135 miles shorter than the Nicaragua route, and its summit elevation will be less. As a result a deep water vessel would pass through the Panama canal in about one-third of the time taken for passage through the Nicaragua canal. Nevertheless, in the opinion of the commission, the Nicaragua route is the more advantageous for all trans-isthmian commerce except that originating or ending in the west coast of South America, because for the commerce in which the United States is most interested, that between the Atlantic and the Gulf ports on the one hand, and our Pacific ports and those on the Orient on the other hand, the advantage of the Nicaragua route, notwithstanding the greater length of the canal, will be pretty near two days. It is asserted by the commission that the danger from earthquakes is essentially the same for both routes, and neither in Panama nor Nicaragua is this danger sufficient to prevent the construction of the canal.

The material difference between the two routes is therefore chiefly in the matter of estimated cost. The cost of building the Nicaragua canal is estimated at \$100,000,000 and the cost of completing the Panama canal at a little less than \$145,000,000. If the upset price of the Panama canal could be fixed at \$40,000,000 or less, the canal by way of Panama could be completed for less than \$100,000,000; at any rate within the limit of \$200,000,000. Some of the most competent engineers pronounce the commission's estimate of the probable cost of the Nicaragua canal ridiculously low. Instead of \$100,000,000, its cost is computed at \$400,000,000 to \$500,000,000.

Would it be prudent for congress to rush headlong into an undertaking that is liable to involve this country in an outlay that may exceed one-half of the entire interest-bearing national debt? Could the isthmian canal, by any possible increase in international traffic, be made to yield a revenue of from \$10,000,000 to \$15,000,000 per annum over and above the cost of maintenance? Would not the prospective drain on the national treasury by an enterprise that would involve an outlay of \$500,000,000 materially weaken the credit of the nation and force an increase of the interest charged upon the existing national debt? Would not the prospective expenditure of \$500,000,000 absolutely block for many years any attempt to reduce the war taxes? Would it not as a consequence also seriously interfere with the policy of commercial reciprocity between the United States and other foreign countries which promise to enlarge the world's markets for American products of the farm, mill and factory?

These are serious problems to which congress should give mature consideration before committing the country to the isthmian canal project.

A MODEL MAYOR.

For the first time in its history the American metropolis has for its chief executive a man who entertains a high ideal of civic virtue and official obligation. It is announced through what is believed to be reliable authority that before assuming the duties of mayor of Greater New York, Seth Low had disposed of over \$1,000,000 worth of stocks in various financial institutions which might seek to become depositories of city funds. Many of these stocks and bonds Mayor Low has owned for years. They were all of the gilt-edge order and many of them were stocks in banks and trust companies, inherited from his father, and had stood in the family name from the time the banks were organized. Most of these securities cannot be duplicated as income producers by any mercantile or industrial investment. Not only has Mayor Low divested himself of all relations to financial concerns that were liable to become fiduciary agents of the city, but he has also disposed of all his holdings in other corporations which are carry-

ing on a public or semi-public business as contractors for supplies or materials required by the city.

In taking this action Mr. Low has acted upon the principle that a public officer, like Caesar's wife, must be above suspicion in order to retain public confidence and esteem. While the charter of Greater New York does not expressly prohibit the mayor from having an interest in banking institutions and other concerns that come into direct business relations with the municipal government, he very properly has cut loose from connections that might place him in a false light as a representative of the municipality.

This is an example which it is to be hoped the mayors of other cities will emulate.

MUNICIPAL CONSOLIDATION.

The committee of eminent lawyers and citizens appointed to consider the questions of municipal consolidation and reduction of taxes have formulated a most attractive plan, which the gentlemen profess to regard as entirely practicable and confidently expect it to be accepted by the people.

This plan contemplates the establishment of one metropolitan city covering an area that would include within its boundaries the cities of Omaha and South Omaha and the villages of Dundee and Florence. It is proposed in the plan outlined that the entire machinery of government of the consolidated cities and towns shall be placed under a board of control, which shall consist of five members, to be selected for their known ability and probity of character, who shall serve without pay and who shall have full power to appoint all other necessary officers and agents they deem necessary under such ordinances and rules as they may see fit to enact. It is also proposed in this comprehensive plan that the area covered by the consolidated corporations shall be separated from the remainder of Douglas county and freed from all expenses incidental to county government.

This plan of the five eminent lawyers and citizens recalls forcibly the exclamation of the French general who viewed the charge of the heroic 600 who rode into the jaws of death: "This is magnificent, but it is not war!" The plan submitted is magnificent, but it is utterly inapplicable to existing conditions, and, with all due deference to the five eminent citizens, it is also utterly impracticable.

