THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.:
George B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of August, 1903, was as follows:

1	29,910	17	29,850
2	27,260	18	30,010
3	29,730	19	29,220
4	29,950	20	29,360
5	29,790	21	29,270
6	29,750	22	29,380
7	29,920	23	29,690
8	30,180	24	29,280
9	29,610	25	29,330
10	29,800	26	29,280
11	29,650	27	29,380
12	29,580	28	29,320
13	29,060	29	29,800
14	29,430	30	29,530
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16	29,630		

Total.....904,832
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Net average sales.....28,903

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 31st day of August, A. D. 1903.

M. B. HUNGATE,
(Seal.) Notary Public.

PARTIES LEAVING THE CITY.

Parties leaving the city at any time may have The Bee sent to them regularly by notifying The Bee Business office, in person or by mail. The address will be changed as often as desired.

Sir Thomas Lipton should feel perfectly free to try again whenever he is so disposed.

The Pacific coast salmon pack is said to be short a million cases. Boarding house inmates should take due notice.

If the city can use its own streets for a market house, it can also use its own streets for an electric lighting installation.

Changing specifications without a change of price is a very common practice with contractors for public works who enjoy a pull.

The Nebraska State fair has generally managed to keep on good terms with the weather clerk and this year will probably be no exception.

Any one who wonders what's the matter with Nebraska can have his mind quickly disabused by taking in the state fair at Lincoln this week.

Before the county board undertakes to straighten out the crooks in the Elkhorn river it will have to straighten out the crooks in the Elkhorn river bridge.

To file or not to file—that is the question puzzling a lot of republican patriots who are not sure whether to bank their money on their popularity.

One of the eastern capitalistic mouthpieces objects to Labor day as a class holiday. As if there were any one who amounted to anything who did not labor.

It appears that the only paving specifications that will suit the democratic members of the public works board are specifications drawn or O.-K'd. by a particular set of contractors.

The Omaha hyphenated has declared itself as opposed to a long-time contract for electric lighting. Are we to understand that it is opposed to a ten-years' extension, but would favor a five-years' extension?

Friends of the Panama canal in Colombia think they perceive a more favorable feeling for a new treaty. The people of Colombia have to make up their minds one way or another before long if they want to do business with Uncle Sam.

One of the populist organs indulges in a lengthy disquisition on populist political ethics. After the record populist office holders made in this state, it will take more than our most powerful microscope to discover any traces of ethics in the legacy they left their party.

That self-appointed democratic judicial convention seems to have worked so well that the same trick might be turned just as easy with the democratic county nominations. Why give the rank and file anything to say when the machine bosses can handle the thing without assistance?

Superintendent Fowler's annual encyclical to the school teachers of Nebraska contains a lot of recommendations—good, bad and indifferent. If the state superintendent would take up a few points at a time that properly come within his jurisdiction instead of spreading out over the whole field of school administration and school policy he would accomplish more.

STATESMANLIKE COUNSEL.

In an address a few days ago Governor Odell of New York urged that it is the duty of every citizen to regulate his conduct with reference to the general public interest and welfare and to observe those principles which mean the greatest patriotism—obedience to laws upon which depend the stability of our government. He said that a man may fight the battles of a country against foreign foes and still, by his disregard of the statutes of the state, encourage among those whose ideas of government are crude, doctrines which mean destruction to that which he himself helped to create. "Mutual forbearance," said Mr. Odell, "a respect for the rights of all, will make more certain our efforts and bring us a realization to the fullest extent of that which awaits energy, ambition and labor."

A like thought was expressed by President Roosevelt in his Labor day address at Syracuse. He declared that it is all essential to the continuance of our healthy national life that we should recognize community of interest among our people, that the welfare of each of us is dependent fundamentally upon the welfare of all of us and that in public life that man is the best representative of each of us "who seeks to do good to each by doing good to all; in other words, whose endeavor it is, not to represent any special class and promote merely that class' selfish interests, but to represent all true and honest men of all sections and all classes, and to work for their interests by working for our common country."

