

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION: State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.: George B. Tschack, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, do hereby certify 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:

Table with 2 columns: Number of copies and Total. Rows include Daily Bee (with/without Sunday), Sunday Bee (with/without Sunday), Evening Bee (with/without Sunday), and Total (43,255).

Net sales, \$35,157; Net daily average, \$40,101.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 21st day of December, A. D. 1901. M. B. HENEGAN, Notary Public.

It is reported that packers have a corner on eggs. Now is the time for all patriotic hens to get busy.

As a preliminary to the elimination of partisan politics from the bench, it might be suggested that the Bar association eliminate partisan politics from its meetings.

South Omaha continues to pull off prize fights right along apparently without apprehension of interference by the law officers. Here is a chance for our conscientious county attorney.

A bill has been introduced in the senate to create a new cabinet position to be known as minister of commerce. Should it become a law, states with favorite sons will do well to keep an eye on Iowa.

Those warring local base ball magnates stand in danger of copying pugilistic methods too closely. A little more business and a little less hot air would keep the enthusiasm for the game stirred up just as well.

It should not be forgotten that no one set up a howl for the poor school children when the salaries of all the grade teachers were cut \$5 a month all round to give Superintendent Pease an increase of \$900 a year when he was already overpaid.

An American syndicate is seeking a concession to build a trolley line from Cairo, Egypt, to Mecca, and one from Damascus to the same place. If the present rage keeps up the entire world will soon be kept busy dodging American trolley cars.

The chief of the weather bureau wants meteorology taught in the public schools. How fine it would be if the small boys were educated up to the point where he could tell to a certainty on Saturday whether it would be good fishing weather on Sunday.

The order of the commissioner of Indian affairs that all Sioux Indians must work if they would receive anything from the government excepts the squaws while applying to all able-bodied bucks. This is shattering Indian traditions with a vengeance.

A trust company is being organized to loan money to farmers on grain warehouse receipts. This might have been a good thing a few years ago, but just at present the western farmer is not looking for some place to borrow money—he has money to loan.

The surest way to revive a healthy activity in Omaha real estate is by holding the tax rate within reasonable limits. And the tax rate cannot be held within reasonable limits unless the expenses of county, city and school government are held down by a policy of strict economy.

The solicitude for the school children manifested by our hysterical contemporaries seems to be chiefly solicitude for the high-priced favorites and fad-dicts who have been grafted onto the school pay roll. The school board's plan of retrenchment does not affect the children except possibly so far as the school year may be shortened two weeks.

It is a little strange, but nevertheless a fact, that in China women are as little considered as in any country in the world in the framing of the bill of rights, and no effort is or has been made to improve their civic condition. Yet China is ruled absolutely by a woman. Here would appear to be a good field for the woman suffragist agitators to put in some work.

THE HEPBURN CANAL BILL.

The passage by the house of representatives of the Nicaragua canal bill formulated by Congressman Hepburn by a practically unanimous vote is a distinct triumph for Iowa's distinguished representative. As the foremost champion of the Nicaragua canal in the lower house of congress Mr. Hepburn has exhibited admirable tact and splendid leadership in carrying this momentous measure through the house without amendment and without protracted debate.

The mere fact that the Hepburn bill has passed the house without a division and with but two dissenting votes affords, however, no assurance of its final enactment in its present form. Two years ago Mr. Hepburn forced a bill through the house with but thirty dissenting votes, and yet it was stalled in the senate and failed to reach the stage for final passage before the adjournment of the last congress.

If it be true that a well-organized lobby in the interest of the Panama canal is now industriously at work to defeat the Nicaragua canal project, its strength was either masked on the final passage of the bill or must have been absurdly exaggerated. If it be true that the railroads engaged in trans-continental traffic are hostile to the Nicaragua canal or any other isthmian canal, their strength certainly was not represented by the two votes cast in the house against the final passage of the bill nor by the 110 votes cast in favor of the amendment that would have empowered the president to decide whether the Nicaragua or the Panama route should be given the preference.

