# THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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| 2 | 36,900 | 17 | 36,600 |
| 3 | 36,750 | 18 | 37,140 |
| 4 | 37,010 | 19 | 36,950 |
| 5 | 36,800 | 20 | 36,820 |
| 6 | 37,590 | 21 | 36,990 |
| 7 | 37,240 | 22 | 36,460 |
| 8 | 37,040 | 23 | 36,660 |
| 9 | 37,140 | 24 | 36,650 |
| 10 | 37,060 | 25 | 36,550 |
| 11 | 37,090 | 26 | 36,600 |
| 12 | 37,050 | 27 | 36,760 |
| 13 | 37,340 | 28 | 36,920 |
| 14 | 37,320 | 29 | 36,990 |
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GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK,
Treasurer.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of May, 1908.
(Seal.) ROBERT HUNTER,
Notary Public.

**WHEN OUT OF TOWN.**

**Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. Address will be changed as often as requested.**

Acting Governor Saunders has entered on his second term.

The Ohio democrats have Harmon, but are still short of harmony.

"What is the surest cure for a panic?" asks a subscriber. The gold cure.

"Let us alone!" shout the railroad kings. The shippers can reply with the same cry.

Herr Puff of Germany has invented a new kind of a gun. Puff powder will naturally be used in it.

The conference of governors at Washington will be a great deal more than a mere wind-jamming contest.

"What will be the most popular color this year?" asks a reader who wants to be in style. Long green.

"Where is the lonesomest place on earth?" asks an exchange. The store of the merchant who does not advertise.

A financial paper says that the Goulds are getting hold of new properties. Prince de Sagan hopes to become a Gould property.

District Attorney Jerome says he never made a mistake in law. When the law does not agree with Jerome, it is the fault of the law.

"War on the Tiger," is the title of an article in a current magazine. The scene of the story is laid in India and not in the Tammany district.

"The reckless chauffeur must go," says the Chicago Record-Herald. On the contrary, the reckless chauffeur should be restrained from going.

The mill value of the lumber cut in the United States last year was $521,000,000. This is a fine showing, at the expense of the forests.

District Attorney Jerome confesses that he has succeeded in convicting but one man in five years. No. Two. By his confession, he has convicted himself.

New Jersey republicans have declared for Franklin Murphy for vice president. Indications, however, are that Murphy will be small potatoes at Chicago.

Timber men assert that they have no desire to destroy the nation's forests, but, just the same, when you find a lumber baron you can usually locate a timber barren.

A Boston man claims the authorship of "Casey at the Bat." He should tell the whole story and admit that he wrote "The Breadwinners" and "Letters of Junius."

Insurance reports show that fifty-eight school buildings were destroyed by fire in the first three months of the present year. Make the school buildings fireproof.

Several Russian grand dukes have been restored to prominent positions in the army. Japan feels better every time a grand duke is made an officer in the Russian army.

A wide niche in the Temple of Fame awaits the genius who will adapt a cloak room to the modern Pullman car. At present the Pullman company affords the minimum of comfort for the maximum of price.

*CONSERVING NATURAL RESOURCES.*

President Roosevelt's administration has been emphatically of the constructive brand, but nothing that he has advocated or accomplished during his term in the White House will do more to stamp him as a statesman and to perpetuate his record than the conference of governors and public men now being held at Washington, if it accomplishes, or puts in the process of accomplishment, the conservation of the natural resources of the United States. The nation's natural resources have been one of our greatest boasts for generations, yet the American people have been going on in an industrious effort to kill the goose of the golden eggs until the situation has become critical and the demand imperative for some plan to check the wasteful systems and in time recreate much that has been destroyed for the enrichment of the few and to the infinite general hurt.

In conference with the president are the governors of the states, specially invited public men, members of congress and the executive department and representatives of commercial bodies throughout the country. The conference is purely nonpartisan, being composed of men of all political creeds and representing all the varying activities of the country. The program provides for placing before these delegates the stubborn facts relative to forest depletion, the waste of the coal, mineral and oil lands, the pollution of rivers, the misappropriation to private purposes of public water rights and the raids that have been made on all the abundant natural resources on the proper conservation and development of which the welfare of the nation rests.

