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 September, 1904, was as follows:

1	32,250	16	29,250
2	32,300	17	29,250
3	29,200	18	26,950
4	27,150	19	29,050
5	29,180	20	29,180
6	29,250	21	29,200
7	29,320	22	29,250
8	29,100	23	29,150
9	29,550	24	29,720
10	29,290	25	27,000
11	27,050	26	29,150
12	29,400	27	29,240
13	29,400	28	29,360
14	29,250	29	29,550
15	29,350	30	29,350

Total	875,790
Less unsold and returned copies	9,633
Net total sales	866,157
Daily average	28,871

GEO. B. TZSCHUCK.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 30th day of September, 1904.
(Seal) M. B. HUNGATE,
Notary Public.

The controversy over horse show seat rates has become ancient history and may as well be considered closed.

Now that the contract for repaving Sixteenth street has been let, it is to be hoped no further obstacles to the speedy completion of the work will be interposed by the fighting contractors.

That Nebraska City party which has started to St. Louis by way of the Missouri river may not have the most enjoyable trip possible between the points, but it will demonstrate that the stream is still navigable.

A scarcity of money is reported in Germany, while business in New York is normal—an unprecedented condition for a presidential campaign year in the United States, when money generally moves to Europe.

Those European papers which have been so fierce in their comment on the lynching of negroes in the United States may let this country alone for a while until conditions are improved in the Congo Free State.

Governor Cummins has promised Senator Fairbanks a greater per cent of the popular vote in Iowa than he will receive in any other state in the union. This Iowa idea is one upon which the whole party can unite.

Thursday is the last day that certificates of nomination can be filed with the secretary of state in Nebraska. A good way to decline a nomination is to have the convention officers forget this necessary preliminary.

If it is impractical to carry an electric lighting current from Florence to Omaha, why is it practical to supply Florence with electric lights from current generated in Omaha? There are some things no fellow can find out.

The Ak-Sar-Ben carnival has demonstrated that the Omaha High school boys need better discipline. It will be time enough for them to indulge in turbulent demonstrations after they have passed into the colleges and universities.

Former Senator Allen wants it distinctly understood that he is still a populist. Those really interested in the campaign of Watson and Tibbles have noticed that he has lately been a "still" populist, so far as promoting their campaign is concerned.

Candidate Davis has started to make seventy-five speeches on a 1,100-mile tour of Maryland. Senator Gorman was to have accompanied him, but changed his mind at the last moment. Someone evidently has to stay at home to watch the barrel.

By sending Tom Taggart to Indiana the democratic national committee evidently purposes to see if he can deliver a fraction of the goods that he has promised. He said he could carry the United States for Parker, and now the committee insists that he carry Indiana.

The anti-Mormon party of Utah demands the resignation of Senator Smoot from the apostleship of the Mormon church. If the charges they have made can be sustained he should give up his federal position, while if they are wrong his church offices should have no bearing on the case.

Lord Milner has resigned the office of high commissioner of South Africa because of the strain of official duties. As he is as much responsible for the present situation as any other person, he should not be permitted to lay aside the burden when it becomes too heavy for comfort, but he is not the first man to find that he had taken a bigger contract than he could fulfill.

THE CIVIL SERVICE RECORD.

President Roosevelt is known as one of the most earnest and persistent champions of the merit system in the civil service of the government. He has for years advocated this policy and in every public position he has held has spared no effort to make it effective. As a member of the Civil Service commission he did more than any other one to promote the reform. As governor of New York he was loyal to that cause. As president he has kept in the same course. In respect to this he has, according to the testimony of the most confirmed friends of civil service reform, always been faithful and consistent.

