

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

R. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily Bee (without Sunday), one year, \$4.00.

STATION OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss: George B. Tschuck, secretary of the Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, deposes and says that the following is a true and correct copy of the circulation of the Omaha Daily Bee for the month of November, 1904, as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Circulation category, Number of copies, Total. Includes categories like 'Total', 'Less unsold copies', 'Net total sales', 'Daily average'.

According to the researches of the Board of Review, all Omaha's millionaires live just outside of the city limits. It's a fastidious Santa Claus who can't replenish his pack from the stocks of Christmas wares displayed by our local merchants.

Think what a specimen of "high finance" would have materialized had Mrs. Chadwick incorporated herself and gone into the hands of professional promoters! By compelling foreign insurance companies to invest in French securities to the amount of the French risks France is preparing a market for some undigested loans.

The republic of Peru does not seem to be nearly as much afraid of the "big stick" in the hands of President Roosevelt as it does of the "little stick" in the hands of Chili. Senator Newlands of Nevada in citing authoritative democratic policy quotes from Mr. Bryan's remarks. Evidently the reorganization of last fall did not reach to the sage brush.

Russia says it has entered upon the third phase of the war in the Orient. Some of these changes may develop a Russian victory, and if so the war will probably have more phases than the moon. A new shipbuilding company has been organized to include the Bethlehem company. Nature will supply the water for the ships, but the men who will supply the water for the stock have not yet been announced.

A heavy fog in Chicago is said to have been responsible for an accident on the elevated road, but Chicago has the satisfaction of knowing that the air on the elevated in a fog is as good as that in the New York subway. Now that Admiral Rojestvensky's fleet is on the west coast of Africa it should take but a short time to know whether its real destination is the ice locked harbor of Vladivostok or the bottom of the Yellow sea.

The people who are juggling the stock market may have their own reasons for doing so, but it is not probable that the public will be taken into their confidence—at least not until they have carried out their program. The opening of the legislature is getting closer, but the atmosphere of indifference as to vital changes imperatively demanded in our city charter continues to hover over the citizens of Omaha. It is time to wake up to the situation.

The North Sea commission is to meet December 20. Although there is no limit to the length of time the members may take to consider the matter, there is a chance that the decision may come before the treaty of peace is signed between Russia and Japan. The proposition before the Iowa Park and Forestry association to substitute trees and shrubbery for marble and granite as monuments to the dead in the cemeteries is sure to meet with strenuous opposition from the monument makers, who would have to go out of business if such a scheme found favor—but it will doubtless find warm advocates among the nursery growers.

FAVORABLE TO SUPERVISION.

Those men at the head of the great life insurance companies who have expressed themselves, regarding President Roosevelt's suggestion of federal supervision of the business of insurance are favorable to it. Among these are the presidents of the New York Life, the Mutual Life, the Equitable Life and the Prudential Life and the Prudential Insurance company. All these agree that federal supervision of the life insurance business could not fail to be of benefit to the companies engaged in it, especially in the matter of relieving them from the annoyances and the difficulties which result from the various and different state laws.

United States Senator Dryden of New Jersey, who is president of the Prudential Insurance company, said in a recent address that inasmuch as insurance is a general interest, and every insurance institution should be secured as much as possible against the adverse operation of local causes, "it is difficult for us to perceive why the supervision of all insurance companies of every sort, intended to operate beyond the limit of state lines, should not be a function of the general government." This appears to express the general view of the men engaged in this business, or at least of those who speak with the greatest authority and influence. Such being the case there is not likely to be any serious opposition from the insurance interest to Mr. Roosevelt's suggestion and if congress shall find it to be practicable the proposed legislation will doubtless be enacted in the near future. The great importance of the matter is fully recognized by the leading insurance men.

IRRIGATION AND FORESTRY.

What the president said in his message regarding irrigation and forest reserves has received hearty commendation in that section of the country which is most deeply interested in these questions. The San Francisco Call remarks that California is very much in earnest respecting irrigation, that running waters are as important to the west as is the land itself, and the greater the extent to which they can be removed from the reach of private ownership and financial speculation the better it will be for the state and for the coast. Forest reserves are inseparably connected with the irrigation problem and here again an equitable adjustment must rest with the federal authorities alone. As the Call points out the forests are abundantly sufficient not only to fulfill their primary mission as forest preservers, but also to supply the legitimate needs of the lumber industries. With the wise provision which the president advocates they can be made efficient for both these functions. The forests can be used without being destroyed and their many-sided beneficence can be made permanent.