The eminent projectors of the plan admit that it cannot materialize until life is blown into it by the next legislature, which convenes in January, 1903. With absolute assurance that the next legislature would enact a law to carry out the plan, the proposed reduction of taxes would be postponed for from fifteen to eighteen months. But the next legislature will do no such thing, and the people of Omaha and South Omaha will never ratify any such scheme. And, worst of all, there is no prospect of finding five citizens, known for their ability and probity of character, who would be willing to assume the responsibilities and discharge the burdensome functions of local government, without compensation.

Public-spirited citizens may possibly exist in the older cities that boast retired capitalists in the prime of life who possess these qualifications and who are willing to devote their entire time to public affairs as a matter of honor, but Diogenes, with the aid of a calcium light, could not find one such man in Omaha. No first-class business man in this community, who is competent to manage the affairs of a great corporation, would be willing to abandon his own business and devote his entire time to public affairs without pay.

But even if five such self-sacrificing business men could be found, it is exceedingly doubtful whether a majority of the taxpayers or voters within the new corporate boundaries would be willing to vote them absolute control of the machinery of local government. It is also exceedingly doubtful, notwithstanding the eminent legal authority, whether the property owners within the new corporate boundaries could be freed by any process, outside of a constitutional amendment, from paying their share of the liabilities of Douglas county. The county now has a bonded debt of more than \$500,000. It owns public buildings and grounds located within the corporate boundaries of Omaha, acquired by taxation and local issues. It is very doubtful whether the owners of property in the consolidated city could escape the payment of their share of this debt and yet retain part ownership in the county buildings.

Viewed from the standpoint of practical experience the new plan strikes us as being too visionary for this generation. At any rate, the people who expect to effect any material reduction in taxes, either in the city, county or public schools this year, have nothing to hope for from a plan that cannot be put in operation for years to come.

Seven Sioux Indians are going to Washington to collect pay for ponies alleged to have been lost many years ago in the attempt to rescue some white women from other Indians.

The value of all the ponies the Indians owned at that time would probably not pay railroad fare to Washington, but like a snowball in its travels the bill will be big enough when it reaches the capital.

And to think of it, that some of the very men who have been shouting loudest for purity and honesty in local government put their names to the petition for the unconditional pardon of the prince of embezzlers and greatest corruptionist who ever held office in Nebraska.

Russian nihilists have not abandoned the cheerful pastime of placing bombs under the houses of people in authority.

They made an attempt to elevate the family of the czar's cousin and fears are entertained that another epidemic of such outrages is likely to break out. Living in Russia appears to be a choice between being blown up or being sent to Siberia for blowing up someone else. Most people would prefer a residence in Nebraska.

Police Judge Gordon has filed another official bond based on his election in 1895. But why go to all this trouble every two years? Why not file a bond good in perpetuity that will also cover his heirs and assigns? The mere fact that the people have voted for another man at the last election and turned Gordon down ought not to interfere with his vested rights in the emoluments and perquisites of the office.

A few years ago the people of Colorado were absolutely certain they would be utterly ruined if they did not get free and unlimited coinage of silver. The first of the year the papers in almost every city in the state published annual reviews and the showing indicates beyond contradiction that the state never had so prosperous a year as the one just closed—and it did not get free coinage of silver, either.

The city tax rate for 1902 is already in process of incubation. To keep it within bounds will require the co-operation of both school board and council. There is no good reason why these two bodies should work at loggerheads, as they have for the past two years, when ever the tax levy is up. They are both spending money out of the same pocket.

The Weather bureau is to establish a station in the Yellowstone park to ascertain, if possible, what becomes of many storms which come down from the northwest but are lost in that section. There is no hurry about digging them up, and on a pinch the rest of the world could stand it to have a few more lost.

Many of One Mind.

New York World.
It is a mistake to assume that girls are never of one mind. Fifty-six of them have rejected the same man in Omaha.

The World's Arbitrator.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.
The willingness of the nations of the earth to refer their neighborhood grievances to the United States is quite complimentary, but likely to become quite burdensome.

A Gold Bug from the West.

Philadelphia Record.
When a gold bug sails out of the west to alight at the door of the federal treasury and make his headquarters there, the believers in 16 to 1 silver dollars must admit that the fact is portentous. A gold bug from the east would have been no such great matter.

Tails Outweigh Traditions.

Washington Star.
By dining with Minister Conger a number of Chinese dignitaries have violated the traditions which prevented association with foreigners. But the Chinaman was ever astute, and when it comes to a direct choice he would rather have traditions broken than the treasury.