This is sound and statesmanlike counsel and if generally heeded would do away with most of the evils and abuses that demoralize alike our political and social life. The first and paramount duty of the citizen, as urged by Governor Odell, is obedience to the laws and a proper respect for those who have been given authority to execute the popular will as expressed in law. Only thus can the preservation of social peace and order be assured. The disposition to disregard this obligation of good citizenship has become far too general in recent years and is rightly viewed by thoughtful men as a grave danger to our institutions if allowed to go on unchecked. Disrespect for law in this country, manifested in various forms, has brought upon the United States the reproach of being the most lawless among the civilized nations. There can be no question as to the soundness of Mr. Roosevelt's statement that "the welfare of each of us is dependent fundamentally upon the welfare of all of us," but it is not an unreasonable suggestion that before this shall be so generally recognized that each will endeavor to promote the good of all there must come a pretty radical change in human nature. Selfishness is still and perhaps to a greater extent than ever before the impelling and most potent force in human affairs and will undoubtedly continue to be indefinitely. Yet this fact does not militate against the wisdom and soundness of the president's view, which it is well to have presented to public consideration, even though there be no promise of its early realization. Certainly such counsel as that of the president and Governor Odell ought not to be altogether fruitless.

WORK FOR NEW BUREAU.

Not much has yet been made public regarding the operations of the new bureau of corporations, but it may be confidently assumed that it is not idle and that in due time the country will hear of developments which will not be without interest. It takes time to properly put a bureau of this character, with its entirely new machinery and duties, into working order and Secretary Cortelyou and Commissioner Garfield are careful and conservative men, who will proceed in carrying out the law in a way not likely to cause distrust or disturbance.

In a recent article the Philadelphia Public Ledger, commenting upon the course of the anthracite coal combination in reducing production and raising prices, remarked that the bureau of corporations could make no better beginning in the performance of its duty than in investigating the Coal trust, which has an entire monopoly and enforces it. "If there was need for the president to intervene in 1902," says that paper, "when he had no constitutional warrant, is there not now stronger reasons why the bureau should get to work in the coal field and crush the monopoly by the strong hand of the law?"

In regard to the policy of the anthracite combination, shaped to make the public pay for the cost to the operators of the last strike, the Ledger points out that after the 1900 strike coal was advanced 50 cents a ton. "The months wore on and the consumers found that the 50 cents extra was a fixture. The annual production of anthracite was then from 55,000,000 to 60,000,000 tons and the consumers began to contribute an added profit of anywhere from $20,000,000 to $30,000,000 a year. The 1902 strike followed and although the operators were collecting an exorbitant price for coal from the public, an additional 50 cents went on top of the former 'penalty' which the public must pay. The production is now 60,000,000 tons. There was a 10 per cent increase in miners' wages and other slight increases, which make the cost of production a little higher—a few cents a ton, perhaps—and the Coal trust is exacting annually a dollar a ton on 60,000,000 tons from the American public more than was paid previous to the two strikes."

The situation shows most conclusively the existence of a combination, or what is practically a trust, which controls absolutely the production and the price of anthracite coal. There is not a shadow of doubt in regard to this. Mines are closed and prices are advanced by a few men and thus there is as complete a monopoly of the anthracite coal fields as can be conceived of. One of the greatest public necessities is subject to the management of men who have little concern for the public interest and are governed chiefly by their own cupidity. There would seem to be no question as to the duty of the bureau of corporations to investigate this combination and ascertain if possible the nature of its organization and its methods, to the end that the president and congress may be advised as to whether or not this formidable and dangerous trust can be dealt with by national legislation.

SHAM NONPARTISANSHIP.

Honest nonpartisanship on the bench would commend itself to good citizens of all political creeds, but sham nonpartisanship must fail to command popular respect or confidence. The pretended nonpartisan judicial ticket incubated by a handful of lawyers and nominated by the democrats will fool nobody. It is a poorly concocted scheme to trade the places on the district bench for the supreme judgeship. Incidentally it is presumed to be a master stroke of political diplomacy by which the votes of a considerable number of dissatisfied republicans can be pooled on the two lonely democrats who have been labeled nonpartisans.

While both of the democratic candidates are reputed to be fairly qualified for judicial positions, the fact that the democratic convention harnessed them in with five members of the opposing party is not very complimentary to the democracy, even if the republican candidates had any special claim upon democracy.