Now that the Hepburn bill has gone to the senate for ratification the real opposition to the Nicaragua canal may be expected to manifest itself in various ways. The senate is a deliberative body that will not allow a measure of this magnitude and importance to be rushed through even by so impetuous and indefatigable a champion as Senator Morgan, who will doubtless exert all his persuasive powers and parliamentary tactics to have the bill reported back favorably from the committee at the earliest day and subjected to the critical scrutiny of the full senate with the least friction.

Quite apart from any intrigue that may be set on foot by the opponents of the isthmian canal, the conditions under which the Hepburn bill has passed the house this year differ very materially from the conditions under which it passed the house two years ago, or even the conditions that prevailed when it was introduced at the beginning of the session of the present congress in December. Two years ago the issue had crystallized down merely to a question whether the isthmian canal by the Nicaragua route should be constructed, owned and operated by the government, or should be built by a private corporation subsidized by the government. Incidentally, also, the question of fortifying the canal and the modification of the then existing treaty between Great Britain and the United States was still open.

At the beginning of the present session it was understood that the lowest upset price at which the Panama canal could be acquired was \$100,000,000, and the deductions and conclusions of Admiral Walker and his associates on the isthmian commission were on that basis. In other words, as between the two routes, with the Panama canal estimated at \$109,000,000 and the estimated cost of its completion, the commission reached the conclusion that the difference between the cost of the Nicaragua and the Panama canals could not be considered as an important factor. But now that a definite proposition has been submitted by the Panama Canal company to transfer all its right of way, privileges and properties in the Panama canal for \$40,000,000, the difference in the cost of the two enterprises is very striking.

A reduction in the estimated cost of the Panama canal by \$69,000,000 is well worthy of a consideration from a business standpoint and the senate will doubtless weigh carefully all the advantages and drawbacks of the two routes before a final decision is reached.

SAN FRANCISCO LABOR REGIME. More than ordinary interest attaches to the new city government that has just been installed in San Francisco with the successful labor candidate for mayor at its head. Mayor Schmitz has signified his inauguration by the appointment for the heads of the most important departments of the principal labor leaders who were active in assisting his election. As commissioner of public works he has named the president of the teamsters' union; as fire commissioner, a member of the bridge builders' and pile drivers' union; as police commissioner, the attorney for the sailors' union and labor council; as school director, a member of the orchestra musicians' organization; and as park commissioner, an artist.

While there is nothing in the previous occupations of any of these appointees that necessarily disqualifies them from serving in a public capacity, the success of the labor administration will depend upon the ability of the new department heads to adjust themselves to the duties that devolve upon them. Under the ordinary rule of party government official appointments have been given to persons apparently equally incongruous to the places, so that the San Francisco labor regime is at no special disadvantage as compared with other cities. At the same time men more or less identified with the work of political organizations are, as a rule, more familiar with public affairs and consequently better able to discharge public duties than those who have had no experience whatever outside of their own personal occupations or private business institutions.

If the labor leaders of San Francisco can be made to realize fully the responsibility that rests upon them and

TO APPRECIATE THE FACT THAT THEIR ELEVATION TO POWER IN THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT PLACES THEM AND THEIR UNIONS ON PROBATION BEFORE THE PUBLIC, THEY MAY RISE TO THE EMERGENCY AND MEET EVERY EXPECTATION.

In the interval the eyes of all who are interested in the progress of municipal government in this country will be focused upon the San Francisco experiment.

PERMANENT CENSUS BUREAU.

It now seems quite probable that the proposal to make the national census bureau a permanent branch of the public service will be carried through to successful completion during the present session of congress. This step has been persistently urged for many years by statisticians and political scientists who depend largely upon the census for materials in connection with their work. These students and scholars have been outspoken in calling attention to the inherent weakness of intermittent efforts at keeping record of social, economic and industrial progress, that are necessarily continuous.