Mr. Richard H. Dana, member of the executive committee of the National and the Massachusetts Civil Service Reform league, has been devoted to the cause from its very inception and when it had few supporters. He has known its progress from personal observation and personal participation from year to year. He can therefore speak of the present status of the merit system from the standpoint of an expert in the true sense of that term. In a comprehensive review of the civil service record of the present administration Mr. Dana pays it the highest commendation. He details what has been done by President Roosevelt in advancing the reform and says: "Since Mr. Roosevelt has been president he has punished conspicuous offenders by removal, has dismissed persons improperly in the service, has put back many of the positions taken out of the rules, and has included 12,150 more never before under the law. He has amended the rules so as to close the back door entrance into the service, to strengthen the powers of the commission and to make the law self-enforcing. In short, more than any other president, he has perfected the system and made extensions early in his administration." This ardent friend of civil service reform endorses the statement of the council of the league of which he is a member that "President Roosevelt has done more for the practical enforcement of the civil service law, the elevation of the moral tone of the public service and the general advancement in the methods of government than it has ever fallen to the lot of any other president to do so soon after assuming office."

What was the record made by the last democratic administration in this regard? If it cannot fairly be said that Mr. Cleveland wholly disregarded the civil service law, it is still a fact that his administration did not closely and carefully observe it. There were many deviations from the merit system under both of the Cleveland administrations, notwithstanding the fact that the president was a professed friend of the policy. He found the pressure for the spoils so great that he was unable to resist it and consequently civil service reform made no real progress under democratic rule. There would be a repetition of this experience in the event of the election of Parker. The hungry democracy would be even more importunate than under Cleveland and what he found almost irresistible would overwhelm the Esopus candidate. The democratic national platform makes a perfunctory declaration in favor of civil service reform, but everybody knows that the party as a whole is opposed to that policy.

EFFECT OF THE BIG GRAIN CROP.

During the summer months Nebraska railroad managers were directed by the railroad magnates of the east to curtail operating expenses in order to prevent a slump in dividends. More than two thousand mechanics and section hands were discharged and most of these left the state in quest of employment in other parts of the country.

Now the Nebraska railroad managers find themselves short of skilled labor in the shops and efficient men in the train service. Carpenters, bridge builders, iron workers and even common laborers on the railroads are scarce right now and every available mechanic that can be induced to leave Colorado is being brought into Nebraska to re-enforce the operating departments of the various roads.

This extraordinary demand for railway trainmen, mechanics and section hands is due chiefly to the enormous grain crops that will have to be moved to eastern markets and southern markets in the near future. Unless there is a very material drop in the prices of grain all the available rolling stock of the Nebraska railroads will be in full requisition for months to come and the money realized will be pouring back into the laps of the farmers and grain dealers and through them will be distributed among the merchants and manufacturing concerns of Nebraska.

While the lion's share of this increased wealth will go to the farmer, a very considerable portion will go into the coffers of the railroad magnates.

A VETERAN'S OPINION.

General Daniel E. Sickles has spoken unreservedly in commendation of the pension order which Judge Parker says he will revoke if elected, and that distinguished union soldier's opinion will be very generally recognized by his comrades as worthy of respectful consideration. General Sickles is a lawyer and when he says that order No. 78 is "the law of the land, having the authority of the executive, legislative and judicial departments of the government, he knows of what he is talking. Congress, he says, has uniformly appropriated the money necessary to pay these old age pensions and these appropriations are all recognitions and approvals of the executive action, granting old age pensions. The courts hold that such sanction by congress is conclusive on judicial tribunals.

General Sickles concludes a letter to General O. O. Howard as follows: "The courts of the United States will sustain order No. 78 whenever one of the critics of the president will venture to go into court to challenge its legality. The arrows of his assailants will fall harmless at his feet. The living veterans of the civil war, their children and kindred, the descendants of the million who have died and all of our people who cherish a manly sympathy for the needs of their defenders, now tottering toward their graves, will bless Roosevelt for his kindly and just action."

The democrats are not pushing this matter upon public attention. Doubtless the party managers would like to have it forgotten. But the standard bearer of the democracy is on record in regard to it and it will be prominent in the thought of more than a million voters on election day, who will record their protest against the pledge of the democratic candidate for president to revoke, if elected, the just order in behalf of the union soldiers.

