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	29,650
2	27,260	18	30,010
3	29,730	19	29,220
4	29,930	20	29,360
5	29,790	21	29,270
6	29,750	22	29,380
7	29,920	23	26,660
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	26,530
15	31,092	31	29,470
16	26,630		

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.

The weather clerk evidently thinks we are raising ducks for market.

The great American corn belt has reached the crtical stage for the corn crop.

Judge Sullivan is old enough to have known better. This is an off year for popocrats.

The summer of 1903 has passed in his checks and we shall probably never see his like again.

Man makes the town, God makes the country. What Omaha needs above all things is more men.

How would it do to call another grand jury to clarify the atmosphere of a good many well-defined rumors?

President Stickney is eminently correct when he declares that a market town is not an accidental production.

If the Weather bureau will reserve its fair and warm forecast for Ak-Sar-Ben week, it will be forgiven, if not forgotten.

If Abraham Lincoln needs any monuments in bronze or stone, why isn't the city of Lincoln the most imposing and enduring memorial that could be built?

Before the county board proceeds with the plan for straightening out the Elkhorn it will be well for it to straighten out the kinks in the bridge building record.

Sir Thomas Lipton has once more learned by experience that there is many a slip between the cup and the lip. This time it was not the American racing cup, but an informal cup of Oyster Bay broth.

That democratic, nonpartisan judicial masquerade is after all not likely to prove a drawing card. Nebraskans are credited with a high degree of intelligence. They know a hawk from a sparrow when they see it.

It requires an inexhaustible fund of optimism to figure out a population of 32,000,000 for Nebraska in the dim and distant future. For the next decade Nebraskans will be satisfied with running up the population to the two-million point.

Senator Carmack of Tennessee announces his intention to introduce a negro disfranchisement bill repealing the fifteenth amendment. There is just about as much chance for the passage of such a bill as there would be for a bill restoring slavery through a repeal of the thirteenth amendment.

It may be interesting for Governor Mickey to learn that reform in ball room manners and round dancing is advocated by New York dancing masters and we may safely anticipate that the squaring of the circular dance and the rounding of the square dance will reach Nebraska before the next inaugural ball.

Charles Joseph Bonaparte has been selected by Mr. Hitchcock to take charge of the investigation of the operations of the Indian land speculators and crooked Indian agents in Oklahoma and Indian Territory. If the man with the Napoleonic ancestry had been detailed to pay a visit to the Omaha and Winnebago reservations in Nebraska he would have found a state of affairs just as scandalous as has subsisted in the southern Indian settlement.

A WHEAT COMPETITOR.

There is a naturally great interest in this country regarding everything in the way of wheat competition. Our people are inevitably interested in every fact that bears upon the question of future relations between the wheat production of the United States and that of other countries, with particular reference to that of the Dominion of Canada, which during the last few years has been steadily growing as a competitor of this country and which there is reason to think will increase still more rapidly in the years to come, very largely by reason of the migration of Americans to the Canadian provinces of the northwest.

In regard to this some valuable information is supplied by a contributor to the New York Evening Post who seems to be very well informed in regard to what he writes. He says that there has been a good deal of exaggeration in regard to the grain production of the Canadian northwest and he presents figures to attest his position. In regard to the exploitation of the Canadian northwest as the finest and largest wheat country under the sun, this writer says that the single state of Kansas has produced this year about six times as much wheat as the new Canadian northwest with its area of a million square miles. A favorite comparison in the Canadian boom literature, says this writer, who evidently talks of what he knows, is between the wheat producing capacity of Minnesota and Manitoba, and the yield in Manitoba is always given as twice as great. It is also stated that the wheat lands of Minnesota are wearing out, "and yet Minnesota this year produces twice as much wheat as Manitoba and as many bushels per acre."

That is a fact which it is well to bear in mind, for it shows conclusively that there has been more or less misrepresentation in regard to the comparative fruitfulness of the Manitoba region, the effect of which has been to induce many thousands of Americans to go to that country who could have found just as available opportunities in their own country.

There is no doubt that the Canadian northwest is to become a strong wheat competitor with the United States, but there is no reason to apprehend that this competition will become so serious as to materially interfere with the position of this country as the foremost market of the world for supplying the nations with breadstuffs. We shall only cease to occupy that position when our own population is so great as to need all the breadstuffs we are able to produce and that will be in the very remote future.

RUSSIA MODIFIES PROPOSAL.

