

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss. I, George B. Tachuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, depose that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of November, 1904, was as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Number, Circulation, Total. Rows list various circulation figures for different editions.

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 30th day of November, 1904.

GEO. B. TACHUCK, Notary Public.

Another announcement that work will soon begin on the Platte river power canal is overdue.

The weather man seems to have saved us once more from the threat of a green Christmas.

The employment of Japanese in the South Omaha packing houses promises to bring the eastern question nearer home.

Rasoull has raided a caravan in the city of Tangiers. The simple life of a Moroccan bandit is not without its refinements.

While Americans know little of Hungarian politics their sympathies are naturally with the man who bears the name of Kossuth.

August Belmont now occupies the place of Mark Hanna in the National Civic Federation, but he will have to develop considerably before he fills it.

Mrs. Chadwick in her own person asks the people to suspend judgment, but through a lawyer will probably ask the court later to suspend sentence.

In excluding reporters from his meeting with Tom Lawson Colonel Greve was probably playing for favor by giving the Boston writer a chance for a "scop."

It is now announced that Captain Clado, the Russian naval officer, will not be permitted to appear at the North sea hearing. Has the captain told the truth at home?

It may be well to remind the lawmakers about to convene at Lincoln that the men who occupy the front seats are not always the men who cut the biggest swath in legislation.

The elasticity shown in the New York stock market shows that it requires both good management and a resolute determination to keep prices down until the talent is ready for the advance.

The reputation of Governor-elect Hoch of Kansas has traveled as far as Massachusetts, but on his journey the name has become twisted until it appears as Koch—and this is Kansas' fame.

If it is wrong for letter carriers to ask congressmen for increase of wages what must be said of the congressman who runs for office solely on a promise to secure appropriations for his district?

Hearst asks in congress why the heads of the rural and city mail carriers' associations were dropped from the federal pay roll. The New York congressman evidently does not read newspapers.

Congressman Hitchcock is taking his revenge for the recent mishap by scoring the republican administration on financial matters, but at last accounts the government at Washington still lives.

Superintendent Davidson is of the opinion that the new Monmouth school building is the best public school building in Omaha. It ought to be, for it cost more proportionately to size than any other grade school building in the city.

When the Beatrice, Lincoln and Omaha interurban trolley is hitched to the Omaha and Council Bluffs street railway our merchants will be in position to establish closer relations with the people of Saunders, Gage and Lancaster counties.

Andrew Carnegie has joined Benjamin Franklin in the endowment of an industrial school in Boston. But he has not yet hung up a purse whose income is to be loaned in small sums to young married couples to encourage their in their matrimonial ventures.

DISCREDITING THE COMMISSION.

The effort of those who are opposed to legislation for the regulation of railway freight charges, as suggested by Mr. Roosevelt, to discredit the Interstate Commerce Commission, is not likely to make very much impression upon the country, or to exert any material influence upon the administration, which seems determined to press upon congress the duty of taking some action upon the recommendation of the president. The president of one of the principal railroads of the country has expressed the remarkable opinion that the Interstate Commerce Commission, with their relatively small salaries, would have a hard time fixing railroad rates with corporation men who are paid from five to seven times as much. Referring to this the Springfield Republican remarks that he seems to believe that the big corporation salaries are a correct measure of superior brain power. "Quite often, however," says that paper, "they may be like the charges which these corporations impose on the public, being a measure rather of monopoly power and self-appreciation than anything else. But if the case is as represented, Mr. Mellen should have no objection to giving the Interstate Commerce Commission all the power it wants."

The fact is, that the effort of the railroads and their allies in congress to discredit the commission is one of those shallow pretenses which are always resorted to by those who are hostile to every proposition for a more thorough and adequate control by the federal government of the common carriers. At every stage of the public demand for the regulations of the railroads by federal authority the ingenious railroad managers and attorneys have suggested objections of one kind and another, and while some of these have been sustained by the courts, in the main they have proved worthless.