It is a notorious fact that each of these five candidates had been a candidate for a straight party nomination in the republican judicial convention. It is well known that up to the time of that convention none of these men professed any sympathy with the democratic party, and one of them at least, Judge Dickinson, had been elected in opposition to a nonpartisan ticket eight years ago, and in opposition to the regular democratic nominees four years ago. Only a week ago he voluntarily addressed a republican ward club and sought to impress upon its members the idea that he was still and will continue to be a republican partisan. There can be no doubt that had he been successful in securing a republican nomination, he would not have troubled himself much to get a democratic nonpartisan nomination.

Manifestly, therefore, the democrats have simply made themselves a harbor of refuge for two rejected republicans who will be pitted as much against the two democrats on the ticket as they will be against the candidates on the republican ticket. If democratic leaders imagine they will strengthen their party by this gauzy pretense of nonpartisanship, they will find themselves out on a rainbow chase.

It is not uncommon for misfit lawyers to propound questions to witnesses that draw out testimony against their clients and frequently prove fatal to their case. The zeal of the World-Herald to make a case in favor of Judge Sullivan belongs to the same category. Commenting on the attitude of The Bee in relation to the public lighting monopoly, Judge Sullivan's fool friend, the editor of the World-Herald, says: "In his brief before the supreme court (the railroad assessment case), the editor of The Bee declares the people must stop electing to office the men nominated by the railroads, and yet we find Mr. Rosewater giving cordial support to Mr. Barnes, a man whom Mr. Rosewater well knows was chosen as republican candidate as judge of the supreme court by the railroad lobby." Will the World-Herald kindly inform the people of Nebraska where Judge Sullivan stood in that famous railroad tax case? Did he stand for the people or for the railroads? If Sullivan had stood for the people, we feel sure the people would have stood up for Sullivan, and The Bee would have championed his re-election, but Judge Sullivan preferred to make his bed with the railroads and the people will let him repose in peace.

Popocratic critics of the administration are now trying to find fault with the new Department of Commerce because "it provides places for 10,145 henchmen of the party in power." They are careful to omit the fact that more than ninety-nine one-hundredths of the government employes subject to the new department were simply transferred from other departments, and that in point of fact the aggregate number of employes in those departments has been reduced rather than increased by virtue of the consolidation. A little discrepancy like this, however, cuts no figure with political color blind carpers bound to manufacture political capital with or without a foundation of fact.

What President Garrett of the Indian Rights association says of Indian inspectors whitewashing crooked Indian agency officers after accepting the hospitality of the men whose conduct they are sent to investigate, or taking evidence only from among the friends of the beclouded officers, touches a vulnerable spot, not only with reference to the frauds in the Indian territory, but with reference to some of the jobbery perpetrated on the Indian reservations in this state. Reform in the Indian bureau service will not be thorough unless it includes all the different Indian agencies.

People who favor municipal ownership of public lighting, and that means 95 per cent of the citizens of Omaha irrespective of party, will not, we feel sure, countenance or condone any extension of the electric lighting contract beyond its present term. What relates to the electric light contract also relates to the gas contract. If the city is to have its own lighting plant within the next three years, no contract for gas light street lamps should be entered into that would extend beyond January 1, 1906, when the electric lighting contract expires.

And now the Nebraska senators are accused of turning a trick in the platform committee of the late republican convention by which the reciprocity plank was tossed over the transom without ceremony by a vote of 4 to 2. In view of the fact that the Nebraska senators were from 4,000 to 8,000 miles away from Lincoln when the committee was in session, and had not been in the state for months, their invisible influence must have been exerted by wireless telegraphy.

When The Bee intimated some weeks ago that this year's state campaign would narrow down between Robert E. Lee Herdman and some republican dark horse, the World-Herald scornfully resented it as a reflection upon popular intelligence, but strange as it may seem and yet nevertheless true, the World-Herald now declares that Barnes and Sullivan are lost sight of in the contest over the $12,000-a-year supreme court clerkship plum.

If any democrat in this judicial district can figure out how either of the two democrats on the sham nonpartisan ticket can be elected when they are running against five republicans on their own ticket and four republicans not on their own ticket, we would like to see the white of his eyes.