Good Will Appreciated.

Kansas City Star.
As long as Admiral Cervera can feel friendly enough toward the United States to send a bunch of autograph photographs to this country in acknowledgement of the treatment he received on this side of the Atlantic, it would seem that the naval war at Washington might be brought to a close.

Kaickerbockers Getting Good.

New York Tribune.
It is now certain that New York for the next two years will contain comparatively few fraudulent bucket shops, "get-rich-quick syndicates," pool rooms, policy shops, fare banks and swindling schemes of any kind. Therefore, honest industry, sobriety, diligence and hard work will have a better chance.

Unreliable Estimates.

Buffalo Express.
George S. Morrison, a member of the Isthmian Canal commission, is said to have acknowledged that the estimate of \$150,000,000 for the Nicaragua canal is only a beginning and that the canal would really cost \$300,000,000 and perhaps more. If the commission has deliberately understated the cost it has paved the way for future scandals as serious, perhaps, as those which have involved the Panama canal.

The Land of Opportunity.

Louisville Courier-Journal.
This is the country of the individual where every tub stands on its own bottom and where every man is given the opportunity to make money if he wills, or do anything else he prefers. Our millionaires have won their way in most cases with stout hearts and hard heads, not just as our statesmen, poets and artists have done. Emerson, in one of his rail-driving sentences, said no man should repine for what his soul desired. Let him take it and pay the price. He can do it in the United States as he can do it in no other country in the world.

Too Many Railroad Accidents.

Springfield Republican.
It is a time of many railroad accidents. Hardly a day goes by that one or more of them are not reported, as a rule accompanied by loss of life. One would suppose we were going back toward the infant days of railroading. From the time of the disaster at Seneca, Mich., over a month ago, in which fifty or more persons were killed, there has been a steady stream of accidents, a startling proportion of them being caused by careless head-on collisions. The heavy business pressing upon the roads seems to be more than they can safely handle.

The Arbitration Committee.

Indianapolis News.
It is a matter for congratulation that ex-President Cleveland has consented to become a member of the special committee appointed by the National Civic Federation to bring capital and labor closer together and to smooth out the rough places for them. Composed as the committee is of such men as Mr. Cleveland and Bishop Potter, it will be hard to impugn its motives or to maintain that the members have any other object in view than doing their duty fearlessly and honestly and to the best interests of the country. While, therefore, the decisions of the committee will not be compulsory, nevertheless they will inform public opinion and decide for it on what side it shall cast its influence. The result will be as the party that is not most satisfied with the judgments of the committee will hesitate before it will set contrary to them.

ROUND ABOUT NEW YORK.

Ripples on the Current of Life in the Metropolis.

Copper King Lawson of Boston does not entertain a very high opinion of New Yorkers in general. And for very good reasons. Last summer, it will be recalled, he tried to break into yachting circles in Gotham and was turned down. Later on the New York speculators attacked Lawson's copper tank and let out all the water and some of the metal, squeezing the Boston carmine specialist for several million dollars. These incidents lend a copper tinge to the Bostonian's opinion of Gotham, and it is hot stuff.

In a calendar of fifty-two tablets, one for each week, compiled by Mr. Lawson and sent to his friends during the holidays, he indulges in these sarcastic remarks: "Wall street on dry days amuses itself by soaking the public—also on wet days and other days."

"A Wall street pilot is one who, tired of sinking his own craft, sinks others for salvage."

"A trust is a modern skyscraper, with a foundation of water, no windows and the roof in the cellar."

"The letters and figures used in the language of the tape are very few, but they spell hell in 99,000,000 different languages."

Wall introducing January, Mr. Lawson says there are three fundamentals of stock speculation, which he describes as follows: "1. Take what comes to you as though you liked it. Never for an instant forget it's a game of chance, and, while it's free, no one is compelled to come into it."

"2. During the year, when the fellow wins, and he is as much entitled to it as you."

"3. Don't rail against Wall street because it in time gets the entire stake through its commission. Wall street is the gamekeeper and referee. All interesting games must, will and do have them. Wall street was there before you were born and will be after you are dead."

Here are some of the best of the epigrams: "If Rockefeller, Rothschild or the czar of Russia stacks up against the ticker somebody will hit the ambulance—and it won't be the ticker."

"When you gamble in stocks it is you against the world—one mind against millions."

"There are many philosophers in Wall street, but they are all broke."

"The more lives than rum and cards combined."

"Aristotle must have been flitting with the tape when he said the world was made up of two kinds of people—liars and liars."

"A lie well told in Wall street is the truth."