According to the latest advices Russia has modified her proposal regarding the evacuation of Manchuria. As originally stated she was to withdraw her forces from the Chinese province early in the coming month and there was no qualification or reservation connected with this promise. The evacuation, as then announced, was to be complete. It now appears that the Russian government has changed its policy and proposes a piecemeal policy of evacuation, the end of which will be a year hence. In the meantime Russia will undoubtedly avail herself of every opportunity to strengthen her position in Manchuria and augment her power in that quarter in every practicable way.

There ought to be no surprise at this apparent change of attitude. It is quite in accord with Russian policy and its meaning is obvious. There will doubtless be a withdrawal of Russian troops from Manchuria next month, but the extent of the evacuation will not be so great as to materially weaken the military power of the country in that province. A few months later another withdrawal of troops will be made, but still leaving a sufficient force there to maintain the Russian domination. Then will ensue a year during which Russia may become even stronger in Manchuria than she is today.

All of which simply evidences the shrewdness and sagacity of Russian methods. Meanwhile the United States makes no objection and perhaps is not warranted in making any, although the policy of Russia, according to the latest announcement, is obviously not favorable to the principle for which this country has been contending.

TIME FOR ACTION.

Four months ago the mayor and council were elected on specific pledges in favor of municipal ownership of public utilities, including light and water. These pledges cannot be fulfilled unless the people of Omaha are given an opportunity to carry them into effect. The proposed extension of the electric lighting contract, confessedly designed to head off municipal ownership of public lighting, has brought the issue to the forefront.

If the proposed scheme concocted by Mr. Nash receives the sanction of the mayor and council the city would abdicate its right to establish and operate a lighting plant of its own, if not for ten years, at least for five years, with the chances that at the end of five years the electric lighting monopoly would procure another extension.

Manifestly the only way the mayor and council can redeem their pledges is to submit the question of municipal ownership to the people at the coming election in tangible form through an ordinance authorizing the issue of a sufficient amount of bonds to establish an electric lighting plant and to either erect the necessary poles and build the necessary conduits or acquire the conduits and poles of the electric light company by condemnation process.

If the citizens of Omaha actually favor the proposal of the electric light company for an extension of its contract they will vote the bond proposition down. If the people still hold to the conviction that municipal ownership of public lighting is desirable either for reasons of economy or because they want to put an end to the tampering with city councils and municipal officials and the debauchery of the public service, and at the same time insure more efficient public lighting than we have had, then they will vote to endorse the bond issue.

In view of the fact that less than eight weeks intervene between now and the day of election, is it not high time that the preliminary steps for submitting the bond proposition be taken without further delay?

DENOUNCING PEONAGE.

The governor of Alabama, in his message to the legislature, takes a very decided stand against the peonage system, which has been practiced in that and some other of the southern states. He states that in least one locality in Alabama several farmers have been working men and women under guard without legal authority to do so and that some of these "have been sinners for a dozen years; they have acted without the shadow of a right and have been plain violators of the statute laws." He therefore urges, as becomes the executive of a state who has a proper respect for the observance of the laws, that these offenders be properly punished for their crimes and there seems to be reason to expect that he will cause to be taken the proper course to bring them to punishment.

It is certainly gratifying to find a southern governor willing to consider this matter of peonage, which is a system of slavery even more reprehensible than that of the old form, in its proper character and to call for the punishment of those who are guilty of it. The disclosures that have been made regarding the practice of peonage in some of the southern states are a reproach to the country and its complete abolition, with the condign punishment of all who have been guilty of it, is imperatively demanded. Under no circumstances can such a policy be tolerated in this land.

The Colorado state board of assessment, which is now in session, is confronted with an urgent demand for a material increase in the railroad assessment. Public sentiment in Colorado has been aroused to a high tension by reason of the favoritism shown to the railroad corporations in the assessment last year and the indications are that the state board will yield to public opinion. As usual, the railroad attorneys and tax agents threaten to appeal to the courts in case the board of assessment resists the pressure of the corporations. The outcome will be watched with interest not only in Colorado, but also in Nebraska, because the Nebraska assessment, which is outrageously inequitable, is cited by the railroad attorneys as an example which Colorado is expected to follow.