SOUTHERN FEELING.

According to Senator Bacon of Georgia, if President Roosevelt is elected the people of the south will be in a state of dejection amounting almost to despair. Republican success will cause thousands of southern men, democrats of course, to feel like resigning themselves to their fate, regarding the south as forever ostracised so far as dominating influence in the affairs of the government is concerned. "We are outcasts," said the Georgia senator. "Politically, the north would have us of the south men without a country."

This is sheer nonsense. There is no such feeling in the north. On the contrary northern statesmen have for years been most earnestly endeavoring to induce the people of the south to ally themselves with the party of national development and progress and thus become to a greater extent participants in the affairs of government. Republican policy has been very largely instrumental in building up the south, yet that section has been for years solidly arrayed against the republican party and is today the bulwark of democracy. Whatever is reactionary, or even revolutionary, in the democratic creed finds hearty support in the south and the excuse for this, as stated by Mr. Bacon, is the presence of the race problem. Do the white people of the south expect the people of the north to abandon their sense of justice to the colored citizen by acquiescing in the policy of depriving him of his constitutional rights? Must this be done in order to assure the people of the south that they are not regarded as outcasts? It would seem that this is their view and that they expect such acquiescence in the event of the election of Parker. That is the obvious inference from Senator Bacon's observations and renders them worthy of more than passing attention. Democratic success in November evidently would mean an extension in the south of the policy of negro disfranchisement.

The revised charter for Omaha should make it impossible for a city council to suspend any section of the fire ordinance by resolution, even by unanimous vote. It should, moreover, make the construction of brick buildings in cities of the metropolitan class mandatory within a radius of one mile from the city hall and strictly fireproof buildings within a radius of five blocks from the city hall. Had such a provision been in the charter today the Chicago Great Western could not have built a huge wooden shed for its freight depot near the Sixteenth street viaduct under any pretext. It may safely be predicted that that structure will not be removed or demolished within the next twenty years, unless it is destroyed by fire, but in the meantime it will endanger the safety of many good buildings in the vicinity should a fire break out during stormy weather.

The assessors are now out making up the appraisement of property for city purposes. The difference between the city and county assessment rolls, however, should now disappear, except that the former is listed at full value while the latter goes at 20 per cent. If the two assessments are alike, however, the necessity for two separate assessing officers will no longer remain. The consolidation of the offices of city tax commissioner for both Omaha and South Omaha and county assessor for Douglas county should receive the earnest attention of our lawmakers when they come to meet at Lincoln next winter.

The ordinance submitting to the people of Omaha a proposition to establish a municipal electric lighting plant should by all means be passed without further parleying. If the proposition submitted by the electric lighting company is attractive, let it also be submitted to a vote of the people. Give them a chance to decide for themselves at the coming election. Let the people who want a municipal lighting plant established vote "yes" and those who want the council to extend the electric lighting contract for five years can also vote "yes" on that proposition.

As usual, the Lincoln Journal is indulging in uncomplimentary remarks about Omaha's Ak-Sar-Ben carnival. The work of Ak-Sar-Ben is, of course, subject to criticism in several features and can and will be improved, but it is the petty meanness which crops out in the Lincoln roasts that exposes the malice that inspires it. The Lincoln Star, on the other hand, has only good words to say about Omaha's enterprise, and it no doubt reflects more accurately the real sentiments of the substantial people of the capital city.

A Quaker firm in Philadelphia, whose members are opposed to war, have declined to bid on supplies to be used by the Army and Navy departments. Their action, if followed by all who want peace rather than war, would work international disarmament sooner than all of the resolutions of all of the peace congresses ever held.

The Omaha Firemen's association has extended its limits and taken in the members of the South Omaha department. In due time, and at no distant day, both of the departments will be consolidated and made more efficient. As a matter of fact, the South Omaha department is utterly inadequate to combat any extensive conflagration, and Omaha fire fighters and Omaha fire fighting apparatus would have to be called into requisition to handle a big fire at South Omaha.