Dig Up.

Chicago Record-Herald.

The price of hard coal has been raised again, probably owing to the fact that the people who furnish it have an idea that some of the consumers are basely hiding money away.

A Long-Felt Want.

Chicago Post.

Bishop Joyce's refreshing suggestion that our theological schools need a chair of common sense might apply to every part of our educational system, from the grades up. There is nothing more generally needed today than systematic and earnest instruction in common sense and common honesty.

Famous Gallery Spectacle.

Washington Post.

It is semi-officially announced that no matter what changes Speaker Cannon may make in the house committees, the galleries will not be deprived of the daily delectable treat of seeing Sereno Payne of New York smilingly and somewhat pompously preempt the first aisle to the left of center and "move that the house do now adjourn."

Put on the Brakes.

Cincinnati Enquirer.

In some parts of the country it seems that in granting licenses to run automobiles there should be more particular examination as to common sense than as to knowledge of steam or electricity. The ownership of one of these horseless establishments seems to imbue a man with the desire to go through the streets at the speed of a dog with a tin kettle tied to his tail.

American to the Core.

Louisville Herald.

Louisville has a stronger claim to be considered "the American city" than Philadelphia. The percentage of the latter's foreign-born population is 22.8. Louisville, out of a population of 204,731, has 21,427 foreign-born, or 10.5 per cent. Cincinnati's foreign-born people are 17.8 per cent, Cleveland's 32.6, Pittsburg's 26.4. Philadelphia draws most of its population from Pennsylvania, whose population is 84 per cent native-born, against 97.3 per cent for Kentucky. Of Kentucky's total population, 2,147,174, there were in 1890 reported 1,885,338 born in Kentucky itself. The total native population of the state was 2,093,295. Kentucky is thus American to the core, and its busy and beautiful metropolis, American, too, in every sense of that noble term.

But He Didn't Cough Up.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Secretary Shaw came and we waved our napkins at him and said privately and in public that he was one of the best secretaries of the treasury that there ever was, but the secretary did not appoint a disbursing agent for that $5,000,000. He said "this is no matter of sentiment, but a plain business proposition." The money will be forthcoming in good season, though one needs to count carefully when one is spending $5,000,000. Secretary Shaw was taken into a high place and shown all the kingdoms of the earth, strung along Skinker road, or soon to be so, and he greatly liked the view which has at present as the terminus of its perspective, the car sheds of the Transit company. These are, however, to be quite concealed by Adolphus Busch's Tyrolean Alps. "Beyond the Alps lies the car barns." Before the secretary went away he told us our universal exposition was going to be the finest ever seen.

IS THERE A HARD COAL TRUST?

Pertinent Inquiry Reaching Down Into the Pocketbook.

Chicago Post.

We have grown so into the habit of speaking of trusts and fancying that we can see a trust in every industrial combination that it may seem the height of absurdity for anyone to question the existence of an Anthracite Coal trust. Of course, all ordinary evidence favors the belief that such a trust exists, but when we inquire into the matter more closely we find that the generally accepted definition of a trust does not apply to the hard coal arrangement.

In the first place, the father of all trusts—the Standard Oil company—has assured us repeatedly that its chief purpose is philanthropic; it was formed with the object of cheapening kerosene and other petroleum products to the consumer. The hard coal operators cannot plead guilty in this particular. Again, a trust is something against which the anti-trust laws of the nation and the several states operate. But none of these has interfered with the activities of the anthracite coal producers and carriers.

The coal operators control the source of hard coal supply, they control the means of transportation and they control the retailer. They have suspended the law of supply and demand, for they can tell to a cent months in advance just what the selling price of coal will be, no matter what the amount of production or the percentage of consumption. Only recently they have said that they were over-producing and might soon have to close mines and restrict operations, but surely this cannot be true in the face of the automatic, predestined advance in the price of coal. Overproduction cannot raise prices.

The coal strike costs the operators about 10 or 15 cents a ton to pay increased wages, but the consumer is charged $1 a ton more today than he was just before the strike. If the production has exceeded the demand, how are we to account for this difference of 85 or 90 cents a ton—if there is no hard coal trust?