The Brooklyn Eagle says that during this year \$6,500,000 of property has been stolen, \$1,651,810 has been paid by banks and stores for special protection, \$4,824,000 has been paid for private watchmen and detectives and the city has paid \$1,338,342 for its police force. This makes a total of nearly \$25,000,000. Crime has increased in ten years. In that time burglary has increased 113 per cent, while the population has increased only 35 per cent. There have been 231 murders, 563 robberies, 3,472 larcenies and 1,513 burglaries during the last year.

The population of the ocean is estimated at 3,000,000. That is to say, the number of sailors and others whose business is on the high seas equals the inhabitants of the thirteen original colonies. Last year more than one-sixth of this ocean population, or, to be more exact, 550,000 officers and men, of 4,343 vessels, entered the port of New York. These figures are significant of more than the mere extent of our commerce. They tell the story of neglect of the nation, the state, the city and the church to protect seamen while they are on land. Something in that direction has indeed been done. There are several admirable charities and societies which labor in behalf of these men of the sea. Among the best of these is the American Seaman's Aid society, which was established seventy-three years ago. Miss Helen Gould has recently erected a splendid club house for the seamen of the navy. But for the most part our attitude toward the sailors has been that of neglect. There are good laws for their protection, but they are not enforced. The sailor, when he reaches New York finds his most cordial welcome from the harpies who prey upon him rather than from the men who may pray for him.

The expense of lighting the city of New York is no small one. For 1902 the appropriations for lamps and gas in the two boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx is \$1,361,500. In the borough of Brooklyn it is \$200,000; in the borough of Queens, which is, in proportion to its total population, by far the best illuminated of the boroughs, it is \$276,000; and in the borough of Richmond, \$150,000. All told, the expense of gas and electricity furnished on streets, in public buildings and in highways in New York City is a round \$3,000,000 a year.

The city of New York, through its charitable departments, dispenses extensively in the agricultural line. During the summer of 1901 the official harvest was 69 bushels of onions, 46 bushels of rhubarb, 96 bushels of beans, 25 bushels of parsnips, 41 bushels of carrots, 2 bushels of radishes, 4,783 bushels of cabbages, and in the borough of Richmond, 17 bushels of spinach, 35 bushels of peas, 35 bushels of beets, 3 bushels of tomatoes, 17 bushels of leeks, 4,621 ears of corn, 342 squashes and 957 cucumbers.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Secretary Ritchie of the Cincinnati Municipal Reform league reports that there are 8,440 penny-in-the-slot machines in that city and that over \$3,000,000 drops into them every year.

It is said that Herbert C. Hoover is one of the highest-salaried men of his years in the industrial world. At the age of 23 he is in receipt of \$33,000 annually for his services as a mining expert.

Someone complimented General Miles on the uniform he wore at a recent reception in Washington. The veteran said, significantly: "I fear I am getting too much red tape on my uniforms, don't you?"

Richard Henry Stoddard, one of the best of the living American poets, is lying dangerously ill at his home in New York City. Since the death of his son, Lorimer, the dramatist and actor, he has fallen rapidly. Theodore S. McClellan, a printer of Brunswick, Me., who recently celebrated his 93rd birthday anniversary, did all the printing in the Crimea, was in the army in South America and later with the victorious army in China, which "Chinese" Gordon afterward commanded.

SOME LAST YEAR'S RECORDS.

New York Journal of Commerce: The total capitalization of all "industrial" consolidations in the United States at the present time, after making allowances for duplication, may be placed at approximately \$5,500,000,000. This does not include railway, street railway, lighting or banking consolidations.

St. Louis Republic: American citizens have reason to review the record of 1901 with peculiar satisfaction. They belong to the most prosperous nation in the world. Their government, in spite of dangers, still stands for the best teaching of civilization and the sanest thought of free and enlightened humanity. They are the envy of other peoples. Their future, in their own hands. A glorious past should be a guarantee of a consistent future.

New York World: More than 247,000,000 shares of stock have been sold "on change" in this city since January 1. At 100 per share the property thus sold is 25,000,000,000. It is a sum inconceivably great, exceeding the total revenue of the government twenty-five times the total interest-bearing debt of the United States; it would dig 3,000 tunnels to Brooklyn at \$100,000 each; it would build a \$100,000 library for every 300 inhabitants of the whole country. Amazing total! But the speculative situation in the Produce exchange, in land, this single mart of a single city has sold in a single year \$1,656 in shares for every family in the United States!