A complete rural free delivery service is to be established in Douglas county by November 1, and the World-Herald very modestly claims the credit for G. M. Hitchcock, although Senator Fairbanks declared in his speech at the Auditorium that the improvement in the service was brought about by Senator Millard.

Disappointing the Prophets.

Chicago News.

Notwithstanding the grave alarm of the able democratic editors of New York, up to the hour of going to press President Roosevelt had not declared himself emperor of the United States.

The Chronic Kicker.

Baltimore American.

People who are not satisfied with the present October ideal weather would find fault if they were presented with the Tuileries for a town residence, St. Peter's for a private chapel and the Garden of Eden for their personal pleasure grounds.

Forecasting the General Result.

San Francisco Chronicle.

Bryan has formally abandoned Nebraska to the republicans. They had the state all right, anyhow, but Mr. Bryan's opinion on the subject is interesting, as it foreshadows the indifference of a large section of his followers to the result of the election of November 8.

Where Does Uncle Sam Come In?

Pittsburg Dispatch.

United States Minister John Barrett announces that "there is an exact and cordial understanding between the Panama government and me." Yet the Panamans seem a little uneasy lest that portion of the United States that does not live under John Barrett's hat may not be quite in on the understanding.

Talking Out in Meeting.

Cleveland Leader.

Vice Presidential Candidate Fairbanks may be long and semi-bald, but he is not a coward. Speaking in Utah the other day he criticised polygamy and kindred sins of Mormonism in terms that left no question of the abhorrence he felt for them in his mind, or as to how he would act in his senatorial capacity were opportunity given to vote on representative legislation.

Preparing for a Long Struggle.

Springfield Republican.

Whatever hopes the Japanese originally had of a short war, they are now preparing for a long and exhausting struggle. Count Okuma is free to tell his countrymen that they must expect to spend at least $1,000,000,000. The taxes will be piled on the people, internal improvements will be stopped, even popular education is to be curtailed. In Russia, the same procedure will take place, causing even greater distress to the nation. And this is glorious war.

Will Women Decide the Election?

Leslie's Weekly.

Of the forty-five states of the union there are four—Colorado, Idaho, Utah and Wyoming—in which women have the ballot on a precise equality with men. Those states cast 397,000 votes in the aggregate in 1900. They will probably cast 425,000 in 1904. It must not be inferred, however, that half the aggregate vote is that of women. In those four states, as in all other young communities, the males are largely in the preponderance. Probably at least 125,000, though, of those 425,000 votes of 1904 will be cast by women. Those four states will have fourteen electoral votes this year. What will be the attitude of those 125,000 women voters in 1904? It has been noticed that, beginning with Wyoming, which has had equal suffrage ever since it was organized into a territory in 1868, the effect of women's voting is only to make the prevailing drift of sentiment, whatever it chances to be, take a little more decided form than it would otherwise assume. That is, the women usually go with the men of their own household or circle.

IMPUDENT TOBACCO TRUST.

Treasury Department Declines to Advertise Its Wares.

Chicago Chronicle.

The American Tobacco company is not one of the great combines as measured by the amount of its capital, but it stands in the front rank in point of meanness, viciousness and impudence. It has recently been making an extraordinary display of its specialties, its impudence more particularly.

The practice has been to affix big green government stamps to the faces of boxes of imported cigars, the stamps having the effect to advertise the fact of the foreign origin of the cigars. It was a good thing for the importers.

It was not so good a thing for the domestic manufacturers. They therefore made complaint to the Treasury department that the stamp was used to promote the business of the importers—that the government was, in effect, aiding the importers in their competition with the home manufacturers.

It was decided at the department that the complaint was just and an order was issued for the substitution of a brown stamp for a green one and directing that it be pasted on the bottoms of the boxes.