The president's recommendation that a forest service be created in the Department of Agriculture meets with hearty approval in the west and undoubtedly legislation will be proposed providing for the carrying out of this recommendation. "The forest reserve policy can be successful only when it has the full support of the people of the west," says the president's message. "It cannot safely, and should not in any case, be imposed upon them against their will." There is every indication that a great majority of western people are entirely favorable to the policy advocated by the president and will earnestly support any effort he may make to have it carried out.

THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE.

The standard of the diplomatic service of the United States is on the whole as high at present as at any previous time in our history. American ambassadors and ministers compare favorably in ability and all the qualities that make useful and successful diplomats with those of any other nation. But it is said that a number of changes are to be made in the service, that diplomatic representatives who are now holding some of the most important missions will be asked to step down and out. New men will come and others already in the service who have made good records will be promoted to more responsible posts.

It appears that President Roosevelt expects all ambassadors and ministers to send in their resignations between now and the beginning of the next administration and it also appears that the president does not favor the retention of those who have already been eight years in the service. He is said to have a sentiment against third terms and this will be applied in all cases where ambassadors and ministers will have served eight years at the end of the present administration. It appears to be the understanding that there will be a new ambassador to Great Britain and that Mr. Whitehall Reid, who was formerly ambassador to France, will succeed Mr. Choate. The latter has made a very excellent record and it is said would like to retain the position, but the third term sentiment is against him. There will probably also be changes at Berlin and St. Petersburg, but it is said that General Horace Porter can remain at Paris if he desires to.

One report states that while it is the desire of the administration that the wish of the president to receive the resignations of all ambassadors and ministers should be made known generally, it is understood that it is intended especially as a hint to a number of ministers plenipotentiary and ministers resident who have served abroad nearly eight years and are now using every means within their power to be retained, and in some instances to secure promotion to more desirable berths. In regard to the expediency of periodical changes in the diplomatic service there may be difference of opinion. It is not the common policy of foreign governments, which as a rule continue their diplomatic representatives in a position so long as they are useful there and agreeable to the government to which they are accredited. It is most natural to assume that the longer an ambassador or minister remains in a country and

necessarily becomes acquainted with conditions there, the better qualified he is to look after the interests of his own government. If he has commended himself to the confidence of the foreign government and made himself popular, he will exert an influence which would require some time for a new man to acquire and there are conceivable circumstances under which a change would be disadvantageous. On the other hand, it may be said that prolonged service at a foreign capital is likely to bring a diplomatic representative under influences rendering him very partial to the country to which he is accredited, this being alleged as to one at least of our present ambassadors. We think there will be very general concurrence in the view the president is said to entertain respecting a limit to the service of these representatives of the government abroad and there is no danger that any harm will result from whatever changes the administration shall decide to make.

ASSESSING PUBLIC UTILITY COMPANIES.

The city Board of Review has deferred final action on the assessment of public utility corporations to the closing days of its session. To this no objection can be interposed. The problem of assessing these corporations is, however, not so intricate now as it was before the supreme court enunciated the basic principles that should govern the appraisal of this class of property for taxation, namely, the market value of their stocks and bonds, deducting therefrom the value of their real estate in Omaha and outside of Omaha, if they have any.

For reasons never yet satisfactorily explained there has been flagrant discrimination in favor of one or two public utility corporations since the supreme court rendered its decision—that is, within the last two years—which the board should not repeat this year. Most conspicuous of these is the electric light company, which is capitalized at \$2,500,000, and was returned for taxation this year at a valuation of \$750,000. It will be remembered that in the recent municipal lighting campaign the president of that corporation repeatedly asserted in public and privately that the electric light company represented an investment of \$4,000,000, and he even scouted the idea that Omaha could establish a municipal electric lighting plant, excusable for street lighting, for \$500,000.