As a part of the conference program, there will be a discussion of the relations between rail and water navigation, power and transportation. With this will come consideration of the land and mineral laws, forestry, irrigation, grazing, and all the conflicting questions that have arisen over the use of public lands and property. The range of topics for discussion is so wide that it embraces practically every industry and interest, and nothing but good can result from the interchange of views on the subject.

The United States has been called "Nature's storehouse of wealth," but records show that such drains have been made on the storehouse that an early future generation will find it empty unless prompt plans are adopted for keeping it replenished for future needs. It is estimated that the United States will have a population of 125,000,000 in 1925, but seventeen years away, and at least 200,000,000 by 1950. The population in the future will need all these resources.

*CURRENCY REFORM PROSPECTS.*

The adoption by a practically unanimous vote of the house republicans of the caucus bill providing for the creation of an elastic currency system offers promise that some legislation on that important question may be finally enacted before the adjournment of the present session. The senate has always been exceedingly deliberate in its consideration of amendments to the currency and banking laws, but it is quite probable that the measure that is to be sent from the house will meet approval, as it is clearly and confessedly a temporary measure, designed to serve financial needs until such time as congress may enact legislation looking to a complete revision of the present currency and banking laws.

It is generally admitted that the proposed law will not seriously affect the principles of either the Aldrich bill, to which the senate has committed itself, or the Fowler measure, which is in favor in the house. It simply legalizes, in effect, the clearing house certificates, which were used by banks throughout the country, but safeguards them by having them issued under the direction of the federal treasury and upon securities presented by the banks. It is a recognition of the principle that the proper basis for emergency currency is commercial paper, the resources of the bank issuing the notes. It is the general opinion that the adoption by congress of the house bill will serve the needs of the immediate future and be a long step toward legislation, in the near future, along lines formulated by men best qualified to judge of the country's financial needs.

*THE FLEET AND ITS MISSION.*

Tumbling lazily and securely in the welcoming arms of the Golden Gate, the eighteen American battleships are preparing for a continuation of the cruise around the world. No loyal American reads with anything but mingled pride and satisfaction of the accomplishments of the fleet under Admiral Evans and the effect the cruise has had upon the people of all the world.

It is now nearly five months since the fleet sailed from Hampton Roads, carrying nearly 14,000 men. The ships have traversed nearly 15,000 miles, through every latitude, facing the blazing heat of the torrid zone and the icy blasts of the Antarctic regions with equal serenity. Its officers and men have found royal welcome in every port, cementing the friendships of the nations of Central and South America and giving them a hint of the power behind the Monroe doctrine, upon which the peace of the Latin-American countries so largely depends.

The naval program of the administration has been vindicated and every critic silenced. The ships stood the trying journey without apparently the slightest injury, and the ability of the American seamen has been demonstrated beyond question. Through fogs and storms, by night and day, the fleet kept its alignment and sailed as though on the placid bosom of an inland lake, and, upon arrival at San Francisco, every vessel and every man in the crew was ready to go into battle, if necessary, at a moment's notice. The fleet has accomplished an important mission, in convincing Americans of the power of their navy and giving the rest of the world a hint of the ability of the American nation to work out its destiny in the occident or the orient, wherever duty may call.

*TWO SAMPLES OF HIGH FINANCE.*

It would be unfair to infer or intimate that brokers and investment agents all follow similar plans in using the funds placed in their trust, but the developments in the courts of New York and Pennsylvania, in two cases on trial, furnish sufficient evidence that more stringent regulations are necessary, under the law, for the protection of investors and depositors, particularly the absolute necessity for divorcing banking institutons from politics.

Thomas A. McIntyre, a formerly prominent New York broker, has gone into bankruptcy, and, during an investigation of his affairs in court, testified that it was "a common practice of commission houses to raise loans on stock deposited by their customers for other than marginal purposes." Mr. McIntyre admitted that the practice was bad, but declared that it was demanded by "the exigencies of business." Incidentally, it may be mentioned that Mr. McIntyre's firm is short something like $300,000 worth of stock, deposited by customers and hypothecated by the firm to carry through deals which failed.

The second illustration of queer financial practices comes from Pittsburg, where the cashier of a national bank has been charged with embezzlement, amounting to nearly $1,000,000. The president of the bank, in the face of the heavy loss, declares that the cashier was not dishonest, but loaned the bank's money to customers and friends, business and political, who had been caught in the financial depression and were pressed for ready funds. "This course," concludes the president, "has been followed in many other cases and by many other banks, doubtless."