It is all very puzzling. Must we, in spite of these conflicting views, conclude that the anthracite combination is one of the most perfect monopolies this country has seen?

SAMPLE OF JERSEY JUSTICE.

Managing Directors of Corporations Not Criminally Liable.

New York Tribune.

It may be said without disrespect to Chief Justice Gummere and his colleagues that intelligent and right-minded citizens of Newark and neighboring towns who have watched the proceedings in the trolley accident case with deep interest would have been better contented with the result if the court had permitted the jury to exercise its functions, instead of ordering a verdict of acquittal. Doubtless the court possessed full authority to do what it did, but so much competent evidence had been put on the record in support of certain vital points presented by the prosecution that it is not altogether satisfactory to have the court dismiss those questions of fact as not merely unproved, but unworthy of the consideration of the jury. We do not care at present to refer to these issues in detail or to the unfortunate circumstance that the case was tried under an omnibus indictment which made no discrimination among the defendants, but it seems desirable to call attention to one of the conditions which indisputably existed when trolley car and locomotive crashed together in Newark last February.

The chief justice, in saving the jury the trouble of finding a verdict, said the state had not shown that the front platform of the trolley car was so crowded with passengers as to interfere with the motorman's use of the brake. Nevertheless, the front platform was crowded, and it was crowded in violation of an express rule of the company, as counsel for the defendants took pains to show. That is a matter of general interest, for it brings to mind the fact that the same regulation is commonly made by street railroad managers only to be broken with their connivance by their employes when circumstances render the breaking of it profitable to the companies. A little incident which happens to be within our knowledge supplies an illustration of this familiar policy. A woman riding in a closed car of the Metropolitan company had with her a little girl who was sick and faint, and whom for that reason she led out on the front platform for the sake of the fresh air. It chanced that the car was not full and therefore the woman and the child were ordered to the seats they had left by the conductor, to whom the case was explained. In our opinion he did right, but doubtless a few hours later that same car carried as many passengers on the front platform as it would hold, because seats and standing room inside were jammed and the conductor knew the company wanted him to collect as many fares as possible.

If in old times the occupation by passengers of the front platform of a slow horse-car was not particularly objectionable, it is certain that the front platform of a heavy trolley car, moving swiftly through streets in which there has been an enormous increase of traffic, should be reserved exclusively for the motorman, whose attention ought not to be diverted from his duties for an instant, and who ought not to be subjected to the slightest risk of physical interference. The rule nominally requiring such conditions to be preserved is proper and necessary, but it is a piece of impudence to pretend that it is inviolable so long as there is no sordid motive for violating it, and then to permit, or instruct, employes to disregard it utterly when nickels are waiting to be collected from more passengers than the inside of a car will hold. Whether the motorman of the trolley car which was shattered in the Newark tragedy was or was not hindered in applying his brake by the children surrounding him, the regulation cited in behalf of the defendants in the case ended yesterday was wilfully and recklessly violated on the 19th of last February, as it had been hundreds of times before. Has it been scrupulously enforced ever since? Are similar regulations habitually enforced on any street car line at the expense of the company?

PERSONAL NOTES.

Paul de Lussan, father of the famous opera singer, Zelie de Lussan, has just died at Folkstone, England.

President Harper has declared that the students of the Chicago University Dramatic club shall not wear tights. That's an institution which needs no press agent.

A Chicago millionaire, wise and weary in his experience of the world, and at an age where follies and foibles are impracticable if not distasteful, has given $1,000,000 to his relatives just to see what they will do with it. Just watch 'em.

Mr. J. P. Morgan has offered to pay $400,000 for a certain Oriental vase, and he was not in his cups when he made the offer. Such a treasure will be a good thing to have unbroken about the house, whatever befalls the shipping trust.

Prof. Max Puchat of Paderhorn, Germany, who bears the title of musical director to the king, has been elected director of the Milwaukee Musical society from seventy-eight applicants. He was a pupil for a number of years of Franz Liszt.

Otto Goldschmidt, the surviving husband of Jenny Lind, once renowned as "the Swedish nightingale," recently celebrated his seventy-fourth birthday. He is living quietly on the English estate the songstress purchased with the proceeds of her American tour.