In view of the fact that the Omaha plant of the electric light company supplies also the towns of Council Bluffs, South Omaha, Dundee and Florence, not only with street lamps, but with light and power for private consumers, the contrast between the alleged value of the plant and its franchises and its return for assessment is certainly very striking. For example, the claim of a valuation of \$4,000,000 was exaggerated by \$1,500,000, and assume furthermore that the poles, wires and lamps in the towns supplied by the company outside of Omaha aggregate \$500,000 in value, which we believe to be more than double its true value, the electric company still has at least \$2,000,000 worth of taxable property, or rather property with an earning capacity representing \$2,000,000 instead of \$750,000, for which it has been returned.

There is comparatively no very material difference between the value of the gas company plant and franchise and that of the electric light company. The assessment of the gas company for this year has been placed at \$2,225,000, or nearly three times the valuation of the electric light company. The royalty paid the city on its sales to private consumers this year will aggregate \$17,000, while the royalty paid by the electric company for 1904 will be less than \$7,000, if we are correctly informed. Contrasts between the assessments of the street railway company, water works company and telephone company also justifies the caution to the Board of Review to follow out as near as possible the basic principle enunciated by the supreme court, taking into consideration also the relative valuations placed on all other classes of taxable property.

The case brought against Father Schell, charging him with forgery, has fallen through owing to failure of prosecution, just as everyone familiar with the tactics of those who instituted the proceedings expected. The warrant for Father Schell was sworn out on a trumped-up charge at the time he was testifying before the United States grand jury, with the particular purpose of discrediting his evidence in the courts and of impairing his standing before the officers of the government to whom he was appealing for assistance in his fight against the grafters. Since it failed in both of these, no incentive remains to continue to press the case against him now.

The state architect has it all figured out that since the creation of his office and his appointment to it he has supervised the erection of public buildings and repairs on public buildings for which an architect employed at the regular market price would have charged more than \$13,000, whereas he has drawn not quite \$4,000, and used up, with his assistant and stenographer a total of only \$8,000. According to this calculation the state's saving, therefore, is over \$5,000. Had we only erected more public buildings we might have saved more money. This is another case of the more we spend the more we save.

Someone should send a message to our distinguished fellow citizen, Charles J. Greene, who has been telling down at Washington that the fusionists have ten members in the lower house of the Nebraska legislature, whereas there are only eight fusion members.

A charge of \$2,500 from the guaranty bond companies for the state treasurer's official bond appears on its face to be a legalized holdup. Two thousand five hundred dollars is all that the treasurer himself gets for a whole year's salary

and the responsibility in the first instance rests upon him. The guaranty bond companies think they have the custodians of public money at their mercy, but there ought to be some way devised by the lawmakers to dislodge the combine these companies have formed to divide the plunder among them.

An impression prevails that, when speaking of political conditions in Mississippi, the truculent Vandam is more likely to tell the truth than some of the more suave politicians who have profited by the suppression of negro votes.

Modern Version of Nereidism. Chicago Record-Herald. The milkmaid is writing poetry. The czar is singing nursery songs. And the glorious war goes on.

Another Iowa Idea. Washington Post. An Iowa man who biked a bank for \$250,000 was sent to jail for three months; another who embezzled \$25,000 was given thirty months in jail, and then the authorities caught a man stealing a dollar and soaked him for ten years. Those Iowa people know what to do with a thief, all right.

Measure of Man's Service. Boston Transcript. A western official has resigned a \$20,000 position—not in public employ—because he believed that a time clock at his office would detract from the dignity of his position. Results rather than hours should be the measure of such a man's service. A very distinguished literary man once resigned the editorship of a New York magazine because he was required to wear a time clock at his arrival and departure.

The Farmer of the Cabinet. No member of the present cabinet is surer of another four years in office, apparently, than the secretary of agriculture. Mr. Wilson has already served through nearly two terms and another one would almost seem to be a matter of course.

Conversion of Silver Dollars. Chicago Chronicle. A wise recommendation by the secretary of the treasury is that congress authorize him to convert into subsidiary coin silver dollars which have become worn so as to be unfit for circulation. Any increased demand for subsidiary coin may well be met in this way. It would avoid loss by abrasion, as the subsidiary coin is some 6 per cent lighter than the dollar coinage. It would also to some extent diminish the latter coinage, which is not wanted beyond about \$60,000,000 for actual circulation and which is a strain upon the gold reserve and a menace to the stability of the standard.

DECREASED POPULAR VOTE.