In the earlier decades of the republic the need of permanent machinery for the collection of census data was not marked, both because the population and resources of the country were still comparatively small and the scope of the census inquiries much more restricted. With the enumeration of 1880, taken under the late General Francis A. Walker, the demand for better facilities became of real urgency and this urgency grew more pressing with the succession of 1890 and 1900. The census still in process of completion has been unquestionably expedited and improved by reason of the careful digestion of plans in advance and the early start secured in the organization of the staff.

With a permanent census bureau several distinct cognate branches of departmental work that have to do with the collation and presentation of statistics relating to different fields of national activity now carried on in subordination to the Treasury department, the Interior department, the Agriculture department and the State department could be coordinated and enhanced in efficiency, while at the same time saving effort at present duplicated, between them. Should a new department of commerce and industry be created, the census and statistical bureaus would naturally fall within its province.

Representative Hopkins, who has charge of the bill as chairman of the house committee on census, is confident that it will easily pass both houses and become law at an early day. Should this result be brought about the American people will have at its command an official corps of expert statisticians who will keep them constantly informed not only of the progress of the country is making, but of its relative position in the commercial race of the world powers; and accurate information, as everyone knows, is the first requisite for intelligent competition.

UNCERTAINTY OF THE LAW.

One point scored by Judge McHugh in his address as president of the Nebraska State Bar association will strike a sympathetic chord as much with laymen as with members of the legal profession. It is his protest against the uncertainty of the law as laid down by the courts and his plea for a more consistent adherence to precedent.

Judge McHugh finds special ground for complaint in the Nebraska reports. "Nebraska is a young state," he says, "and yet in the decisions of our supreme court there will be found 139 cases decided by that tribunal which have been expressly overruled. In addition to these cases which have been in terms overruled we have a large number of others which have been distinguished out of all semblance to their original tenor. The process of overruling is still going on and every volume of Nebraska reports contains some decisions overruling prior decisions of the court."

While Nebraska is by no means the only offender in this respect, there is no question but that the uncertainty of the law in this state has had much to do with encouraging frivolous litigation and discouraging litigants who have real grievances to correct. While everyone is presumed to know the law, the best lawyers have often had to confess that they could not tell how a court would hold even on points already adjudicated.

Whether it is better for a court to adhere to a ruling which it is convinced is wrong for the sake of consistency, or whether it should overrule and reverse its former decisions with the same freedom that it passes upon new points raised for the first time is subject to serious debate. The time-tried adage that a wise man changes his mind may be just as applicable to the courts of last resort, but if the change is to follow every change in the personnel of the bench and every swing of the political pendulum in the make-up of its membership, the hope for certainty in the law will have to be abandoned.

Both bench and bar can well ponder over this question. No scheme of economy and retrenchment for the relief of the taxpayers can ever be put into effect without treading on some one's toes. The taxpayers at large dislike to be dislodged and resort to every possible means to obstruct the use of the pruning knife. The effort to check extravagance also unmarks the sham reformer who constantly champions the over-burdened taxpayer until the time for action arrives and then deserts and ranges himself with the tax absorbers and against the taxpayers.

If Police Judge Gordon will take his disputed back salary and call it quits, the taxpayers of Omaha would be money in pocket within a very short time. The loss of fines under Judge Gordon's system of police court administration can eat up more than what would be saved on his salary if the city won out on its contention. The taxpay-

ERS COULD STAND THE PAYMENT OF THE BACK SALARY IF THEY COULD GET RID OF GORDON FOR GOOD.

Paraguay has stirred up another revolution. This country has been painfully quiet for a number of years. The last conflict there resulted in killing off such a large portion of the male population that it has been necessary for a new crop to mature before a war could be launched. Such remedies are drastic, but it might not be a bad idea to try them on some of the other trouble seeking South American countries.

A prominent minister, who went to Manila on purpose to investigate the subject, returns to say that city is better governed and vice is under better restraint there than in any city of the size in the United States. This does not tally with the stories told by political opponents of the administration, but it is probably nearer the truth than the sensational reports circulated for political effect.