The point now made by the railroads that the commission should not be clothed with the power recommended by the president, because it is not competent to decide what are reasonable freight rates, will not hold in view of the fact that for the ten years following the enactment of the interstate commerce law the commission exercised the very power which it is now proposed to specifically grant it by act of congress and the railroads accepted its action and there was no complaint regarding it. It was not until 1897 that there was any question raised in regard to the power of the commission in the matter of determining the reasonableness of freight rates and the supreme court of the United States decided that the law did not confer upon it this power.

The Interstate Commerce Commission as now constituted may not be, as a whole, as competent a body as could be desired. It will not be claimed that its members are experts in railway matters. But the commission is not perpetual and if it be necessary it can be reorganized so that it will be capable of meeting any demand and the government can afford to pay whatever salaries may be necessary to secure men of the required ability.

OBJECTIONS TO THE DIRECT PRIMARY.

In an article published in the December number of "The Voter," a monthly magazine of politics, Judge Orin R. Carter of Chicago discusses at considerable length the existing primary election laws of Illinois and the proposed enactment of a direct primary law. The weight of Judge Carter's contribution on primary election reform is against the direct primary, but his logic in some respects is fallacious.

According to Judge Carter, the workings of the direct primary law in Minnesota proves that the direct primary may work reasonably well in the nomination of candidates for municipal offices if only a few offices are to be filled at a given primary, but when a multiplicity of candidates are presented the voters are compelled to rely upon the newspapers for their information as to the character of these candidates, and the newspapers are not always right.

It is claimed also that the direct primary in Minnesota is far more expensive for the candidate than the delegate and convention system and that the man of wealth stands the best show of nomination by the direct primary. Judge Carter furthermore declares that the nomination by mere plurality vote, as required by the laws of Minnesota and Wisconsin, results frequently in the poorest man being nominated. Supporters of many good candidates are divided among themselves, while the force for evil will unite on one candidate. In spite of this the direct primary system, unless there is more than one primary held, must allow nominations to be made by plurality.

According to Judge Carter, those who have studied the question assert that under the direct primary for the entire state the cities and large towns would have a much greater power and influence in nomination of candidates than they ought to have in proportion to population, because the polling place is much more accessible in large cities than it is in the country districts, and the voter requires much less time to cast his ballot. Furthermore, it would be difficult, if not impossible, to distribute candidates under the direct primary system according to localities or nationalities.

The common adage, "We are all Americans and these questions ought not to be considered," is in conflict with political expediency because as a practical question in politics they must be met. The party that distributes its candidates over the county and among nationalities most fairly thereby greatly strengthens itself on election day.

While there is much truth in what Judge Carter says, still all the points raised by him have been raised by other opponents of the direct primary system, and while the weakest spot in the sys-

tem is undoubtedly the plurality nomination, the advantages of the direct primary over the convention and delegate system have been found to outweigh the drawbacks. Combinations can doubtless be made and stakes set up under the direct primary, but they cannot be worked as effectively as they can under the system that enables delegates to make a preconceived nomination by barter and trade.

The complaints concerning the expense candidates must incur to promote their nomination is based on the presumption that they must pay for advertising their candidacy and keep it before the people through the newspapers. This may be true in Wisconsin and Minnesota, but in Nebraska, where the direct primary has been tried to a limited extent, the candidates have had free access to the columns of the party organs, but they have voluntarily allowed themselves to be led and held up by newspaper weeklies that have neither circulation nor influence. For this, however, the primary election law is not to be blamed. A politician who has money to burn is at liberty to subsidize readerless newspapers and make contributions to journalistic blackmailers if he so pleases.

WORKING FOR THE GROUT LAW.

The dairy interest of the country is making a most earnest effort to prevent the repeal of the GROUT law, which imposes a tax on oleomargarine made in imitation of butter, and which the so-called Oleo trust is endeavoring to have repealed. At the convention this week of the Pennsylvania Grange, which contains more than 30,000 members, there was a unanimous expression in favor of the GROUT law, which it was urged must be maintained in order to properly protect the dairy interest of the country and safeguard the public against fraud.