Remarkable Falling Off in the Total Vote of the Country. A very notable aspect of the recent election is the falling off in the total vote of the country. For five national elections, beginning with that of 1880, there had been a quadrupled gain of more than 90,000,000. In 1904 only 28,000,000 were added to the popular vote of 1896.

This small gain was accounted for in two ways: The exceptionally large vote of 1896, when there was a positive dread on the one hand that Bryan might be elected, and great enthusiasm for him on the part of his own following on the other. There was little fear four years later that McKinley would not be re-elected, and there was not the same inducement for a full vote. This year the falling off of more than 60,000,000 votes in the total for the country, as compared with 1896, must be accounted for by the great popularity of McKinley and the consequent assurance of his election and the extreme indifference to Parker. Although Roosevelt had a parity of more than two and one-half millions, which was more than three times that of the record breaking plurality of McKinley four years ago, the vote was only about \$5,000,000 more than that of McKinley.

There is no telling, therefore, whether the falling off in the popular vote this year was wholly or almost wholly due to the unusually large stay-at-home democratic vote. If this is the case, it might be seen that there was even a considerable stay-at-home republican vote. The republican gain must have been largely helped by the votes of independent democrats, for it is a fact that tens of thousands of democrats voted for the president. On the other hand, it was one of the big surprises of the election that the vote of the fusionists was so large, and there is abundant reason to believe that a good many republicans as well as democrats remained away from the polls because they felt absolutely certain that their man would be elected. The one positive showing in the unpopular vote of Parker and the surprise under which he made the race.

SAFETY AS AN ADVERTISEMENT.

Immunity from Accident a Profitable Reputation for Railroads. Minneapolis Journal. The alarming increase in railroad fatalities has created a deep-seated feeling that some of the causes of the tragedy should be checked. This waste of human life. This feeling is voiced by President Roosevelt in his message, wherein he makes some specific recommendations. He favors a law requiring the adoption of lock safety systems, and another limiting the hours of labor for employees in the train service. He also recommends regulations prohibiting the employment of inexperienced persons in places of responsibility connected with the operation of trains.

In the last recommendation the president strikes at the cause of many accidents. The fault is not, however, so much in mistakes of green employes, as in the carelessness of older ones, who have not been taught the importance of train rules. The heads of operating departments are too often to blame for this carelessness. They make rules and then require performances that are impossible without infraction of these same rules. They expect to see that the rules are made to be broken, and to minimize their importance. Train rules are usually vital to the safety of train operations. It is a noteworthy fact that in the last year or two some progressive railroads have been giving their employes special training and laying greater stress on the use of available precautions. Their motive is not only humane, but sound business policy. Wrecks are expensive in their waste of equipment and their crops of damage settlements. Then, too, the traveling public is becoming aroused. Certain railroads having a bad record in the matter of accidents have suffered a loss of business.

Conversely, the railroad that establishes a reputation for safety has the best kind of an advertisement. The company that succeeds in making a record for immunity from accidents, and convincing the public employes that it is doing so, has a stronger attraction for business than any sort of cut in time tables. The average traveler is not so anxious to get there in a hurry as he is to get there with a full complement of bones.

STATE PRESS COMMENT.

Keorney Hub: Really it looks as though Omaha ought to be able to get along in the peaceful administration of municipal affairs without perpetually calling on the governor to take a hand. Columbus Telegram: The sentiment against the pass evil is finding new supporters every day. There will come a day in Nebraska when popular feeling on this question will defeat any candidate for office who is known to carry a railroad pass. The Bee can accomplish great good for the state by printing a list of county attorneys, showing those who have been retained by railroad passes.

Beatrice Express: In the laudable effort being made by the state administration to make more money to the state pay up, we hope the big fellows will not be overlooked nor any compromises made with the millionaires of Nebraska that will allow them to escape paying what they owe. Bartley bondsmen should be made to pay or the effort to make them pay should be kept up for about fifty years more.

Central City Nonpareil: The Democrat is all "fussed up" because Governor Mickey wouldn't attend the mass meeting in Omaha, called to consider the Thomas bomb outrage. Really, the tenor of Brother Morse's article forces us to think that he is half convinced that the chief executive placed the bomb himself. Just as a plain matter of fact, the governor of Nebraska has no more to do with the punishment of a crime in Omaha than he has in any other town in the state and he has no more business to meddle with the duties of the officers in that city than he would to interfere in an affair of like nature in this county. The Democrat's attempt to manufacture political capital out of this deplorable mistake is unworthy of it and an evidence that Ward hasn't yet got the bad taste out of his mouth which resulted from the election.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Now it is reported that the Department of Commerce and Labor will smoke out the tobacco trust.