One of the chief menaces to the commercial and financial interests is the fact that too many men in positions of trust allow themselves to be persuaded that it is no dishonesty to use money that does not belong to them, so long as they take it to accommodate friends and do not themselves make any profit out of the transactions. In too many such cases the losses fall upon working people who have placed their savings in the hands of trusted financial institutions. It is too often impossible to inflict punishment upon the persons really responsible for such business dishonesty. The only remedy apparently is a more rigid inspection of the affairs of concerns that handle the money of others and a more vigorous prosecution of men guilty of stealing, under whatever guise the larcency is accomplished.

*A SUGGESTION IN POINT.*

While it may be a little premature to get down to the details of the new court house for which bonds have just been voted, the suggestion of the Labor Advocate will be in point when the times comes, that every dollar of the money that can possibly be kept in Omaha shall be kept here. In other words, the rule which should govern in the erection of this public edifice should be that, other things being equal, local contractors and materials locally produced or worked up should have the preference.

The actual work of construction, of course, will have to be done by laborers employed right here, who in turn will pay out their wages for the support of families that will put the money into circulation with our retail merchants and business institutions. Inasmuch as the larger part of the court house cost will go to wages of mechanics and laborers, the work should be so laid out and contracts so awarded as to send outside only for those things which cannot be had on reasonable terms, or under any terms from our own people.

"Keep all of the court house money in Omaha that it is possible to keep here" will be a good guide to follow.

The value of a wool market to Omaha and the west is becoming more apparent each day. Wool growers in the western half of the United States are far more deeply interested in this project than the casual observer would note. Well informed men say that it is the most important move made by Omaha in recent years, and the determination on the part of its promoters to make it a success guarantees that it will become one of the chief factors in Omaha's commercial supremacy.

From all over the country come reports of renewed activity in all lines of commercial and industrial enterprise, but nowhere is this more noticeable than in Nebraska. The Antelope state was not very badly hit by the panic and the excellent outlook for another bountiful crop season justifies the citizens in their energetic efforts to improve their conditions.

The city council has taken another tack on the vaccination question. This astute organization has now achieved a record almost equal to that storied snake whose trail was so obscured that the observer couldn't tell if he "was going south or coming back."

Habibullah Kahn, ameer of Afghanistan, who has been drawing $600,000 a year from England for keeping the peace, has allowed his soldiers to invade India and start a slaughter. If Kahn can't keep the peace, he will have to pay the penalty.

The consideration of rates on flour by the Interstate Commerce commission is likely to bring about conditions still more favorable to Nebraska mills. The grinding of wheat grown in Nebraska by local millers is just now of prime importance.

Governor Haskell of Oklahoma must be disappointed to find that five days have passed since he declared the necessity of amending the federal constitution and congress has not yet taken any action on the matter.

A Des Moines man committed suicide because the home team lost a game. Washington would be depopulated in a season if the fans at the national capital took defeats of the home team to heart in that way.

It is proposed to have the Methodist conference leave the individual the right to decide whether amusements are harmful. Of course, the individual cannot decide without seeing the amusements.

Harry Thaw promises to go to Europe to live if he is released from the asylum. That is a strong argument in favor of his release, if he will take Evelyn with him and Europe does not object.

The price of seats on the New York Stock exchange has been advanced again. Still, most people will be better satisfied with a seat on the bleachers, the price of which remains the same.

"In the south, 1908 will be remembered as the year of the big wind," says the Arkansas Gazette. Even the Arkansas papers have to take an occasional shot at Senator Jeff Davis.

**Office Looking for the Man.**
Indianapolis News.

Governor Johnson need not have taken the trouble to deny it. Nobody is ever a candidate for the vice presidential nomination. But is there a statesman so able that he could presume to turn down a draft?

**Advance Agents of Progress.**
St. Louis Times.

Young Americans are developing the railroads of Canada and the wheat lands of the Canadian northwest. Only the other day an American discovered in Quebec province a diamond deposit that is said to rival that of the Kimberly district. If the esteemed Dominion government will give us the chance we shall develop Canadian riches as we have taken care of our own.