The master of the grange said in his address that with these organizations untied, aggressively working for the preservation of the GROUT law it cannot be repealed and he stated that the operation of the law, enforced as it is by the federal government, simplifies the work of the dairy commissioners throughout the country. He urged that there be no uncertain action regarding the repeal or any modification of the law that will weaken its efficiency. This is an expression of the general sentiment of the dairy interest of the country and there is every reason to expect that it will have a decided influence upon congress.

It was the work of this interest that brought about the enactment of the law placing a tax on oleomargarine and there is no reason to doubt that it is not less influential now with congress than when the legislation was enacted. It is therefore pretty safe to say that the efforts to repeal the GROUT law will be unavailing.

A NAVAL RESERVE.

There is difficulty in adequately manning our warships and how to overcome it is a question not easy of solution. The bill that is being framed by the merchant marine commission will have a provision relating to this. It will propose, it is stated, that vessels which shall seek to profit from the increased postal subvention shall undertake to train a force of naval reserves which shall be available for augmenting the regular forces of the navy of the nation in the event of an emergency. It is thought that in this way there can be provided a considerable force of available seamen and engineers at little or no cost to the government, which would be of great value in the event of war. According to the provisions of the bill these men could be immediately drafted into the navy and used to man new vessels which might be put into commission, or to augment the forces of ships already in commission.

There is no doubt that the creation of an American merchant marine would provide a large number of seamen who could be made available in the event of war for naval service, but of course they would be volunteers, since the government would not attempt to draft them into the navy. In all probability, however, there would be no difficulty in inducing the seamen on merchant vessels to enter the naval service, as those of other countries do, and this is one of the important points in favor of the building up of an American merchant marine.

The city tax commissioner and Board of Review have beaten the Board of Appraisers out in fixing the value of the water works plant. The Board of Review says that the value of that part of the plant within the limits of Omaha is \$2,125,000, aside from real estate holdings, which are separately assessed. The value of that part of the franchise and plant located at Florence, East Omaha and South Omaha would also have to be added to get at a complete appraisal, but these parts, too, have been assessed by the local taxing authorities. It would be interesting to know how close the assessors have come to the figures which the expert engineers will finally make.

The grand total of city assessment for 1905 exceeds \$102,000,000. If the railroad terminals and properties located in Omaha were assessed at the valuation placed on them by the railroad officials the total assessment of Omaha property would exceed \$125,000,000. But the railroad property, which represents fully one-fifth of the total valuation of taxable property in Omaha, is returned for less than \$1,000,000. This explains why real estate taxes are so high in Omaha and why real estate in Omaha is so much lower than it is in any other American city of equal population.

Secretary Davis of the State Board of Charities wants the county poor houses restricted by law to serve solely as homes of the worthy poor by the removal of all cripples and defectives requiring special treatment to the Home for the Friendless, under state supervision and support. The weak spot in

this scheme is that it leaves out of account the unworthy poor who have to be taken care of somewhere and with whom association is as distasteful to the worthy poor as with the cripples and defectives. Whether the state or the county should pay the bills is a question depending upon what effect such action would have in encouraging or repressing the production of paupers and dependents. Up to this time the accepted theory has been that by making each locality take care of its own helpless people the opportunity for imposition is minimized and the incentive stimulated to make every one who can work support himself.

With the Swayne trial, the Smoot case and a number of election contests to handle, the editor of the Congressional Record must turn with longing toward the barrel of red ink if he has any yellow journalistic blood in his veins.

Carried Unanimously.

Washington Post. "I am either an awful dupe or a terrible fool," says Banker Beckwith, Mrs. Chadwick's Ohio victim. Any votes in the negative. The chair bears none, and the motion is carried unanimously.

Unprofessional Methods.