John Sweller, who has just died in Dallas, Tex., was a native of France and marched under the first Napoleon as a drummer boy at Waterloo.

Howard Gale, the former law partner of General Benjamin Harrison, is dead in Indianapolis. He was the first to notify the general of his nomination to the presidency.

Ermine Riva, the authoress, who is in Europe, Mont., studying social conditions and gathering material for a novel, made a trip 1,100 feet underground in the famous Mtn. Healy mine to aid her in her research.

A gathering of reformers in New York the other day vigorously denounced Turkish atrocities. On the same day and hour a similar gathering was being dragged along in a nearby hall, but didn't receive a word of attention.

Prof. Robert Koch of Berlin will start for South Africa on December 17 to engage in further scientific investigation of rinderpest and other animal diseases. His last trip was the discovery of remedies for these diseases, was in behalf of the British government.

A young woman who sued a New York street railway company for \$5,000 damages because she fell while attempting to get on a car lost her case in court. The papers filed in the case are very beautiful, but that must be a mistake, as it took the jury only five minutes to decide against her.

One of the republicans swept into congress by the landslide in Missouri is William T. Tindall of Sparta. The congressional convention for the fourteenth district nominated Mr. Tindall without his knowledge or consent. When the notice of his nomination was received he said: "Fah! I'd decline it, only I hate to waste a 2-cent stamp on it."

Daniel J. Sully, who for a time carried the sobriquet, "the cotton king," on account of his immense speculations in the cotton market, casually remarked the other day that in one of the statistics covering 125,000 lives in a period of sixty-one years disclose the fact that from the age of 40 to 50, the period regarded by insurance men as the prime of life, there were 6,346 deaths among total abstainers and 10,861 among moderate drinkers. Between the ages of 20 and 30 the excess in mortality of non-abstainers was 11 per cent; between 30 and 40, 66 per cent; from 40 to 50, 42 per cent, and from 50 to 70, 13 per cent.

In thirty-six years the deaths numbered 57,991 drinkers against 46,866 abstainers between the ages of 20 and 70.

There has been much study of the value of alcoholic beverages in recent years and the accepted scientific conclusion is that in certain physical conditions and when carefully administered, alcohol is a medicine of great value, but even as a remedial agent it is declared to be used too freely and consequently with harmful results.

To persons of certain types and temperaments the moderate use of alcoholic beverages is harmless, but the rule is that abstinence is conducive to longevity, and that is the only point with which the insurance statisticians are concerned.

They do not ask the moderate drinker to forego the pleasure of his wine or his toddy, but merely inform him that his "expectancy" is somewhat less than that of the abstainer. He stands a smaller chance of deriving a policy issued for a given period and for this reason strong drink is not a good investment for him.

These facts do not strengthen in any way the arguments for statutory prohibition. They do not support the theory that men may be made total abstainers by an amendment to a constitution or the act of legislature. They merely emphasize the proposition that temperance is good business policy.

The rules of railroad companies and large industrial establishments teach this same lesson, and more effectively than lectures.

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot. Hon. Charles J. Greene of Omaha was in Washington the other day and tossed a large bouquet in the direction of the White House by means of an interview in the Washington Post. "Such a tremendous sweep as the late election was," said Mr. Greene, "is indicative of the popular estimate of Roosevelt. In fact, I do not think it an exaggeration to say that he is the most thorough people's man who ever sat in the executive mansion. That correct understanding of the popular thought and of the needs of the masses, a psychological faculty which is not common to all statesmen, seems to be inherent with the president, and its exercise has given him the extraordinary hold he has upon the American people. Unless I am greatly in error, he will be a great force—and for good—in this nation long after he goes forth from his present great office."

Senator Knox of Pennsylvania, appointed by the governor to fill the unexpired term of the late Senator Quay, must be good or he may lose his job. In the credentials furnished by Governor Pennypacker it is declared that Mr. Knox "is to have and to hold the said office, together with all the rights, powers and privileges thereunto belonging, until the next meeting of the legislature of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, if he shall so long behave himself well." Several of Mr. Knox's more intimate friends in the senate are anxious to see that the senatorial pro-vice is read and made haste to remind the new member that he is a senator merely "on probation."