An Iowa editor had an auction sale of delinquent subscribers' accounts. The amounts averaged along about $2.50 or $3. The sale afforded a real opportunity to test the credit of some who had failed to pay the editor. One account was knocked down for two matches.

It is astonishing, the unanimity with which the members of the United Order of Humorists throughout the country are declaring that the situation in Asiatic Turkey is Syrio-comic, or at any rate less Syrious than was supposed. There are five ways of spelling Beirut and fifty ways of turning this ancient jest.

Emerson Enterprise: Bryan and the Kansas City platform were not turned down at the democratic state convention because the delegates were overawed by the majestic presence of Colonel Bryan. It would have been interesting, however, to have taken an Australian ballot so the delegates could have voted their true sentiments.

William Mackabee, an inmate of the naval home in Gray's Ferry road, Philadelphia, and the oldest living veteran of the American navy, will celebrate his one hundredth birthday today. He was born in Baltimore and went to sea in 1832 when 12 years old on the old frigate Constitution. During the civil war he served on Pennsylvania.

Stanton Picket: There is no fusion in Nebraska this fall (?). It so happened that two distinct conventions, held at different places and aided by long-distance telephone, mutually recognized the superior qualities of the same men for like positions and nominated them. It was a clear case of great minds running in the same channel for the public good. Perhaps the fact that both conventions were held on the same day was merely a coincidence. Perhaps?

Fremont Tribune: Frank Reavis of Falls City has achieved a notable political victory. He has just been nominated for the position of district judge, against a strong faction and lively opposition in his home county. He was assisted at the nominating convention by Congressman Hinshaw, who is one of the livest political wires in Nebraska. Mr. Reavis will have hearty support for the election. He will be elevated to the bench and he will make a satisfactory and creditable judicial officer.

DOINGS IN THE ARMY.

Items of General Interest Gleaned from the Army and Navy Register.

Major John F. Guilfoyle, Twelfth cavalry, of the board detailed to revise the small arms firing regulations found his visit to the range at Fort Sheridan last week a profitable one. He went there to talk over the new regulations with the competitors and obtained views at first hand of what further changes were desirable in the volume on this subject shortly to be published by the War department for the benefit of the army and militia. A number of mooted questions were discussed and a good deal of valuable information acquired. It is interesting to know that a unanimity of view prevails in favor of retaining the rapid-fire system at 500 yards, with an increase in time limit.

Major Guilfoyle has submitted a report of the results of his observations at Fort Sheridan. He found that the bull's-eye target adopted by the board met with unanimous approval. Quite a number of experts were of the opinion in this connection that the points of the bull's-eye at 300 yards should be increased in diameter from eight to ten inches. The new aming positions prescribed by the revised regulations also met with favor and commendation was heard on every hand respecting the system of rapid fire adopted by the board. It has been recommended, however, that the disappearing target should have other valuations for hits besides five and zero. The revised regulations will probably change this target to conform to this view which is regarded as entirely justified. A proposition has been made to eliminate the rapid fire system at 500 yards in the marksmen's course and to introduce it in the sharpshooter's course, giving a time limit of thirty instead of twenty seconds as now.

Major Guilfoyle is detailed for duty as inspector of smallarms practice, United States army, and as acting assistant adjutant general of the army in Washington, and will report in person to the acting adjutant general of the army for assignment to duty accordingly.

In connection with the army competitions which are coming to attract more attention and awaken the latent interest in marksmanship, it is interesting to know that there is destined to be a consideration of the question whether commissioned officers shall engage with enlisted men in these competitions. Some years ago this question came up in various forms and for a time there were separate competitions. This year's work, however, has been without such separation. Major Guilfoyle had encountered at Fort Sheridan the old question which does not relate to the matter of discipline as might be supposed and as was at one time foremost in the discussion. It is questioned whether enlisted men under such circumstances are not placed at a disadvantage since a commissioned officer who is a good marksman is very apt to possess means of practice at his own expense, and in this way to obtain a possibly unfair advantage over the enlisted man who is his competitor. For this reason it may be desirable in the end to establish distinct prizes, one for the successful commissioned officer and the other for the successful enlisted man.