Philadelphia Ledger. The ten men who dynamited a Maryland bank the other day are bunglers in their profession, as well as thieves. Their ancient domain consisted of 500 acres of wild, waste land, covered with bracken and clumps of Scotch fir, birch and oak. This has been sold, and is to be divided up into building lots. These passages away an interesting survival of feudal times. The herd itself has been dwindling rapidly of late years, and will soon be extinct if prompt measures are not taken to renew it. Thirteen years ago it numbered seventy cattle, three years later there was only forty-three, now there are but a few head, and these are feeble specimens. This result is due, immediately, to the ravages of tuberculosis, but the great fatality of the disease is attributed to the close breeding of crows. Prof. Robert Wallace of Edinburgh suggests that all future calves be entrusted to selected foster mothers of the South Wales breed—which is closely akin to their own—with the view of strengthening their constitutions. But he thinks that the breed must soon be extinct if it is not invigorated by the infusion of some fresh blood, preferably of the South Wales breed.

Loosen Up!

Chicago Tribune. Some men, in fact, are so badly afflicted with that stiff neck ailment as to be unable to turn their heads to look at the beautiful things pointed out to them by their wives as they pass the shop windows.

Novel Notions of a Jury.

Chicago Record-Herald. Out in Des Moines, Ia., a prominent citizen has been indicted because he leases property for immoral purposes. They must be in Iowa that they can see why a prominent citizen should have any rights that are not granted to the unprominent. Iowa is in some respects a strange country.

Good Luck to Mr. Bryan and his friends.

Cincinnati Enquirer. Good luck to Mr. Bryan and his friends in their personal affairs. No recriminations and no hard feelings. But no more Bryan leadership, no more dilution of democracy with populism, repudiation and no more rest on the flight of the American eagle, and no more tugging at the holding-back strap for yours truly. The Cincinnati Enquirer.

Amazed Shades of the Mighty.

Cleveland Leader. How the shades of Washington and Jefferson must stretch their shadowy limbs in amazement when they read in the Trans-Sybian Times that Theodore Roosevelt had a popular plurality of 2,546,109? Our conscript fathers could scarcely have believed that within a century after their death there would be that many adult voters all told in the republic they founded.

Judicial Partiality and Injustice.

Philadelphia Record. It makes very little difference to the country or to the cause of justice whether Judge Swayne of Florida has charged expenses that he never incurred in holding court outside his district. Improper as it would be, it would only amount to a small rebuff of the treasury. But this is a charge on which lawyers believe his impeachment is most likely to be ordered by the house and sustained by the senate. The really serious charges against him are acts of partiality and injustice, but the lawyers are too busy to make crimes out of these or to secure the removal of a judge for misdemeanors.

Some Financial Crooks Escape.

Louisville Courier-Journal. There is a wave of condemnation for the Chadwick report upon whom the strong hand of the law has been placed for committed crimes which are no worse than those committed constantly by men who swindle investors out of their money by false representations, and yet go free to pose as successful financiers. Forgery is, after all, only one form of robbery of the treasury. But this is a crime from the floating of bogus corporations and selling of worthless stocks, in the punishment affixed to the former. If all the so-called magnates who roll in wealth by practices as fraudulent as those for which Mrs. Chadwick is now held up say that it is difficult to make crimes out of these or to secure the removal of a judge for misdemeanors.

SUPERVISING INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Proposed Removal from State to National Control. Philadelphia Press. The business of insurance of all classes has grown enormously in this country in the last few years. It is certain to expand with the increase of wealth and population. The big corporations in the east are finding rivals in the great cities of the west, and all these, with the foreign companies admitted here, do business all over the country. Their transactions are of an intricate character. Nobody can question that. This great business has no other official supervision than that given it by the several states, and each state has its own methods and its own restrictions. There are a multiplicity of laws to hamper and perplex, with little uniformity, and in many instances, there is no real security.

It is notorious that the supervision in some states has been a mere pretense, the chief purpose being to tax the insurance corporations to the fullest possible extent. In other, though fortunately not numerous, instances, official authority, always large, has been made use of for personal gain. All this is a burden which falls upon the insured sooner or later. The exactions of some of the states in these particulars have been less annoying to the corporations, however, than the confusion of laws, one state requiring one thing and another something else, to such a degree that several different methods of doing business must be maintained in order to meet the different demands. No one can be surprised that any business should want to escape from these multifarious official annoyances.