Then arose the importers, the American Tobacco company at the front, and made loud protest. They claimed that the government would injure their business by ceasing to advertise it conspicuously. It would still serve them incidentally, because it would still require a distinctive stamp to be placed on boxes of imported cigars and purchasers could see it if they took the trouble to look for it, and it would serve as a certificate of genuineness as much as ever, excepting that it would not be in plain sight.

The department was obliging enough to take the matter up again. Testimony was taken by Acting Secretary Taylor, in the absence of Secretary Shaw, and the latter, after reading a report of the proceedings, was satisfied that the importers were using the government stamp as a trade-mark and that they were thus deriving an advantage not enjoyed by any other importers. He therefore concluded that the new order was proper and should stand and has given orders for the preparation and use of the new stamps accordingly.

The American Tobacco company and the other smaller importers, though left in the enjoyment of an advantage necessarily incident to the affixing of a distinctive stamp required by law, were impudent enough to demand that this stamp should continue to be of a style calculated to arrest attention and that it be affixed to the boxes in such a way as to be in plain sight.

The Treasury department has properly declined to be used any longer as partner in charge of the advertising end of a concern which not only resorts to all manner of fake devices for increasing its sales, but makes a practice of destroying the business of independent dealers who happen to be in locations which are coveted by it.

WHIRLWIND OR BACK DRAUGHT?

Mr. Bryan in the Role of Sweet Harbinger of Harmony.

New York Tribune.

Mr. Bryan is setting out upon what the Parker and Davis managers fondly hope will be a "whirlwind campaign" in behalf of their candidates. There can be no doubt the need is father to the hope. Never did a campaign more sorely stand in need of an infusion of ginger, of turpentine in the boots, or of something to give it life. Nor is it to be supposed that such service could be rendered to it by any one so effectively as by Mr. Bryan. He was the one conspicuous leader who—with all his theories from which we dissent—stood loyally by his principles at St. Louis, and who, in the hour of defeat, could truly say that, though all else was lost, honor and consistency were not. There is no man in all the party whose eloquence is more persuasive. There is no one whose support of the St. Louis ticket and platform would be so strong a proof of party reunion, or would so strongly conduce toward making that reunion complete.

We prefer to imagine, therefore, rather than to attempt to describe, the emotions with which the wistful boomers of "safe and sane" democracy, of the non-committal Woolfert's Roost and Esopus brand, have heard the initial uterance of this "whirlwind campaign." How grateful to their ears must have been Mr. Bryan's cheerful and insouciant remark that of course Parker is going to lose Nebraska—the whirlwind campaigner's own state. The result out there is a foregone conclusion. It really isn't worth while to discuss it, he says, "because a Roosevelt victory in Nebraska is certain." Moreover, he continues, with that frankness which is his not least engaging characteristic, "I won't tell you I am delighted with the nominations at St. Louis. I fought Parker's nomination and I have neither recanted nor receded from my position." So he contents himself with working for a democratic majority in the legislature, and therefore for a democratic senator.

Sweet harbinger of harmony! What a whirlwind campaign this is going to be, to be sure! It will be not merely a whirlwind, but also a cyclone, a hurricane, a tornado, a blizzard, a chinook, a typhoon, a simoon, a levanter, a sirocco, a mistral, a monsoon, a harmattan and a white squall, all in one. Indeed, we shouldn't wonder a bit if it should prove to be a back draught!

GRAFT IN BUSINESS.

The Itching Palm is Not Monopolized by Officeholders.

Kansas City Star.

So much attention has been given to graft in politics of late that most persons are inclined to regard political life as alone affected by this particular species of dishonesty. Mr. Lincoln Steffens, indeed, has pointed out that all trails lead back to the captain of industry. But the field of business graft has not yet been thoroughly investigated, and few persons know its extent.

In the New York Independent an anonymous writer, vouched for as the president of an "important manufacturing corporation," cites a number of instances of dishonesty on the part of corporation employes that might have aroused the envy of the members of the St. Louis assembly's famous "combine."