An important general order will shortly appear from the War department. It is of the greatest interest to army officers, since under its provisions the amount of baggage to be transported at government expense is increased three-fold. Quartermaster General Humphrey, who has had much practical experience in his department, is responsible for the change, and it is on his recommendation that the quantity of army baggage to be carried without cost to the owner, as specified in paragraph 1242 of the army regulations will be as follows: "For a major general, 10,500 pounds; brigadier general, 8,400 pounds; field officer, 7,200 pounds; captain, 6,000 pounds; first lieutenant, 5,100; second lieutenant and veterinarians, 4,500; noncommissioned officer, 1,500." Heretofore, excess of baggage has been transported by the owner at his own risk and whatever cost might be imposed upon it. Hereafter, this excess will be transported by the government at the favorable rates which may, of course, be obtained by the War department and the actual cost of the transportation will be charged against the owner whose benefit by this arrangement is derived from the special rates which the government obtains and which, of course, would not be available for the individual.

The question of army music is before the general staff with every prospect that some reformatory measure will be evolved as a result of the deliberations. Numerous suggestions have been submitted to the general staff from a variety of sources, including chief musicians, who ought to be in a position to know what is most needed. One of the steps upon which everybody agrees as necessary for the achievement of practical results is the increase in the pay of army musicians. This, of course, can only be done by legislation, and it is probable that among the recommendations sent to congress during the coming session will be one in favor of a change in the law so as to give members of army bands greater compensation than they now receive. The change is considered as absolutely necessary in order to preserve the artistic quality of military bands.

General A. W. Greely, chief signal officer of the army, has adopted the plan by which the government shall be in possession of photographic records of important military events and scenes. He has already equipped with photographic outfits sergeants of the signal corps who are on duty in Alaska and the Philippines, with instructions that the product of these photographers shall be sent to Washington. Detailed instructions have been furnished so that interesting incidents and surroundings may be preserved by means of the camera. Now the same system is to be adopted in the United States where there is much of interest in a military way, such as the maneuvers in New England and the military programs at Fort Riley and West Point, Ky., to say nothing of similar events in other parts of the country. The signal corps has purchased twelve photographic outfits, which will be distributed to as many sergeants who are regarded as competent to do this work. These sergeants are expected to use the utmost economy in the consumption of material furnished by the government, and they will be required to make detailed monthly reports of the work performed, the report to be accompanied by two unmounted prints of each view. All the negatives will be the property of the signal corps, and all prints and negatives which are considered of sufficient value to be preserved will be sent to the signal corps post at Fort Myer, Va., to be marked and filed.

Doing Quite Well, Thank You.

Minneapolis Times.

Chief Statistician King of the census office has cruelly punctured President Roosevelt's race suicide notion by the statement that according to the census there were 2,049,132 births in 1900 and only 1,032,048 deaths. Remembering that deaths are much more fully reported than births the showing is not as favorable as the real figures would be. If the president meant that our "best people" are not multiplying as rapidly as they should, there is compensation in the fact that the humbly born of today are the "best people" of a quarter of a century or so hence.

GET TOGETHER.

Merging of the Irrigation and Trans-Mississippi Congresses Suggested.

New York Evening Post.

The suggestion that the Transmississippi congress and the National Irrigation congress be combined comes from the west, following close after the meeting of the former at Seattle. The latter chose Ogden, Utah, for a gathering place. It would seem that enough of common interest exists to make the proposition to unite a sensible one. "Congresses" and "fairs" with long names and all-embracing purposes are too common, and if the country beyond the Mississippi would attract attention to itself there must be some definite purpose behind its exhibitions. The objection, frequently urged, that the Transmississippi congress represents a much larger area than is interested in irrigation laws and methods is not so valid as would appear. Barring the first tier of states beyond the big river, there is hardly a community that is not vitally affected by drouth, occasional or periodic. From North Dakota to Texas and from eastern Washington to southern California, irrigation is the farmers' hope. Everywhere in that immense area the Wright irrigation law was looked upon as the forerunner of a general revival of interest in the problem of making arid lands productive. With Senator Dubois of Idaho heading a company to water 35,000 acres of land about Lewiston, with the Denver Chamber of Commerce discussing a project to reclaim 65,000 acres in the Grand valley, Colorado, and with numberless smaller private enterprises on foot, it is difficult to see what more important work a serious-minded Transmississippi congress can take up. Heretofore certain delegates to both bodies have fought the idea of union, but the obvious advantages of the consolidation seem likely to appeal more forcibly as the aims of each are better understood.