**Truth Gives Fiction a Slam.**
Baltimore American.

The astounding tale of the female Bluebeard in Indiana, who lured victims by matrimonial advertisements, murdered and buried them, almost passes belief. We are accustomed to smile at the old fairy tales based on similar occurrences, but this modern wholesale murder business bears out the old truism that truth is stranger than fiction, and that human imagination has not yet got in advance of human achievement.

**Another Boost for Peace.**
Philadelphia Record.

It may be a mere accidental coincidence, but it is a good sign that on the day when the war fleet approached San Francisco an arbitration treaty was concluded by the United States and Japan. Every such treaty lessens the danger of war in providing the means of peaceful settlement of international disputes. This treaty with Japan is of especial significance in view of international differences that have been exaggerated into causes of war.

**A Menacing Possibility.**
Chicago Post.

"So you people put a couple of magnates in jail on heavy fines, did you?" asks the investigating reformer.

"Yes," replied the native. "We fined them the limit; they wouldn't pay and we put them in cells."

"That's a good example."

"Is it? Within two days they organized the prisoners, guards and jailers, into the International penalty company, issued $500,000,000 in bonds, paid the fines of all the prisoners, left us with a mortgage on the jail and the court-house—and stuck the surplus money in their pockets."

**The Favorite and the Field.**
Philadelphia Record (dem.).

Our Washington correspondent reports that the "allies" count up 247 votes against Taft. But twenty of these are Mississippi votes for Foraker, which are in contest. The Taft people claim 384 votes. The New York Tribune concedes him 348. Another compilation gives him 313. The Independent Order of Favorite Sons claim that on the first ballot Taft will be in a minority of more than 100. It is a law of politics as of physics that bodies attract in the ratio of their volumes, and Taft is a large man; his vote will be large, and lots of delegates may be counted on to jump in on the winning side. It is far easier to pick up votes for the favorite than for the field.

## FEDERAL FINANCES.

**Economy Emphasized by Decreasing Revenue.**
Philadelphia Press.

It is no longer probable that the United States will pay off the $64,000,000 of debt which matures this year. On the contrary, these 3 per cent bonds will doubtless be refunded with an issue of 2 per cents. The government will thus save a third in interest charge and the banks will not be inconvenienced by having to surrender so much of their basis of note circulation.

Uncle Sam has felt the industrial depression as every one else, as his balance sheet fully testifies. In ten months of the current fiscal year the federal receipts were $41,000,000 less than during the corresponding period of 1907. But during the same period expenditures increased $64,000,000. The chief loss came through a falling off in customs duties.

The United States treasury is today $105,000,000 poorer than it was one year ago. Of course, there is a very big balance of cash carried in the national banks. But even so, it is no time for wasteful expenditures at Washington. National economy in small things is just as wise as individual saving along similar lines.

## ROUND ABOUT NEW YORK.

**Ripples on the Current of Life in the Metropolis.**

New York City claims to rank second only to the national government as a landholding corporation. A statement issued by the city comptroller, based on reports of experts puts the valuation of property owned by the city at $2,000,000—an amount sufficient to guarantee the integrity of three times the present debt of the municipality. The custodians who are guardians of this vast property feel that the ancient city hall is not sufficiently imposing for the dignity and responsibilities of the job and have decided to outshine all former projects in the municipal building line, excepting only the $24,000,000 job put up in Philadelphia. New York's new city hall will occupy all of the triangle bounded by Park Row, Center and Duane streets, with Chambers street bridged in arcade form. Counting these in the tower there will be thirty-four stories, and is estimated to cost $7,000,000. Of the total thirty-four floors in the proposed building the arrangement is as follows: The subway level will be one floor under ground, above that, at the street level, will be the subway entrances, and over that, on a mezzanine floor, will be the machinery for the building. Above these three transportation floors will be twenty-three office floors, and there will be eight stories in the tower surmounting the building.

From the bottom or track level of the subway to the head of the figure surmounting the tower the total height is 539 feet and eight inches. Deducting from this total height the twenty feet representing the height of the subway, leaves the city's projected skyscraper a height of 519 feet and eight inches above the street. In other words it will be nearly twice as large as the Flatiron building, overtopping it by 253 feet and eight inches. In fact the city's skyscraper home must at once take place with the "top notchers." It will be a close rival of the famous Philadelphia city hall, which has an extreme height to the top of the figure surmounting the central tower of 547 feet eleven one-half inches. Here in New York the new municipal buildings will rank second only to the 612 feet high Singer building downtown and to the Metropolitan Life structure uptown, the tower of which under altered plans is now to be carried to a height of 700 feet above the sidewalk line.