Before taking his oath as senator Hon. Murray Crane of Massachusetts disposed of his interest in the mill which for the last twenty-five years has made all the paper used by the government in the manufacture of money. The business will not go out of the family, however, for Mr. Crane has merely turned his interests over to his son, Murray Crane, Jr.

This is one of the best contracts made by the Treasury department, and the annual profit in it is far greater than the salary which the senior Crane will receive as a senator. The government buys 475,000 worth of a peculiar kind of paper for the manufacture of money every year, and every sheet of it comes from the little mill in Dalton. For this sum of money the Cranes have furnished about \$6,000,000 or \$6,000,000 sheets of paper annually. It is of unusual texture, heavier than the best writing paper, with tiny silk fibers running through it. Silk is employed as a distinguishing mark and also to give more toughness and durability to the paper.

The Cranes have had a monopoly of the business of manufacturing this paper for the last quarter of a century. Many years ago rival paper makers sought to underbid the Dalton firm, but they were unsuccessful. The government was so well satisfied with the work of the paper mill that it has never been broken. The latter have contractors so discouraged that they no longer bid, and the Cranes get the work at their own figures.

Every sheet of paper that is manufactured at the mill is watched and accounted for with as much strictness as is observed at the bureau of engraving and printing at Washington, where the money is printed. The government has a large force of employees at the plant. The superintendent of the work of the paper mill is a secretary, pay roll, while other agents keep track of the paper that is manufactured and of the damaged scraps as well. The contractor furnishes the rags, silk fiber and other materials, but he has no control of them after they enter into the hands of the Cranes. If the paper securities issued by the government, including United States notes, silver certificates, gold certificates, national bank notes, bonds, etc., are printed on sheets manufactured at the Crane mill, the paper on which stamps are printed is the only kind used by the government for currency purposes that does not come from Dalton.

WHITTLED TO A POINT.

"If you could get just the fellow you wanted what fellow would you take?" "The fellow who would pay him a compliment"—Houston Chronicle.

It is mighty hard to flatter the man who says: "Oh, get out!" in a disgusted tone, when you try to pay him a compliment—Somerville Journal.

"No work," said the man, gloomily, "and not a thing in the house to eat. What shall I do?" "There is nothing for us to do," replied his wife, "but to take in boarders"—Philadelphia Ledger.

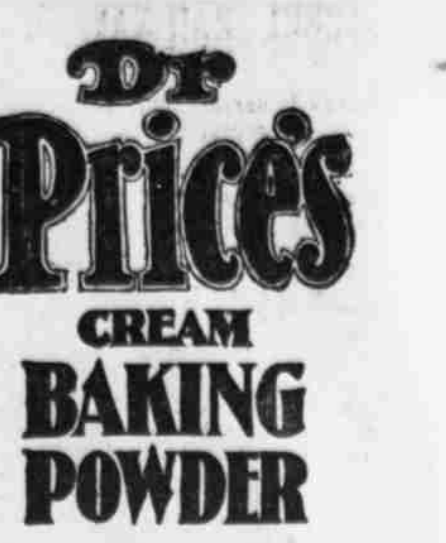
Filippery—Why did you engage that stenographer? She can't spell at all. "Filopie—I know it, but I dictated a test letter to her in which I used the word 'Christmas' several times, and never once did she write it 'Xmas.' So I hired her at once—Cleveland Leader.

Old Friend—Is your part very difficult to play? "Barnstormer—Well, rather; I'm living on one meal a day and playing the role of a man with the knot—Detroit Free Press.

Young Husband—Bertha, did you ask the grocer to show you some of those needless beans I was telling you about this morning? "Young Wife—Yes, and if you want your slippers warmed before you put them on you can warm them yourself, sir. I won't.—Chicago Tribune.

FOR YOU—JUST YOU.

Chicago Chronicle. The dawn dispels the solemn night, Unveils the canopy of blue, The stars are hid with golden light, For you—just you. The rose reveals its heart of gold And sparkles with the morning dew, With love in every crimson fold, For you—just you. The lucid day is bright with bliss, O'erspread with pleasure's ambient hue, The limpid rivers leap and kiss, For you—just you. The night comes down from out the deeps, The argent stars come peeping through, Where dusky darkness onlily sweeps, For you—just you. The joyous zephyrs lightly blow, The roses are the bitter root, The sides with love are all aglow, For you—just you.