While it is enjoying our hospitality, perhaps the State Bar association might be induced to point out how the proposed new consolidated municipal government for Omaha, South Omaha and suburbs under the benevolent direction of five self-sacrificing and public-spirited guardians can be called into being without first changing the state constitution.

Several of the largest ships of the North Atlantic squadron are to go to Vezuevan waters to watch the progress of events. If American interests, in common with those of other nations, are menaced by the unsettled condition there, a good supply of American blue-jackets may be a handy thing to have around.

So far as we have been able to ascertain, that great reformer, Millard Fillmore Funkhouser, has not yet produced before the grand jury a scintilla of evidence to sustain his "well-defined rumor" of systematic diversion of fine money extorted from the vicious classes. The grand jury is still in session.

The city is preparing to increase its fire-fighting force and improve its equipment in response to the demand of the insurance rate makers. What are the insurance men going, however, in response to the demands for better rates on Omaha fire risks? One good turf deserves another.

Iowa democrats are struggling over the membership of state boards which under the law are required to contain men of at least two parties. Unless matters improve in that state it may be necessary to import democrats to make up the minority representation.

INFORMATION GRATIS.

Philadelphia Ledger. Ohio may as well be informed that the rest of the country does not precisely know what its big political row is about, and doesn't extremely care.

Fairly Good Pay.

Washington Post. It is urged that last week treasurer, who was pardoned last week, took only \$250,000 and had served four years and a half. Down east that would be considered fairly good pay.

Looking for a Moses.

St. Paul Globe (dem.). Democrats all over the country are looking for their leaders to give some signs of life. They continue to look to that minority in congress to give some better account of the country than they have given before the holidays. If the democratic party is not to go out of business it is time that its chief representatives should offer the masses of their party some promise of leadership in the immediate future.

Electric Lights at Cut Rates.

Indianapolis Journal. The electric light company supplying Fort Wayne under a contract running until July, 1904, has offered the city council to enter into a new contract which will reduce the net cost of each lamp, which is \$20 after deducting the taxes, will be reduced to \$63.01 per lamp. One item of reduction in the cost is the transfer of the city of 2 per cent of the gross receipts of the company. Evidently the lighting contract in record is a valuable one in the estimation of the company.

British Losses in South Africa.

Army and Navy Journal. In spite of all that has been said about the heaviness of British losses in the South African war, it appears that they have been abnormally great after all. Trustworthy information as to this subject is given in a Blue Book just issued from the British war office detailing these losses from the outbreak of hostilities up to and including the month of November, 1901. According to the figures presented 451 British officers and 4,614 enlisted men have been killed in action since hostilities began, 149 officers and 1,590 men have died of wounds, 5 officers and 97 men have died in captivity, 128 officers and 49,353 men have died of disease and 19 officers and 59 men have died as the result of accidents. Here is a death list of 15,248 and of the victims 883 were officers. To the showing should be added the following casualties: Missing and prisoners not accounted for, 7 officers and 521 men; sent home as invalids, 2,612 officers and 69,262 men.

The Eight-Hour Law.

American Inventor. The International Association of Machinists is attempting to secure an eight-hour working day in all the machine shops in the country, the change to take effect on May 20, 1902.

The law at present applies in a compulsory manner only to work performed directly under government control. It is the duty of the association and, in fact, of all the labor organizations to have this law include the operations of all sub-contractors who are doing work or furnishing material for the government. Particularly it is desired to include all the shipping and contracting corporations and all the steel companies who are furnishing material for the navy. As the eight-hour law is generally esteemed a matter of simple justice to the workmen, and as it has been proved many times that men working eight hours per day for good wages do more work and do it better than those who work longer hours at a less price, it is a matter of general satisfaction that President Roosevelt should have promised his attention to furthering the extent of the law.