Political campaigning in Kentucky is always full of startling sensations and exciting incidents. The opening melodrama in this year's Kentucky campaign was signalized by the appearance on the stump of General Simon Bolivar Buckner in support of the republican state ticket and in specific opposition to the democratic candidate, Governor Beckham, whom he accuses of issuing altogether too many pardons. General Buckner was the veteran in gray who capitulated to Unconditional-Surrender-Grant at Fort Donnelson, eventually became governor of Kentucky and in 1896 was vice presidential candidate on the gold democrats' ticket headed by General Palmer.

If the new home rule charter formulated for the government of the city of Denver is ratified at the coming election, all poles and overhead wires, except trolley wires and poles used in operating street railway cars within the business district of that city, will have to be removed by the telegraph, telephone and electric light companies and the wires placed underground within five years from January next. Denver always has been a metropolitan city and Omaha must emulate its example with regard to the wire and pole nuisance if it wants to keep up with the procession.

Peculiar to the Trade.

Detroit Free Press.

The oath of the Typographical union is being taken more seriously than it deserves. The printer has always been a facile and fluent swearer.

Glass House Folly.

Chicago Tribune.

If Uncle Sam picks up an unappropriated island now and then we know of no European relative that can afford to throw stones at him.

Getting Up to a War Pitch.

Washington Post.

With a record of 50,000 killed, 150,000 in hiding and several hundred villages burned by the Turks, the Bulgarians are getting almost up to the point of losing their temper and declaring war.

A Consoling Thought.

Chicago Record-Herald.

We can bear up under Senator Beveridge's loss of his pocketbook and his $50 while he was enroute to speak at the Indiana bankers' convention. But if he had lost the manuscript of the speech in which he settled the money question this nation might not have survived the shock.

Is Reform Possible There?

Chicago Chronicle.

What we need to prevent wild speculation crazes, ending in panic and disaster, is not an "elastic" currency or even an emergency currency so much as honesty and truthfulness in corporation management. Whoever will bring about reform in this respect will be a public benefactor worthy of immortal renown.

Feats in Mimic War.

Philadelphia Record.

What feats of arms may not be done in mimic warfare when the doer is a kaiser and the umpires are his obedient servants! Kaiser Wilhelm's charge on Tuesday at the head of 12,000 Prussian horses on the Saxon batteries and entrenched infantry near Halle, where the annual fall maneuvers are now in progress, would have been an act of madness in real warfare. The dust raised from the dry fields by the horses' hoofs revealed every movement of the cavalry of the "enemy," who was enabled to point 10,000 rifles and hundreds of machine and field guns at the charging troopers; nevertheless, the judges decided that the "enemy" was routed, and the kaiser won.

The March of Empire.

Boston Herald.

"Go west, young man, and grow up with the country" is a bit of advice that the young men of Canada are heeding with a vengeance. A recent harvest excursion to the Canadian northwest was made up of 600 young men from Prince Edward Island and 700 from the eastern section of Nova Scotia. One of the local Nova Scotia newspapers says: "This is certainly an enormous drain on our country, and the chances are that it will be an annual drain. Of the 1,300 who went, at the outside not more than 600 will return. The others will probably remain to build up the west at the expense of the east. The young men who went are the pick of the country, the best blood and sinew in it, and they did not belong to the idle class. They went west to spy out this much-talked-of land and to select homes. It is indeed unfortunate if the home land is to be robbed this way every year. And have we not right here the best country under the sun? But it is the old story of the human foot and his westward roving." And now, as ever, westward the course of empire takes its way.

CONTROL OF TRUSTS.

Government Ownership Pronounced the Best Method.

New York Independent.

Three possible means of controlling the so-called trusts were suggested by the committee of the American Bar association. One is by severe taxation; another is by further interstate commerce laws, and a third is by government assumption of the business of these trusts—that is, by the extension of the socialistic features of our government. Of these the first, destructive taxation, seems oppressive and unfair. We doubt if it will be very much applied. The second provision, legislation for interstate commerce, ought certainly to be developed. The Interstate commission has asked for further power. Railroads ought not to be allowed to give preferential rates which will foster monopolies. But it is to a certain extension of the third method, that of government assumption of certain industries, that we look for speediest important control. The other nations of the world have set us the example, even the most conservative. We lag far behind Great Britain or France or Germany or Austria. Enormous combinations of railroads and trolley lines are now being made here which would not be allowed abroad. Our government ought to hold these means of transportation, which have been the fosterers of unfair wealth. The same is true of the express business and of the lighting industry. This amount of socialism, already begun in the postoffice, is safe, and should be developed.

A NORWEGIAN TRIUMPH.