Chicago Tribune: The record of embezzlement and other forms of financial delinquency during the year just closed, taken for the three years preceding it, is distinctly encouraging. The record of the last three years is as follows: 1898, \$5,851,263; 1899, \$2,318,373; 1900, \$4,669,134; 1901, \$4,085,569, as compared with the reports for a long series of years preceding 1898 these figures are comparatively small and scarcely testify eloquently to the general prosperity of the times. It is only in periods of panic or general financial depression that the embezzler largely flourishes, or his work becomes apparent. The banks, as usual, were the principal sufferers in 1901, their losses amounting to \$1,613,495. In these figures are small when compared with those of some past years.

Chicago Tribune: The record of deaths by violence in this country in 1901 shows quite a decrease, being 7,852, as compared with 8,275 in 1900. The latter figures were an increase of 2,650 over those of the preceding year, and in some instances it is to be obtained accurate statistics on this point by mail and telegraph, as many cases are not reported, but they are sufficiently accurate to indicate that crime is not rapidly increasing in this country. The record of suicides, however, tells another interesting story. In 1901, 7,245 persons "shuffled" this mortal coil, as compared with 6,755 in 1900. The steady increase in the suicide habit, largely due to the ease with which poison may be obtained, this being the most common agency employed, is shown by the following record of cases in a series of years: In 1890, 2,040; 1891, 3,551; 1892, 3,860; 1893, 4,456; 1894, 4,912; 1895, 5,739; 1896, 6,330; 1897, 6,600; 1898, 5,920; 1899, 5,240; 1900, 6,755; 1901, 7,245.

MR. SCHWAB'S "DEAD TRUSTS."

Does a Change of Name Improve Their Characteristics?
Philadelphia North American.

It would be interesting to have the opinion of Mr. Schwab, president of the United States Steel corporation, on the nature of the sewer pipe and window glass combinations that have been formed, or rather reformer, during the last week, the former at Pittsburgh, and the latter at Mundw. Mr. Schwab undertook recently to expound before the Bankers' club of Chicago the fundamental principles of the "trust" and the "consolidation" by contrasting them. "The trust," he asserted with all possible positiveness "is a dead business proposition, with which I will never again be troubled." It was founded for the purpose of restricting trade, increasing prices and throttling competition, and consequently had worked its own destruction. "Out of the ruins," he continued, "I had sprung the beneficent 'consolidation,' which had for its guiding line the very opposite of this—the expansion of trade, the creation of new avenues and the reduction of prices."

It is now announced that the manufacturers of sewer pipe and window glass will be the last few days have perfected arrangements for securing control of the entire trade of the United States and maintaining uniform prices by general agreement. Manifestly these two trusts—or shall we call them "consolidations," out of regard for Mr. Schwab's sensibilities—will never again be troubled." It was founded for the purpose of restricting trade, increasing prices and throttling competition, and consequently had worked its own destruction. "Out of the ruins," he continued, "I had sprung the beneficent 'consolidation,' which had for its guiding line the very opposite of this—the expansion of trade, the creation of new avenues and the reduction of prices."

After all, it matters little what name is given to these monopolistic alliances. Neither can they be justified by substituting a new title for an old one. The trust apologists may juggle their words never so cleverly; they cannot conceal the fact that new trusts are being added every month to the hundreds that already exist. The abuses growing out of the trust system cannot be cured by coining agreeable definitions. That a single panacea has been discovered for all the diseases from which the industrial system is suffering no sensible person will contend. Neither will he, unless governed by self-interest, attempt to forestall the application of

any remedy by insisting that all the organs of the body industrial and commercial are sound and working naturally.

IOWA'S BASKET OF PLUMS.

Georgia Wonderfully Views the Abundance of the Hawkeye State.
Atlanta Constitution.

How does it happen that the state of Iowa is capturing so many political plums this year? Nothing like it has ever been known in the history of the state. We ask this question in no spirit of dissatisfaction, but simply to get at the root of the good fortune to which our sister commonwealth of the middle west has fallen heir.

Jeremiah Wilson, who has been secretary of agriculture for the past five years, will continue in all probability to occupy this portfolio under President Roosevelt. At least no declaration to the contrary has yet been made, and now that Leslie M. Shaw has been called to the office of secretary of the treasury it will be the somewhat anomalous lot of the state of Iowa under the present administration to be represented by two members of the president's cabinet at the same time. Even the great state of New York has rarely laid claim to such an honor.

But the inventory is still incomplete. David B. Henderson, speaker of the national house of representatives, hails from the state of Iowa, and if the republican party remains in the ascendancy in congress it is likely that the present speaker will succeed himself.

Another distinguished representative of the state who occupies an important public office is George E. Roberts, who holds the cabinet of the same name. Even the great state of New York has rarely laid claim to such an honor.