The International Association of Machinists is to be congratulated and it is to be fervently hoped that the president's recommendation will have an effect on congress when the next bill is introduced and succeed in making it pass the senate.

POLITICAL DRIFT.

Cincinnati are raising a fund for the defense of Caleb Powers, the victim of Cantwell justice in Kentucky. John M. Harlan of Kentucky is the ranking justice of the supreme court of the United States in seniority of service. He was appointed in 1877.

Senator Platt has decided to give up his purpose of suing McClure's Magazine for libel. Some elegant front page stuff is thus denied to the newspapers.

Dick Croker is said to be packing up preparatory to his return to Wantage. Not a word is to be heard of the feeling is a hearty "speed to parting guest."

Montague Lessor, the young republican of New York City, who defeated Perry Belmont for a seat in congress, is a lawyer of decided ability and a vote getter of unusual strength for a novice.

Mayor Lof of New York started the wheels of reform by requiring eight hours' work a day in his office, and by prohibiting smoking during working hours. This is a low down trick on political hacks.

Naval Constructor Hobson is reported about to abandon the navy for politics. The captain has decided talent as a vote getter, but it behooves him to limit his oscillations to babies during campaigns.

The rate of the country, labor continues scarce, and the rate of wages relatively higher; mercantile failures are few in number and not formidable in extent. In speaking of the census, he said: "What, after all, Canada needs is quality rather than quantity. Mass numbers do not necessarily insure stability, strength or prosperity."

For the pinch of poverty which the working classes of Paris are feeling just now—although with less acuteness than those of either Berlin or Vienna—two contributory causes are assigned, one of which will be applied to Gothamites and the other to Chicagoans. The first of these is the mean spirit of provincial towns, which, instead of supporting their own pauper poor, are prone to supply them with third-class tickets and send them north to seek work in Paris, or rather to saddle the taxpayers of the national capital.

The second cause of distress has been the inevitable aftermath of the exposition of 1900. Provincial poor almost by the hundreds of thousands were attracted to Paris, raising not only a storm, but the price of food, particularly in the low eating houses.

The military observers of different European countries are beginning to discuss the consequences of the stationary or decreasing population of France. A writer in an Austrian journal, referring to the alterations which France was compelled to make last November in the peace footing of its army, points out that, as late as 1898, the number of trained soldiers in France exceeded the corresponding total in Germany by 140,000 men. It was then calculated, he says, that it would take Germany ten years to make up the difference, as it proposed at that time to increase the number of recruits by 14,000 every year. But, in addition to the ordinary recruits, so many supernumeraries offer themselves for enlistment in Germany that the numerical advantage in trained men which France had over Germany three years ago will have disappeared in half the contemplated period. The writer lays particular stress on the facts that the number of recruits prescribed by law in France can no longer be reached, and that last year, there was a considerable deficiency, while the volunteers—25,882 in 1899—and reenlisted soldiers—6,528 in 1899—was impossible to form all the fourth battalions for which credits were voted, simply because the men were not forthcoming.

There has been five cabinet officers chosen from the state of Iowa, and Governor Charles S. Peck of the treasury will be the sixth. His predecessors from Iowa in the president's cabinet were Belknap, appointed secretary of war by President Grant; McCrary, appointed to the same office by Mr. Hayes; Kirkwood, appointed secretary of the interior by President Garfield; Postmaster General Hutton, appointed by President Arthur, and Mr. Wilson, appointed by President McKinley.

There are very few—only seven—contested election cases in the house of representatives. One of the contests begun by General Walker, republican, for the seat from the Ninth Virginia district, has been terminated by the death of the contestant after all the testimony had been taken and the briefs filed. Other contests are in the Seventh Alabama, Third Kentucky, Twelfth Missouri, Third North Carolina, Second North Carolina, Fourth Virginia and Seventh Ohio (Columbus) districts. In the last district the sitting member had a majority of only eighteen votes.

PERSONAL NOTES.

The Panama canal was "marked down" just in time to get in among the January bargain jokes.