Descendants of the Vikings Carried Reliance to Victory.

Chicago Tribune.

Sir Thomas Lipton, in one of his interviews, made the remark: "The smartest sailors I ever saw in my life are sailing Reliance." Sir Thomas was correct, as the result proved. As compared with the crew of Shamrock III they were quicker and more intelligent, and quickness and intelligence in obeying orders count for success in a race. They were men who anticipated Captain Barr's orders and were ready to obey them before they were given. In other words, they were experts in navigation specialties, and each man was selected for special work. Captain Wringe's sailors were not so quick because they did not anticipate orders.

Sir Thomas Lipton's remark has been accepted as a compliment to American seamanship, and there has been much boasting over "a Yankee boat and a Yankee crew." Reliance is a Yankee boat. It was built at Bristol by Herreshoff, who is, in spite of his name, a Yankee, born in Bristol. But, alas, Reliance did not have a Yankee crew. There was not an American on board of it nor a person born in America. Its captain is a Scotchman, who has taken out his first papers. The first, second and third mates are Norwegians. Of its crew of forty-two men thirty-seven are unnaturalized and two naturalized Norwegians, two unnaturalized Swedes and one an unnaturalized Dane. Reliance therefore was a Yankee boat manned by a Scotch-American captain and a Scandinavian crew, and the result must be set down as a Norwegian triumph. Evidently the days of the Maine and Deer Island American sailors, who figured in the old contests, have passed away. It is surprising that Sir Thomas, with a knowledge of the skill and alertness of these descendants of the Vikings on the water, has not manned one of his Shamrocks with Norwegians instead of Britishers, for the Norwegians are the men who successfully maintain the blue ribbon of the seas.

THE WASTE OF FORESTS.

Time for Action to Prevent Further Destruction.

San Francisco Call.

The newly issued year book of the Department of Agriculture contains in the report of the secretary a striking passage upon the waste that has followed the partial destruction of the forests at the headwaters of the streams of the Appalachian mountains. That part of the United States is far from California, but not so far but what the lesson of its teaching should come home to us and warn us of the danger that threatens our own land from the waste of the woodlands.

It is estimated that during the twelve months ending with April, 1902, the damage done by floods resulting from the destruction of forest along that mountain district approximated $18,000,000. The report goes on to say: "The examinations also show as additional results of the deforestation of these mountain slopes that the water powers along these streams, which have an aggregate annual value of $20,000,000, as a basis for manufacturing enterprises, are being gradually but certainly destroyed through the increasing irregularity in the flow of the streams; that the soil which is being washed down from the mountain slopes is rendering annually less navigable the Ohio, Mississippi, Tennessee and other rivers of the southeastern states, and that the rate of land erosion on these mountain slopes from which the forest cover has been removed is now as great in a single year as it was in ten centuries while the slopes were covered with primeval forests."

A statement of that kind emanating from an official source after expert investigation is startling. The attention of the eastern public has been drawn to the evil and a bill is now before congress providing for the establishment of a great national forest reserve along the Appalachian summits. The maintenance of such a reserve will of course be highly beneficial to all the wide region of country through which flow the streams that have their rise in those mountains, but great as is the need of a good forestry system in that section of the country, it is probably not so great as the need of such a system in California. It is indeed high time for us to approach this subject seriously and with a resolve to take action before the destruction of the woods goes much further. Man cannot afford to so waste the mountain lands as to bring about every year an erosion equal to that which nature would have caused in ten centuries.

DOINGS IN THE ARMY.

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

The order relating to transportation of baggage of army officers contains the provision, not hitherto recorded in an abstract of the order given last week, for the baggage of a lieutenant general of the army. That officer is allowed to have 1,500 pounds transported at public expense when on duty in the field. The allowance of baggage thus transported, on a permanent change of station, in the case of a lieutenant general, is 15,000 pounds. An important provision in the order, which may escape some officers, is the following:

"In turning over horses to the quartermaster's department for shipment under the authorization of this regulation, officers can have the privilege of shipping them from other points to their new station, provided the mileage in such cases does not exceed the total mileage between the old and new station to which an officer is assigned."

This enables an officer to dispose of his horse at one station and purchase another at his own station, or any other place enroute, where he may happen to have the opportunity of acquiring a suitable animal. The other day an officer who was transferred from Fort Assiniboine to Fort Sill desired to obtain a horse in Kentucky, but the regulations of the army did not permit this, although the advantage of transportation was entirely on the side of the government, since the distance between the purchasing point in Kentucky and the officer's station was much less than that between the officer's old station and Fort Sill. Under the new provision officers will be benefited materially.