For instance, the purchasing agent of one of the largest railroad system offered to do business with the firm on one occasion provided he could be "helped out" on a "little payment" of $200 that was due the next day. Another purchasing agent wanted to see the books and divide the profits on the contracts. "It's all right," he said; "a part goes to the president of the road." A traveling salesman for a cloak factory admitted to the author of the article that he could draw up to $25,000 a year on the house for presents and commissions to buyers. "They all do it," he said. "You can't do business any other way." Some buyers, he explained, were squeamish and wouldn't take money. With them he usually arranged poker games, at which he lost heavily.

An adjuster for an insurance company told him of bribing with $15,000 the agent for the owner of a burned building in order to induce the man to settle for $250,000 instead of for the $250,000 that was at first desired. Later the adjuster discovered that the agent had collected $10,000 from the owner to use as a bribe.

It must be remembered that when instances of business graft are discovered no publicity attends them, whereas when public officials are caught in corrupt practices the facts are published fully. Were all the truth known about dishonesty in big corporations it might be found that there is no more corruption in public than in private affairs. The need is not merely for honest politicians. It is much more general than that.

PERSONAL NOTES.

A lieutenant in the Russian army is paid about $200 a year, a captain about $300 and a major $450. Kouropatkin is getting $100,000.

The refusal of a Philadelphia firm to bid on a big contract for the navy because, being Quakers, its members are opposed to war, is a pleasant reminder that commercialism does not alter some people's principles.

A Connecticut man who robbed a bank of $70,000 was sent to the penitentiary for five years. It is hoped the Connecticut penalty will not become popular. Surely an enterprising embezzler should not be reduced to the level of a common sneak.

E. H. Harriman, the railroad magnate, has begun the erection of a splendid residence at Arden, near Middletown, N. Y. The house is to be solid granite, 350 feet long and 180 feet wide, two stories in height and having fifty rooms. The structure and terraces will occupy three acres.

Yoshio Kinoshita, general passenger agent of the imperial government railways of Japan, has arrived at San Francisco. He will make a thorough study of American railroad methods in so far as they apply to passenger department affairs, and expects to spend two years in this country and Europe.

The Ancient Artillery company of Boston has received from its namesake in London an elaborate silver tankard two feet in height and eighteen inches in diameter. The London Ancients visited Boston several months ago and took an accurate measure of the warriors of the Hub. The tankard is not a water wagon.

Alexander Parker Wilcox of Paris, Ill., the eccentric first cousin of Candidate Alton B. Parker, still refuses to return to Oneida, N. Y., to claim a fortune which has been left him by a relative. He says he has plenty to live on for the remainder of his days and does not care to have any more money. He has been to his native state but once since he moved to Illinois, in 1861.

Ali Kuli Khan, a Persian nobleman, who has given up lands, title, family and position, is now living in Boston in obscurity because he regards his religion as more important than any of the temporalities he is relinquishing. His father was ordered executed for becoming a Babist, than which no religion is more feared by the Mohammedan clergy of Persia, but owing to the influence of his uncle, who was prime minister of the late shah, the order was commuted. Ali is at work translating into English the works of the Babist writers at the request of American converts to the faith.

SCENES ALONG THE FIRING LINE.

Various Incidents Sketched by Correspondents at the Front.

In a letter describing a battle between the Russians and Japanese near Hai Cheng July 30, and the retreat following, the New York Herald-Bee correspondent, with the Russian forces, details a number of incidents illustrating the characteristics of the opposing armies. "The Japanese," he says, "are, like the Chinese, the Indians and other Oriental peoples, extremely addicted to early rising, and in the course of the present war they seem to invariably begin battles at an unearthly hour. On July 30 I heard their cannon about 4 o'clock in the morning and immediately prepared to leave for the 'position' or place where the principal battery was located and where the general would remain throughout the battle.