The dowager empress of China is giving alarming indications of an intention to appear as the new woman.

President Charles S. Peck of the Cleveland Chamber of Commerce has presented a valuable oil well to the late President McKinley to that organization.

On the occasion of Rear Admiral Schley's forthcoming visit to Louisville, January 29 and 30, he will be entertained by the Board of Trade and the Louisville and De Molay commanderies, Knights Templar. The first and largest organization to hold a public reception in honor of the admiral.

Dr. George Eitel of Claiborne, Carver county, Minn., who has just taken his medical degree at Berlin university, has already had diplomas from the Universities of Minnesota, Oregon, California, Pennsylvania, Washington, Idaho and Montana—probably the record in the United States.

John G. Woolley, the prohibitionist leader, has just returned to Chicago after a seven months' trip around the globe to study the condition of the liquor traffic in foreign lands. He addressed over ninety temperance meetings and says that America is further advanced in the struggle for prohibition.

Paladresco keeps a valet whose principal occupation is to rub the great pianist's fingers at stated times, to knead the palms of his hands and to crack his knuckles. Before stepping on a platform to play a solo he plunges his hands in hot water and keeps them there as long as the pain will let him.

The annual appropriation for the expenses of the president's office, including the president's salary, compensation for his clerks and secretaries, the furnishings of the White House and the maintenance of the executive mansion, is \$2,000,000 a year. The estimate for 1902 is \$2,940,000. The expenses of the legislative branch of the federal government are \$5,300,000 a year and of the Department of Justice \$5,600,000. The expenses of the District of Columbia, present net cost, are \$1,000,000,000.

A JUST PRESIDENT. Dally, to which from St. Petersburg the journey may now be made in twenty-one days, will, according to Russian officials, constitute the great objective point of Russia's eastern policy—an ice-free harbor throughout the year. The area of deep water is sufficient to accommodate all the shipping of China. Vessels drawing thirty feet can enter even at low water without difficulty and without requiring pilots. They will then have the advantages of docks, protected by breakwaters against the roughest sea, where their cargoes can be transferred to cars without the use of the wharves, and when the railroad is completed ships will be able to go to St. Petersburg without further handling. Two dry docks are being built, one for ordinary ocean steamers, the other to accommodate the largest merchant vessels and war ships afloat. Seventeen hundred workmen are now employed on the former, which is considered most necessary, and will be the first completed.

Canal Digging Estimates.

Philadelphia Record. Almost invariably the estimates for great engineering undertakings, particularly those involving initial uncertainty, like the construction of railways and canals, fall far short of the final cost. The experience of the French promoters of the Panama canal furnishes an instance of this kind. The Nicaragua canal would be exceptional if it should not cost twice what the engineers have guessed. For this reason the offer to sell the unfinished Panama work should be carefully considered. The uncertainty of cost in that undertaking have been pretty well eliminated. The digging that remains to be done can be determined with great nearness by the digging that has been done.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

At a recent Annual meeting of the Canadian Bankers' association, held in Montreal, the president, Mr. Clouston, general manager of the Bank of Montreal, explained the present commercial and financial condition of Canada. During the last year the bank circulation had expanded to the extent of \$5,000,000 public deposits and increased \$4,000,000, and banks found employment for \$14,000,000 more loans. For the fiscal year ended June 30, the increase in foreign trade over the previous year had reached \$5,000,000, although 1899-1900 had been an exceptional year. The whole foreign trade for the year amounted to \$377,725,500, which is an advance of \$146,000,000, or 63 per cent, on the trade of 1896. This change had taken place within only five years.

Taking a wider range to illustrate the thrift as well as the prosperity of the people, Mr. Clouston stated that the average deposits a head of the whole population in the various joint stock governments and savings banks of the country had steadily risen from \$10 in 1871, to \$181 in 1881 and \$40 in 1891, to \$74 in 1901. He added also: "Home trade has also greatly prospered. Manufacturing concerns, with few exceptions, have been busily employed. Railway traffic has been the largest in the history of the country, labor continues scarce, and the rate of wages relatively higher; mercantile failures are few in number and not formidable in extent."