National supervision would enable them to do that by uniformity of method. It would also, we believe, afford a greater measure of security to all who buy insurance. The examination and inspection of the business and of the resources and management of the corporations would naturally be more thorough and systematic. It would be less expensive, since the companies would have to submit to but one arbitrary standard of many. Such inspections would be more frequent at much less cost, and the whole method would be greatly to the advantage of all parties concerned in insurance contracts. It would establish increased confidence, because it would provide greater security. There are abundant reasons, therefore, why the president's suggestions should have the earnest consideration of congress. If action is taken the further responsibility can be fairly placed upon the courts, and the public will know that a trial is made.

A Waste of Energy.

New York Tribune. With thirty-three democratic senators in the upper chamber, and all of them able-bodied talkers, the house members who are proposing to limit representation may as well forego their trouble, unless their object be the development of sentiment rather than the passage of a law. The senate's privilege of unlimited debate effectively bars the passage of any measure against which there is even a few formidable opposition that would be the case in regard to the measures referred to.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

It is thought that the position of Herr Tizza in the Hungarian Parliament has been weakened considerably by the letter in which the former premier, Herr Szell, takes leave of public life. In this he expressed a belief that a revision of parliamentary procedure is necessary, but he thinks also that it might have been attained in agreement with the opposition had the government shown more patience and exerted more persuasion. Public opinion would then, he argues, have compelled the obstructionists to give way. As it is, he says, the government has committed a gross breach of one of the main safeguards of the constitution, and this illegally makes it impossible for him to remain a member of the liberal party. At the same time, the outrageous tactics of the opposition in assailing the crown make it impossible for him to join their ranks. With a heavy heart he therefore retires from public life, and as a private citizen will seek consolation in his fidelity to those principles which have been the guide of his political career. Herr Szell, it is said, feels that he was betrayed by some of his own ministerial associates, who suggested to him that a more energetic policy was needed to keep the opposition in order. He is reported to have been surprised by the promptness with which his resignation was accepted. Nevertheless, he extended loyal support to his successor, Herr Tizza, while still in public life.

The meagre remnants of the once famous herd of wild white cattle, whose progenitors have inhabited the park of Earl Ferrers, at Chartley, in Staffordshire, for nearly 700 years, were sold at auction last week. Their ancient domain consisted of 500 acres of wild, waste land, covered with bracken and clumps of Scotch fir, birch and oak. This has been sold, and is to be divided up into building lots. These passages away an interesting survival of feudal times. The herd itself has been dwindling rapidly of late years, and will soon be extinct if prompt measures are not taken to renew it. Thirteen years ago it numbered seventy cattle, three years later there was only forty-three, now there are but a few head, and these are feeble specimens. This result is due, immediately, to the ravages of tuberculosis, but the great fatality of the disease is attributed to the close breeding of crows. Prof. Robert Wallace of Edinburgh suggests that all future calves be entrusted to selected foster mothers of the South Wales breed—which is closely akin to their own—with the view of strengthening their constitutions. But he thinks that the breed must soon be extinct if it is not invigorated by the infusion of some fresh blood, preferably of the South Wales breed.

M. Pelletan, the French minister of marine and the strongest champion of the rights of the workmen, is evidently prepared to use strong measures if unreasonable union demands threaten to interfere with important national works in the French arsenals. In an interview recently published he remarked that when an admiral was at the head of the ministry all went well with the arsenal, every one doing his duty without a murmur. The most exasperating acts of injustice and the most shameless favoritism did not affect the discipline which is indispensable to every military organization. But because he had ruled that the workmen in the arsenals are civilians like the workmen outside, recognized their right of combination, and ordered the admirals acting as military prefects to maintain relations with their unions as friendly as possible, he had declared openly that the workmen must not be treated as the pariahs of the French proletariat, these same workmen threatened constantly to strike, endangering the highest interests of the country—those of national defense, a threat of a general strike, he declared to be intolerable and the workmen must know that they cannot reckon upon his leniency. Happily, the French are on good terms with all the powers, but no one could tell what the morrow may bring forth. The time lost in strikes might retard mobilization and compromise the safety of the country. In conclusion he believed that he hoped the workmen would not compel him to exert his authority, but he would not hesitate to do so should it be necessary.