"Before the battle began, the Russian soldiers snatched a moment to turn toward the rising sun in order to cross themselves repeatedly and say their morning prayers, first standing and then kneeling, after the Mussulman custom. They did not pray simultaneously, but at odd moments; they were therefore, it was plain, not praying to order. I also noticed a gunner cross himself reverently before loading his gun for the first time that day. It is strange, when one reflects on it, to find the cross of Christ behind a field piece, but somehow or other we find that incongruity almost since the establishment of Christianity.

"I do not think that there is a Christian army in the world which makes more open profession of its Christianity than the army of Russia. An Irish or French or even Spanish soldier, who wore the number of religious emblems which the Russian soldier wears and said his prayers with such a Mohammedan disregard of onlookers would be teased to death by his comrades. The officers, too, are as profuse in their use of religious emblems as the men, and, if the Japanese collect all the crucifixes and religious medals which they find on the bodies of dead Russians, they must by this time have accumulated a large stock. It is painful to think of the bad effect all this is sure to have on the nascent Christianity of eastern Asia.

"Almost as unbearable as the whistle of the shells was the overpowering heat. I have lived in India and Siam, and I had thought, when I came to Manchuria, that I would have nothing new to learn about heat, but thirteen hours on that bare hillside have indefinitely extended my knowledge of it. The sun beat down on us relentlessly and there was not a leaf to shade us.

"Some ingenious person put two stretchers on end, bound them together and thus formed a sort of shade for the general. A Cossack officer formed a second shade out of three lances and some canvas. But the total amount of shade thus produced would not shelter more than a few persons at most, and though I was for a time one of the privileged few I do not know that I found the shade much of a protection.

"Gorgeous uniforms became as wet as if a bucket of water had been thrown over their wearers, and the thirst everybody suddenly developed and kept up for the rest of the day would have done credit to wanderers in the Sahara. Unfortunately, there was no way of satisfying this thirst save by drinking of the well water that Chinese coolies carried up the hill at long intervals in wooden buckets, which were emptied before they had gone very far. These Chinese coolies may have been Japanese, or Chinamen disguised as Japanese, but nobody paid any attention to them, they only wanted the water they carried.

"We are in the heart of a mountainous, but beautiful country, well cultivated and evidently supporting a large population. Soon after daybreak we passed through a village whose early rising inhabitants were speechless with wonder at the passage of such a large body of horsemen. There were in this village and in the others we afterward visited plenty of women and children, who were not molested by the Cossacks and who did not seem to fear the Russians.

"I am told that the women and children fly before the Japanese and I have myself seen some half dozen Chinamen do so. The villagers seem to regard us simply with looks of blank astonishment and probably the children who saw us pass will often tell their grandchildren of this night march of the Cossacks, possibly the last march white soldiers will make in these villages.

"The village of Tsenying Lunshan is a beautiful and prosperous little village with a big wooded peak rising precipitously behind it and making it look like a Japanese village in the Nikko or Hakone district—the resemblance being still further increased by the little Buddhist shrines at the foot of the mountain.

"Our colonel immediately ordered the head man of the village to be brought before him and that worthy gentleman, who probably expected to have his head taken off, was agreeably surprised to hear that the visitors did not intend to molest women or to trouble the people in any way, but would pay for everything they took.

"I may here mention the fact that, so far as I can see, these Cossacks pay for everything with the scrupulousness of tourists. At Tsee Lao Gau I saw our intendant give the Chinaman in whose house we stayed a sheaf of bank notes, and the mere fact that the Chinaman haggled and tried to get more proved to me conclusively that he was getting too much.

"I have never known of a case in which this Cossack general did not pay in this manner, and I believe that all his officers do likewise. In spite of this, the Chinaman sometimes gets kicks instead of halfpence, especially when he has to deal with noncommissioned officers or with privates, but until armies consist of saints instead of soldiers this sort of thing is bound to occur.

"A wounded infantryman was carried by two Chinese coolies, and the story he told was peculiar. He said that he had been shot in the leg while crossing the maize fields with some comrades, who ran for their lives and reported him as dead. He lay where he fell for three or four days, being fed in the meantime by Chinese, whom he finally persuaded to put him into one of their large baskets and carry him inside the Russian lines. A similar incident occurred the previous day, and in that case the general gave the Chinese Good Samaritans a reward of 100 rubles.