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THREE AGES OF THE WEST.

How Times Have Changed Since the Pioneer Days. Century Magazine.

Twenty-five years ago potatoes were so high in price in certain towns of the Rocky mountains that the merchants handling them often reserved the right to retain the peelings, which, in turn, were sold for planting purposes, say the thick and soupy, thus having a considerable commercial value, obviously in proportion to the distance from the nearest railroad or steamboat line. This situation could not forever endure. There must come a day when we could afford to throw away our peelings and throw the peelings away, and we would be equally true to it that the time is coming in America when we shall gather our potato peelings and cherish them. There you have the three ages of the west. Another instance of changed standards in the west may be seen in the revolution as to petty prices. Up to twenty years ago, in most Rocky mountain communities, the quarter-dollar was the smallest coin in circulation. With the railroads came the dime, the nickel and at last the penny, but they came to a west that was no more.

LINES TO A LAUGH.

Baltimore American: "There is always room at the top," said the Good Adventurer. "Indeed, there is more the unfortunate person, but the elevator is not always running."

New York Press: "I'm sorry, but I shall have to insist on your being paid with the clarity of a diamond," said the miser. "—What is the matter, sir?" "Well, I'm sorry to hear of your knowledge that your neighbors out in Suburbanville call you 'Honest John.'"

Philadelphia Press: "I think Dewey's the greatest hero of them all," said the stoutest of the stout. "—How? Why?" "—Because he's the only one who's been elected a member of the House of Representatives."

Washington Star: "Do you think a member of congress really earns his salary?" asked the inquisitive person. "Of course," responded the newly elected statesman. "You have no idea what a lot of money I have to pay for my constituents that you are working."

Washington Star: "Things never seem properly adjusted in this world," said the careless young man. "Of course," said the other. "I have observed time and again that the people who do most expensive tasks almost invariably have the least money to meet them."

Brooklyn Life: He—Ah, those days of our young love! You remember that afternoon you were to meet me and didn't come? How I raved! She—Just like a man. And there was I suffering and trying on that dress you liked so much.

Judge: Miss Smith (to Mr. Dearborn, about to sign)—Miss Jones will play your accounts for you. Mr. Dearborn (to Miss Jones)—Oh, Mr. Dearborn plays his own accounts on a beautifully 4 count. I must thank you for him. Mr. Dearborn (gallantly)—Oh, yes, you could!

Chicago Post: "He is one of the most successful men I ever knew." "Why do you say that?" "Because, instead of writing out his good resolutions, he cut one page for January 1, 1901, from his old diary and pasted it in under 1902."

Chicago Tribune: "Haven't you your little key?" "Yes, but I lost it." "Haven't you your key?" "Yes, but I lost it." "Haven't you your key?" "Yes, but I lost it." "Haven't you your key?" "Yes, but I lost it."

WHEN FATHER TRIED TO SKATE.

Joe Cane in New York Sun. When father searched the attic through a pair of make-up shoes to use them twenty years ago. He held them proudly by the straps, and the children, who were then young, said: "I show 'em how low the pond." "An' how 'em how low skate."

So father put his cowhide on, and he started for good. He screwed the screws into his heels, and he strapped them tight and nice, and he showed 'em how low and low cut. "A plaid wing 'em great!" He cried, and then he started out to show us how to skate.

He made a bold and rapid stroke. His arms spread parallel, and then his feet went in the air. And with an awful yell, he fell. He fell kepunk down on the ice and the children, who were then young, said: "I show 'em how low skate." "An' how 'em how low skate." "An' how 'em how low skate." "An' how 'em how low skate."

We carried him into the house, and we laid him on his bed. My father finally said: "The doctor says he's all right and well. And looked both great and wise. And said my father's case was one of too much skate."