The report which comes from Venice of the danger that threatens the great basilica of St. Mark's will cause keen anxiety throughout the civilized world. The engineers who have investigated the condition of the building seem to find it in an alarming state, and recommend immediate and radical measures to avert the threatened destruction. It is earnestly to be hoped that these steps will be taken, and that they will prove completely effective. When the Campanile was not in such a perilous state throughout the world and the people of Italy immediately set about providing funds for its restoration; but it is doubtless felt by many that the loss of the Campanile, were it not for the historical interest of its disappearance of a cherished peculiarity of the great piazza, or an actual diminution of the beauty or impressiveness of the spot. But the loss of St. Mark's would be a cruel blow—it would rob the world of one of its chief architectural delights, and deprive the central spot of Venice of that which is its crowning feature. On both sides of the Atlantic there will be thousands who will await with eagerness the news that it is well again with St. Mark's.

Paris has tried on a fairly extensive scale and with highly satisfactory results the experiment of moving its mail matter out of the city between main and branch post-offices in big vans propelled by electric motors instead of by horses. These vehicles carry much more than those they replaced, and they move so much more rapidly that the hours for distributing and collecting mail can be arranged in better accord with public convenience. The new system is of especial advantage for reaching the outlying posts. The speed within the city is about fifteen miles an hour, which exceeds the contract speed considerably. At present the postal service of Paris uses 500 horses. The fifteen automobiles which are now running will support forty horses to begin with, as they replace twenty of the old cars out of the 125 which were used. The authorities think that the new cars will give an economy in money as well as in time, since the cost of keeping city horses is large.

Japan has forty-seven postal savings banks, in which, on May 31 last, there was \$66,942,790 (\$29,497,852) on deposit. Since the war began these deposits have increased by \$39,502,938, or \$2,651,252, deposited by 643,264 persons. This vast deposit by the general run of Japan's population would seem to explain the ease with which each war loan is subscribed many times over when it is offered for raising the subscription. Between April, 1903, and September, 1904, the number of depositors increased from 2,904,388 to 4,181,753. This is a practical demonstration of the proverbial Japanese thrift.

A Waste of Energy.

New York Tribune. With thirty-three democratic senators in the upper chamber, and all of them able-bodied talkers, the house members who are proposing to limit representation may as well forego their trouble, unless their object be the development of sentiment rather than the passage of a law. The senate's privilege of unlimited debate effectively bars the passage of any measure against which there is even a few formidable opposition that would be the case in regard to the measures referred to.

POLITICAL DRIFT.

It cost the people of New York \$400,000 to express their feelings at the ballot box. The socialist party will have two members in the Illinois and six in the Wisconsin legislatures. There are twice as many republican members of the legislature of Texas this year as there were at the last session. There are two this time.

The Tullman-McLaurin debate in the United States senate a few years ago looks painfully boyish compared with the "rough house" of the Hungarian Diet. Norman Mack, the democratic booster of Buffalo, declares that David Bennett Hill will not be permitted to retire to private life on January 1, because Hill "is the wisest counsellor of the party in the state."

The notion that poets are not adequately rewarded in this life receives a jolt by the appointment of James Jeffrey Roche of Boston as consul at Genoa. Mr. Roche is a poet as well as an editor and historian.

Governor-elect Douglas of Massachusetts insists that his election was wholly due to his advocacy of tariff reduction and reciprocity with Canada, but he doesn't seem to have quite studied out how he is going to make good.

Baltimore's mayor prohibited a man from paying an election bet by pushing the winner through the streets in a wheelbarrow. If the mayor carries his policy to the limit of preventing citizens so inclined making fools of themselves he will have an exceedingly busy time.

The mayor of Danville, Va., had the audacity to walk into a court room with a pair of creaking shoes while the judge was cutting wisdom from his inner consciousness. The judge decried that a half-faulty bill would fit the crime and the obedient mayor cashed in.