Price's Cream Baking Powder. Improves the flavor and adds to the healthfulness of the food.

An Illinois district, aged is now a member of the Board of Fortifications. "I only got \$2,000 out of mine. At the time I took the policy the agent figured it out and gave me a guarantee that I could settle at the end of twenty years for \$4,200. I took this to the company, and they showed me a clause in the policy saying that no statement by the agent should bind the company unless it had the approval of the company in writing. Of course, I had never read it over, and didn't know about the clause. I paid in a great deal more than I received in settlement."

A prominent senator on returning from the White House the other day encountered the Brooklyn Eagle correspondent and poured this tale of woe into the reporter's ear: "I have degenerated into a mere errand boy, and I am heartily tired of it. That's all I amount to nowadays, a door of chores for other people. My time is taken up from morning till night, running hither and thither performing errands for people I barely know. Oh, his getting intolerable, this petty business of begging favors from the president, the different secretaries and smaller bureau chiefs. I am sick of it, I tell you, dead sick of it."

The senator had the forethought to ask that nothing be said about his disgust with life as a senator, evidently fearing that some of his friends at home might desire to relieve him of the burdens of his position. His complaint is a common one with the great men of congress. The reading public gets the idea that a senator's time is entirely taken up with weighty puzzles over foreign and internal affairs. A small part of his time is consumed by giving consideration to these matters. But the average senator's chief business is canvassing the White House and the executive departments in search of elusive jobs for dependent constituents, or following up requests for information from influential backers. Every senator has a secretary, but no one likes to have his business matters attended to by the underling. It has been suggested that in order to relieve senators from petty annoyances of this kind so that they may devote their entire time to the serious consideration of legislation, a law be enacted making it misdemeanor for any person to "solicit" a senator for favors of any kind.

WHITTLED TO A POINT.

"If you could get just the fellow you wanted what fellow would you take?" "The fellow who would pay him a compliment"—Houston Chronicle.

It is mighty hard to flatter the man who says: "Oh, get out!" in a disgusted tone, when you try to pay him a compliment—Somerville Journal.

"No work," said the man, gloomily, "and not a thing in the house to eat. What shall I do?" "There is nothing for us to do," replied his wife, "but to take in boarders"—Philadelphia Ledger.

Filippery—Why did you engage that stenographer? She can't spell at all. "Filopie—I know it, but I dictated a test letter to her in which I used the word 'Christmas' several times, and never once did she write it 'Xmas.' So I hired her at once—Cleveland Leader.

Old Friend—Is your part very difficult to play? "Barnstormer—Well, rather; I'm living on one meal a day and playing the role of a man with the knot—Detroit Free Press.

Young Husband—Bertha, did you ask the grocer to show you some of those needless beans I was telling you about this morning? "Young Wife—Yes, and if you want your slippers warmed before you put them on you can warm them yourself, sir. I won't.—Chicago Tribune.

FOR YOU—JUST YOU.

Chicago Chronicle. The dawn dispels the solemn night, Unveils the canopy of blue, The stars are hid with golden light, For you—just you. The rose reveals its heart of gold And sparkles with the morning dew, With love in every crimson fold, For you—just you. The lucid day is bright with bliss, O'erspread with pleasure's ambient hue, The limpid rivers leap and kiss, For you—just you. The night comes down from out the deeps, The argent stars come peeping through, Where dusky darkness onlily sweeps, For you—just you. The joyous zephyrs lightly blow, The roses are the bitter root, The sides with love are all aglow, For you—just you.

Advertisement for Ayer's Hair Vigor and other medicinal products. Includes text: "You cannot wipe off the blur! And the reason is there is nothing the matter with your glasses. The trouble is with you; you, yourself. Your head is congested, you are dizzy, you cannot see clearly, and you are all out of sorts. Wake up your sleepy liver! Get rid of a lot of bile. Take one of Ayer's Pills each night, for a few nights. These pills are liver pills, all vegetable, sugar-coated. They act directly on the liver, curing biliousness, constipation, dizziness." Includes small illustrations of a person and a bottle.