The judge advocate general of the army has before him the interesting question whether the badge of the Society of Foreign Wars may properly be worn with the uniform of the army. It seems there are two resolutions and an act of congress bearing on the authority to wear badges of military societies under such circumstances. The first resolution was that of 1890, which related to the emblems of the societies of the wars up to that time. The next legislation was the act of February 2, 1901, which had to do with the badges of the societies of the Spanish war and the incidental conflict in the Philippines. The most recent legislation was the resolution of January 12 last, which related to the China relief expedition. The Society of Foreign Wars embraces a large field of military activity and naturally the opinion from the judge advocate general's office will be awaited with keen interest.

It is the occasion of remark that in the designation of army officers to serve in the capacity of umpires during the army and militia maneuvers at West Point and Fort Riley there has been no assignment to duty in that connection of officers attached to the general staff of the army. The omission from that important list of the names of any general staff officers has created profound surprise. It has been commonly supposed, outside as well as within the army, that general staff officers would find very great opportunity for something besides desk work in the observations of the maneuvers. In Europe the general staff officers are especially active and prominent on such occasions and evidently it is most profitable for the individual officers and for the service generally to detail members of the general staff for duty in the field during maneuvers. It can only be regarded as a significant indication of the policy of the present administration that the general staff of our army is not to be personally and actively identified with this year's operations, although they doubtless serve very useful purposes in arranging for such exercises and in finally passing upon the reports of other officers who do have the opportunity of personal observation. Nevertheless, it is found to be the subject of comment and the occasion for surprise that the general staff is not to be represented in the field at West Point and Fort Riley. Of course, such comments as are here recorded are based on the assumption that the list of officers to attend the maneuvers is complete and has been published without the chance of amendment or addition. It is barely possible, however, that in some way the general staff will be represented, after all, in the Kentucky or Kansas exercises, although there does not appear to be present prospect of such an event.

The detail of Major John F. Guilfoyle, Twelfth cavalry, as inspector of rifle practice is a notable incident. It marks the reestablishment of an important military billet, recreated on the recommendation of the board which has been engaged in the revision of the small arms target practice system and manual. The last officer to discharge the duties of inspector of rifle practice was Colonel (now General) J. M. Lee, U. S. A., who served for a few weeks at the then headquarters of the army on the staff of General Miles. It is recalled in this connection that the detail of an inspector of rifle practice was a hobby of General Miles. He never succeeded in inducing the authorities to adopt the idea, although it has always been considered necessary if we were going to maintain a standard of excellence in army marksmanship. It is possible that Major Guilfoyle's detail to this duty in Washington will be followed by the designation, in a similar capacity, of officers attached to the staffs of the territorial departmental commanders.

The first lieutenants of the Signal corps who were marked for advancement to the grade of captain have been promoted, or have passed their examinations and are ready for promotion. Three advancements remain to be made. The block in these promotions was removed by the return to this country from Alaska of Lieutenant William Mitchell, who has been examined and reported as qualified for promotion. These advancements created eleven vacancies in the grade of second lieutenant, and a twelfth vacancy is made by the retirement, on account of disability, of Captain Charles B. Rogan, jr., who is now at the general hospital at Washington Barracks. The problem is to fill these vacancies. None of the officers of the line is disposed to go in the signal corps where the demands are for technical knowledge and practical experience in signal corps work, and where the additional reward largely consists of the consciousness of duty faithfully performed. The condition indicates the necessity of some very strong recommendations to congress, and it is probable this will be made in the annual report of the chief signal officer.

Numerous changes are likely to be made in the next few weeks in the assignments of officers to regiments, and constant changes are being made in the list of vacancies in the distribution of the vacant second lieutenancies, as published a few weeks ago in these columns. These changes are due mainly to the desire on the part of the graduates of the Military academy to see duty in the Philippines. Numerous requests are coming from these officers for assignment to regiments which will take these officers to station in the islands. Of course, this makes a draft on the regiments at home, but as the officers are more needed in the Philippines than at United States garrisons it is probable that applications of this kind will not be denied.

Pernicious Disrespect.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

General Bristow must have queer notions of the public service. He is trying to run his branch of the Postoffice department without consulting the politicians.