An episode incident to the recent election illustrates the president "in lighter vein." Being known only to the guests of the president and his wife on election night it has not heretofore got into the limelight. After it became certain that the election was his and he had received the congratulations of the men about him, President Roosevelt crossed over to his wife, and, bowing low before her, as he extended his hand, said, "My dear, it gives me pleasure to inform you that I am no longer an accident."

Joseph Smith, a citizen of Hohari, I. T., aspires to be appointed scavenger in that place. He showed up before the appointing authority with these endorsements on his petition: "Saloon Men's Protective League, Law and Order League, Young Men's Christian association, Women's Christian Temperance Union, Antiprohibition society, American Protective association and Catholic Union of America. Some curiosity is felt as to just what "pull" he would have produced had he been looking for a really good job.

A SEA LEVEL CANAL.

American Visitors to Panama in Favor of a Change of Plan. St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Several of the members of the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce have been looking over the ground at Panama and they believe not only that a sea level canal for the canal across the isthmus is much preferable to that of dams and locks, even if it should cost many millions more, but they think that the latter plan is impracticable. Of course, there are no practical engineers on the committee. Like the majority of the countrymen, the members of that body have to take the word of the experts who have recently been making a study of the situation.

They well know that the plans of De Lesseps and his engineers contemplated the use of dams and locks for the canal. This idea, too, was adopted by the American engineers at the outset. The Chagres river, near the middle of the isthmus, rendered locks necessary, as De Lesseps believed, that is, he believed he preferred the sea level waterway. But the American engineers have discovered a method whereby the Chagres barrier can be surmounted and the sea level plan adopted. It is figured that that river can, by means of a tunnel, be diverted through the highlands, the present channel of the river near the proposed course of the canal be emptied and the canal builders have a free hand in carrying out their work. The engineers who made this discovery estimated that the work of turning aside the Chagres from its regular course near the canal line would cost about \$20,000,000, which would have to be added to the original estimates of the cost of building the waterway. But this sum would be saved in a few years in the greater cheapness and celerity in the passage of vessels through the canal and in the diminished expense of its maintenance.

Secretary Taft, like the house committee, has accepted the sea level idea. Both are influenced by the discovery recently made that the construction of the Bohio dam and locks, owing to the difficulty in finding a safe foundation for the dam, would be

DR. PINK'S



CREAM BAKING POWDER

Improves the flavor and adds to the healthfulness of the food.

far more costly than was originally supposed. The whole matter is being investigated in surveys made and definite information on all these points is expected some time in January. The building of a sea level canal would not only be an advantage of immeasurable benefit to the United States and the world's shipping, but would be a magnificent triumph for American engineering skill.

MIRTHFUL REMARKS.

A Paris physician has discovered that pneumonia is cured by administering doses of silver and gold.

"Yes—to the doctor."—Cleveland Leader.

McCall—Gracious!

What a fine new safe you've got. It's burglar-proof, of course.

McCall—Better than that, it's cashier-proof. I'm the only one who knows the combination.—Philadelphia Press.

"Didn't you go to sleep during the classical program?" asked Mrs. Cumros, severely.

No, answered her husband. "No such luck."—Washington Post.

Mrs. Ferguson—There's just no use in my trying to get a clock that suits my complexion. I've spent the whole day at it!

Mrs. Ferguson—You're right, Laura. I wouldn't try any more.

Mrs. Ferguson—O, you brute!—Chicago Tribune.

"You are the first one to whom I have shown this poem," the young poet went on. "I was wearing the muse last night."

"Poet fellow!" replied the editor, handing back the manuscript. "It's too bad she rejected you."—Philadelphia Ledger.

"What does the president mean in his message when he says that 'this country is not afflicted with hunger'?"

"He means that your Uncle Sam won't eat dirt for anybody."—Cleveland Leader.

"An' the moral is, Lemmy, that ye are never to endorse any note."

"An' if I do, ye'll hang me!"

"Then you are never to pay any further attention to them."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The shade of Julius Caesar looked worried.

"Hang it all," he remarked to his old rival, Pompey, "if I'd known those Italians were going to send my statue over to Washington, I never would have had my laurel wreaths made so thick and high that future generations never would have recognized how bald I was."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.