New York's municipal skyscraper will, however, differ from the other buildings mentioned in that it will not depend almost entirely upon a slender tower for its great height. In the proposed structure a great amount of floor space is desired and the building itself will be the most conspicuous part of the ensemble, the tower being a secondary consideration. From the sidewalk line to the roof of the main structure the building will be 329 feet high. The height from the roof to the top of the figure surmounting the tower will be 210 feet and eight inches.

In compliance with a request which he frequently has made the body of Juan de Dios Tejada was cremated with the overcoat he had used twelve years ago to shield his wife and children from exposure when they were shipwrecked. The ashes of the body and coat ultimately will be consigned to the sea. Mr. Tejada often said he valued the overcoat more than his life, and that he wanted it cremated with him. He and his family were sailing from New York for San Francisco when the ship was wrecked when two days out. Mr. and Mrs. Tejada, their four children, with the captain and men to man the boat, embarked in a lifeboat so hurridly they took only some biscuits for provisions. They suffered severely from cold, exposure, and lack of water. One by one the children died, and their bodies were consigned to the sea. The crew also perished on the seventh day, and only Mr. and Mrs. Tejada and the captain were left. Wrapped in the overcoat the wife died, too, and her body also was cast overboard. Next day a sailing vessel picked up the two survivors.

An impatient tenant in a downtown building complained because the elevator ran so slowly.

"What makes you creep along at this rate?" he asked the operator. "You can go fast enough when you want to. I've seen you do it."

Not until the stout, important looking man in the corner had left the car two floors below did the operator answer.

"When that old chap is in the car," he said then, "I run slowly on his account. He is in mortal terror if the elevator more than crawls. If you had a job of this kind you would find several of those timid people in every large building. Elevator men soon learn their peculiarities, and for the sake of common humanity and maybe for an occasional tip, they humor the weakness and slow up when those men are aboard."

William Jenkins, a waiter in Minden's road house at Avenue M and Ocean Parkway, Brooklyn, hurried from the kitchen to the dining room to serve an elaborate dinner to a man and a woman. He had been in attendance for more than an hour when the man finally called for his check. The dinner check was a big one, but the diner drew a bill of large denomination from a roll and handed it to Jenkins, who returned presently with just $5 change.

"Keep it," said the diner, and Jenkins fell to the floor dead.

A doctor was summoned from the reception hospital at Coney Island, and said that Jenkins had died of heart disease.

A clergyman who conducted the services at a funeral on the East side last week caused a mild sensation and, for the time, made the mourners forget their loss by speaking of the "foolish display of flowers." He said that the effort to ape the rich people in this custom was as reprehensible as it would be to follow them in dress. "I have come to be with you when you take leave of the dead," he said, "but I speak to the living, and ask you to remember that there are places in the world where death notices state also that no flowers are wanted and ask that the money which would have been spent for them be sent to charitable institutions." The sentiment evidently found favor in some minds, for an "extract from a sensible sermon made from memory" was sent to all the East side publications.

"But I can tell you something you don't know about the tipping system in the cloakrooms of some of the large lobster palaces," remarked a New Yorker to a visitor after they were handed their hats and coats. "Why, don't the boys pocket all they get?" inquired the visitor. "Pocket! Their uniforms are made without a sign of a pocket, so that none of the tips can find a lodging there; those boys get nothing but a salary, which is paid by a man who has purchased the checkroom privilege for as high as $5,000 a year. The tips are all turned in to him. You can imagine what the privilege is worth when he can pay down that sum for the right."

**Steam in Reserve.**
Washington Herald.

We have Senator Davis' word for it that his late speech was "very temperate in tone." We suppose a steam calliope and a brass band isn't in it with the senator when he does grow the least bit intemperate in his remarks.