NEBRASKAN FOR SECOND PLACE.

Political Expediency Demands a Western Man for Vice President.

Toledo Blade.

Nebraska, brought into prominence during the two last national campaigns by the fact that the state is the home of the democratic candidate for the presidency, has again bobbed into notice by the recent action of its state republican convention in advocating the selection of Hon. John L. Webster, of Omaha, for the second place on the ticket to be chosen in 1904. By this action it has brought to country-wide prominence a man who has been known throughout the middle west for years as one of its ablest citizens. This should not be taken to mean that Mr. Webster has not been known beyond the confines of the Missouri valley, but rather that the knowledge of his ability has been confined principally to those attorneys who keep in touch with the more important legal work of the country, and those politicians who make the growth of every public man their study.

As the first candidate in the field, Mr. Webster's personality is perhaps of more interest than those of the men who will enter the running later.

Of his ability there is no question. The west knows him as an attorney, one of the coterie of first water men, who have served to whip into shape the sometimes unique, sometimes grotesque, laws passed by states still in their long clothes, in turn ultra-conservative, railroad ridden, populistic and demagogic. To them is due the credit for whatever protection of property and soundness of state finance came about during the wild-eyed days when the people of the plains were led by sockless statesmen and divine healers of national wrongs that consisted mostly of grasshopper pests, a lack of rain, and other things that caused crops to fail. To their good work the west is just now awakening. In the framing of laws governing the nation's relations with the red men he has played an important part. One of the first attorneys to be admitted to practice before the interior department and the commissioner of Indian affairs, he has never lent himself to the high-salaried defence of the myriad men and schemes that have looked to rob the children of the plains of their remaining lands. Rather has he done as much, if not more, than any other to put the laws governing this diminishing race on a plane of firmness and justice.

Mr. Webster has had experience in politics. Several times he has been a receptive candidate before the Nebraska legislature of senatorial honors, but his ever present stand against a coalition with and the resultant control by dominant railroad forces in the state has kept him from the goal. But, defeated or not, he has always fought at the front for his party, and by his example and power both as a speaker and an advisor, has put republicanism again in the ascendant in his state.

In person Mr. Webster is a picture in action of the old time courtesy and chivalry of the days before the war, combined with the aggressiveness and more solid intellect of the present day leader. He has frenquently been prominently mentioned for an ambassadorship to a European court, and was lately seriously considered as one of the men to make up the Isthmian canal commission. His honesty in politics is as inflexible as in his private business, and has become a motto in Nebraska.

With Mr. Roosevelt's nomination for the presidency a foregone conclusion, it follows that a western man will be chosen as his running mate. Many factors of political expendiency will enter into the selection for second place, and Nebraska is early in the field with a good man. If the other states which will undoubtedly place favorite sons in the race, shall name equally capable men with Mr. Webster, the choice of the convention cannot fail to be a wise one.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Another New York hunter has shot his guide in mistake for a deer. It is wrong to make game of anybody.

There is a shadow of hope of reform in Kentucky. Fifty years' growth of whiskers was cut from the chin of a politician the other day.

Lord Roberts and Lord Kitchener can not agree as to the result of the South Africa war. Why not leave the question to some of the real generals on the other side?

The New York Sun has passed its seventieth milestone without a wrinkle on its face or a cloud to obscure its rays. The Sun was founded by Day (Benjamin H.), but it shines at all hours.

Dr. C. E. Bentley of Chicago has been appointed chairman of the committee on Clinics for the big international dental congress which will be held in St. Louis next year, in connection with the World's fair.

King Alfonso of Spain is about to start on a tour of Europe, visiting all the principal courts on the continent. It is said the itinerary is undertaken with the purpose of finding a wife to adorn his palace.

Will fasting cure dyspepsia? Yes; a Kansas man cured his by a fast of thirty-seven days, and there was a grand dispute whether the members of the Barber's Union or the undertaker's assistant should have the privilege of shaving the corpse.

Elbridge Gerry Gigger, the last survivor of the Hassanamisco tribe of Indians, once numerous in Massachusetts, died last week at Gardner. The Hassanamisco tribe once owned the land where the town of Grafton is located. When the state took the land to open it for settlement a pension was given each member of the tribe in settlement. Mr. Gigger's pension now having expired, the state no longer has to pay for the taking of this land.

LABOR'S GREAT PROBLEM.

Can a Union Be Trusted to Stand by Its Contracts?