"From this it can be seen that the Russians who are wounded prefer to die of starvation than to fall into the hands of the Japanese, who, they believe, first torture and finally murder their prisoners. This belief is fostered by the officers and by the tales of eye witnesses. One wounded soldier now in Mukden tells a dreadful story in this connection. He says that he was one of a number of prisoners whom the Japanese took somewhere near the Yalu, and confined in a Chinese house. While their own officers were about the Japanese did not molest these prisoners, but when the officers went to sleep at night the privates entered the place where the Russians were confined and murdered them with knives, bayonets and swords.

"These Japanese had been evidently maddened by some tales of real or alleged Russian cruelty that they had heard, and they did their work with such thoroughness that only one Russian escaped—the man who tells the tale.

"With regard to the Japanese soldiers frequently attacking and generally fighting in a state of nudity, it may be remarked that the Russians might take a lesson from this and send their soldiers into action with less impedimenta, especially as the Russian soldier is not accustomed to such heat as now prevails in Manchuria and as the Japanese soldier is quite habituated to even greater heat in his own country.

"At present Russian troops march to the attack with an enormous overcoat strapped to their backs, a large quantity of ammunition and an unnecessaray amount of spare clothing and sukharee or hard tack. In other words, the Japanese soldier, who is accustomed to heat, does not even wear a shirt, while the Russian soldier, who is not accustomed to heat, not only wears a shirt and coat, but carries in addition three spare shirts and a heavy overcoat."

POINTED PLEASANTRIES.

Mr. Lingerlong—How do you like the looks of this hat of mine, Miss de Muir?
Miss de Muir—I like the style of it exceedingly. I've been wondering for the last half hour how you would look with it on.—Philadelphia Press.

Penelope—In Boston we saw the nicest thing.
Pauline—What was it?
Penelope—Oh, a slot machine. You think of a word, put in a penny and out drops the correct pronunciation.—Puck.

"She claims she's a fine singer. Do you think she ought to see a vocal teacher?"
"No."
"Who then?"
"A claim adjuster."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

She—Don't you think the majority of a man's days are happy ones?
He—Oh, yes; if he doesn't marry until late in life.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Sportby—That's a bum cigar you gave me.
Deafley—Hey?
Sportby—Smokes like it, yes.—Pittsburg Dispatch.

"Ego always monopolizes the conversation talking about himself."
"Yes, but he isn't so bad as his wife; she always monopolizes the conversation talking about other people."—Detroit Free Press.

Mrs. Waggles—If you can't sleep, why don't you see the doctor?
Waggles—Don't you think I have enough to worry over without his bill to think about?—Town Topics.

"Of course, Charles," said the wife, "I thank you for this money, but it isn't enough to buy a real fur coat."
"Well," replied the great brute, "you'll have to make it go as far as you can."—Philadelphia Ledger.

LIMITED WEDLOCK.

John Montague in Baltimore Herald.

Won't you be my darling wife and share
my home and heart?
I sigh for you, I die for you; we must not
live apart;
Let me laugh and smile with you, or kiss
away your tears;
Let our two hearts beat as one for
Just
Ten
Years?

I do not ask for all your time. When
silver streaks your hair,
When years have dimmend your lustrous
eyes, and you're no longer fair,
Some other fellow may come round to share
your hopes and fears,
But be my angel, won't you dear, for
Just
Ten
Years?

If incompatibility of temperament arise
We need not rend our hair and spend our
time in tears and sighs
For every day we live the time for separation
nears,
We cannot be at odds at most but
Just
Ten
Years?

So won't you be my darling wife, and share
my home a while,
Until I'm ready to go forth and win another's smile?
Those awful words, "Till death do part,"
need not arouse your fears.
I only ask you, my pet, for
Just
Ten
Years?