COMING AND GOING.

How the Anthracite Coal Barons Work the Consumer.

Pittsburg Dispatch.

It is interesting to observe the explanation by which the anthracite coal corporations justify their order to shut down the mines on the plea of overproduction at the same time that prices are being shoved up 10 cents per month by order of the same authorities.

Only last spring it was heard from the same sources that the deficiency in production during last year's strike was sufficient to explain the dearth of fuel and famine prices, and that it would take at least a year's steady production to make up the shortage. It seems rather difficult to reconcile that statement with the present allegation of overproduction and consequent shutdown. But the corporate logic tackles the difficulty with zeal and confidence.

There have been an extremely urgent demand and large consumption for one size of hard coal. The vigorous efforts of the companies to meet that demand have produced an oversupply of other sizes. Hence the overproduction and shutdown. One might suppose that the legitimate result of such a condition would be to lower prices on the sizes of coal of which there is an excess; but the anthracite corporations know a trick worth two of that.

By shutting down now they will be able to allege next winter another shortage in the size of coal for which there is the greatest demand and to extract some more $10 and $12 prices. Then after that extortion has been worked to its capacity they can repeat the "overproduction" pretext next summer and produce artificial scarcity again.

SMILING LINES.

Miss Anne Teek—He asked me if I remembered how hot the summer of '76 was. The idea!

Miss Pert—Yes, the idea! Just as if you'd tell him if you did.—Philadelphia Ledger.

"John Jones, the patient who came in a little while ago," said the attendant in the out-patient department, "didn't give his occupation."

"What was the nature of his trouble?" asked the resident physician.

"Injury at the base of the spine."

"Put him down as a book agent."—Philadelphia Press.

Spellbinder—Yes, my friend, eternal vigilance is the price of liberty. Be on your guard; a word to the wise is sufficient.

Voice from the Audience—Then you must take us for gol-darn fools! You have been talking for an hour and a half!—Kansas City Journal.

"He called me a boiled lobster," explained the complainant.

"Well," replied the defendant, "he runs a red automobile, and he looks like one."

"Discharged," said the judge.—Chicago Post.

"So you think it is an advantage ot a boy to be reared in the country."

"To be sure," answered Farmer Corntossel. "A boy has a heap better chance

"So you think it is an advantage to a boy is surrounded by orchards and melon patches he can have a stomach ache without the doctor jumpin' to the conclusion that he's got 'pendicitis."—Washington Star.

The kangaroo can jump a bit;
The flea's a jumper, too—
He'll jump, he'll bite, and then he'll flit,
And never leave a clew.
When either jumps, nobody tries
His jumplets to pursue—
We're glad the flea has not the size
Of the big kangaroo.

—Chicago Tribune.

ARMY OF THE CORN.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

All summer long the army stands
In ranks erect and clean,
The garrison of level lands
And of the hills between.
The Armies of the Wind and Rain
Come shouting to the fight;
Alert upon the spreading plain
The corn waits in its might.

It flaunts its tasseled banners high,
And beats each swaying shield,
Until the summer's battle cry
Is chorused from the field.
Victorious and sturdy still
It rises from the fray,
And rustling chants of gladness fill
The long hours of the day.

The dawn's first tender, rosy blush—
The hailing of the morn—
Finds, shrouded in a peaceful hush,
The Army of the Corn.
But friendly breezes come and go
Till dying afternoon
Hears, faintly sighing, soft and low,
The echo of a croon.

And so, serene and bold and brave,
All through the summer long
The gleaming banners proudly wave
In cadence with the song.
Until the golden autumn morn
When there will come to spoil
The standing Army of the Corn,
The hopeful Troop of Toil.

Many a woman has found a husband in Ayer's Hair Vigor. J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.