Chicago Inter Ocean.

Frank Buchanan, national head of the union of structural iron workers, on Thursday revoked the charter of the local branch in New York City, of which Sam Parks is the virtual head, because he was satisfied that the local union had wilfully violated, and was violating, the agreement made last May between the national union and the employers' association.

The local union received the revocation of its charter with hoots and jeers. J. W. Johnston, secretary-treasurer of the national union, denied that Buchanan had authority to revoke the local union's charter without his consent. It is reported that Johnston and Buchanan had a personal encounter during the day over the conduct of the local union.

Thus structural iron building in New York, already crippled for weeks by strikes, has become still more uncertain because of a factional quarrel between the workers in the trade. This quarrel, it will be observed, is over the point whether or not a local union shall be permitted to annul contracts made with employers by the national organization of which it is a part.

Fundamentally the question at issue is whether or not a labor union can be trusted to stand by its contracts. To get that question answered right is the great problem before organized labor. Unless organized labor succeeds in answering that question right its whole cause is in jeopardy.

It is comparatively easy for workers to organize and by watching for a favorable opportunity compel employers to give them higher wages. But when a labor union, having made an agreement on wages and conditions for a certain length of time, refuses to keep that agreement it sets about it sown destruction. Capital, finding that labor union agreements are worthless, simply refuses to take chances with workers who will not keep their contracts. Thus work in that industry and allied industries ceases.

The final result of contract breaking by labor organizations is to leave workers out of work. That is the fact that labor organizations have got to face. That is the fact that makes the assurance of fidelity to contracts the great problem before organized labor today. For failure to get such fidelity brings about not only strikes of workers, but strikes of capital, and when capital is forced to strike labor's opportunity ceases to exist.

LINES TO A LAUGH.

"Listen to that girl's peculiar laugh."
"That isn't a laugh."
"No?"
"No; she's a Boston girl. That's a cachinnation."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Mrs. Anger—I can't see why my husband should be jealous of me.
Her Friend—No one can, my dear.—Judge.

"Come, come, old boy, brace up! You know that faint heart ne'er won fair lady."
"But she's a brunette."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"She needed rest when she went to the country, I believe."
"Yes."
"Then why is she coming home so soon?"
"Well, she thinks she needs a little comfort."—Chicago Post.

"Some people fails," said Uncle Eben, "because dey tries to eat de persimmon befo' it's ripe, an' some because dey lets it lay aroun' till it's no good."—Washington Post.

"Alas!" said the unhappy woman, "and we were once considered wealthy!"
"But, my dear," said her husband, soothingly, "we have as much money as ever."
"Oh, yes, I know, but there are so many who have a lot more that nobody pays any attention to us any longer!"—Brooklyn Life.

"I fear," said his host next morning, "you didn't sleep well last night. Every time I woke up I could hear you thrashing around in your bed."
"I ought to have told you," apologized the guest, a man from Kansas City, "I've got so used to floods that I tread water in my sleep."—Chicago Tribune.

"Are you training your daughters in the household arts?"
"No. What's the use? Jest as soon as I got one of them trained so's she could help me some man would come along an' marry her. An' men are havin' it too easy these days, anyhow."—Washington Star.

"Some men are so fortunate in securing good wives," remarked the man who wanted to be sympathetic.
"Yes," replied Henpeck. "Now, my wife is just like sunshine about the house."
"Indeed! Well—er—really. I'm surprised—"
"Yes. She's never there at all at night. Woman's Rights meetings and all that, you know."—Philadelphia Press.

A QUARTET.

Carolyn Wells, in Life.

He—My dear Miss Smith—or may I call you Kitty?
Moon—(This promises, I fear, to be quite tame.)
She—You oughtn't, but you make it sound so pretty;
Cupid—(They're starting in as usual. Same old game.)

He—The moonlight paints with gold your fairy tresses.
Moon—(Now wouldn't that just make you faint away!)
She—Only a poet thus his thought expresses!
Cupid—(What idiotic things some people say!)

He—Dear, if I loved you would you care to know it?
Moon—(Now that, I must admit, is rather good.)
She—Oh, if I cared—I'd be too shy to show it.
Cupid—(They're doing better than I thought they would!)

He—Ah—if I dared—but you're so far above me—
Moon—(Ahem! I think I'll hide behind this tree.)
She—Love levels all ranks—
He—Do you, can you love me?
Cupid—(Well, now they have no further use for me!)

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