## HIGH PRICES OF MEAT.

**Decrease in Demand One of the Marked Results.**
Indianapolis News.

The high prices of meat have naturally resulted in a reduced demand. In Chicago the reduction is said to be at least 50 per cent. Perhaps the high prices will do good in teaching people a more varied dietary. It is conceded that we have been in the habit of eating too much meat. But physicians and scientists demonstrate this and newspapers disseminate the information in vain. Meat once a day is sufficient. But the general habit with our city dwellers is meat three times a day. In this connection it is curious that while this country produces rice we use it so little. It is one of the most nutritious of foods. It can be served in many ways. It is cheap and one of the most wholesome of all foods. As for taste, that is a matter of taste. We do not, as a people, like rice greatly unless it is sweetened so as to be virtually disguised. Meat, meat, always meat, has become so much a part of our bill of fare that almost everything else becomes subsidiary. If we should seize the present moment of meat scarcity to direct attention to our great rice product and endeavor to increase its use we should do ourselves a great service, both as to health and economy.

## IS IT A LARGE BLUFF?

**Proposed Increase in Freight Rates Deferred Until Fall.**
Philadelphia Record.

While the officials of the trunk lines of railway, east and west, are practically agreed upon the necessity of advancing freight rates, it is deemed to be a physical impossibility to make any immediate change. The enormous amount of detailed work connected with the readjustment of rates, including the printing and checking of tens and hundreds of thousands of tariffs, makes it impossible that the rate increases can be made effective before next fall. October 1 is named as the earliest date by which any systematized and comprehensive advances that may be agreed upon could be put in working shape. It is said that the proposed advance, at first confined to class rates, may be extended to include some of the commodity rates in trunk line territory. It is quite possible, however, that notwithstanding the distractions of the impending political contest a revival of business activity during the next five months might change the plans of the railway managers. A general advance in freight rates would nip like a killing frost the budding promise of business revival. It is an expedient of delay and continued depression.

## PERSONAL NOTES.

Emperor William has conferred the order of the Crown of Prussia upon William Charles Reick of the New York Times.

The newspaper writer who sent up the democratic platform with the guide line "Add Sports" was not far out of the way after all.

The kaiser, runs a newspaper yarn, spent months learning modern Greek so as to make speeches in the Island of Corfu, where the natives speak Italian. Still, he may sometime want to buy a banana.

Indiana has long been raising its own crop of bucolic poets and romantic novelists. Mrs. Guinness now supplies the Hoosier school with home-made plots of love, dungeons, fortunes, mystery and adventure.

The Russian Duma has adopted a device for the benefit of wordy orators. A red light is placed in front of a speaker and it is automatically extinguished at the end of ten minutes as a hint to the talker that he is through.

F. Augustus Heinze, it was said, found trouble in Wall street because he did not know the game. His encounter with a blackmailer, in which the would-be extortioner came off second best, indicates that he knows how to take care of himself in a hand-to-hand financial encounter.

Walter L. Wilson, senior paymaster in the navy, has been placed on the retired list for physical disability. Paymaster Wilson is a son of the late William L. Wilson, who was postmaster general in President Cleveland's administration and was also a representative in congress from West Virginia. He was at one time chairman of the committee on ways and means.

**Good Stuff, Evidently.**
Minneapolis Journal.

The president's letters are said to have precipitated "intense feeling" in the senate. Must be good letters. Let's have them.

## ORGANIZING FOR A FIGHT.

**Shippers Preparing to Resist Advance in Freight Rates.**
St. Louis Globe Democrat.

It would appear to unprejudiced observers that the railways are rash in talking about sending up freight rates at this time. Undoubtedly some of the recent cuts of rates by state enactments were injurious to the roads, but in this time of industrial stagnation the roads ought to go slow about making advances. The protests which will be heard at the Chicago convention of shippers next week will show that the patrons of the roads are angered at this purpose. It would be better for the roads to postpone any increase of rates until after the presidential election, at least.

The hostility which the project has encountered throughout the country has caused some of the larger eastern roads to give notice that they will not be bound by any advance in rates, if an advance be ordered. This promises a war between the roads in case they should send their tariffs up. For the moment a war of rates might benefit some of the shippers, but eventually it would injure them, and injure the general public. Stability in tariffs, when the tariffs are reasonable, is what both public and shippers want. There is a special need at this time for the avoidance of anything which could disturb confidence and halt the march in business improvement. The wise railway chiefs will do well to take a very careful look over the ground before they start out to urge any raise in their tariffs. If, as seems likely, good crops come to us this year the roads and the rest of the country will once more start on the up grade. It will then be early enough to talk about sending rates up.

## TRIFLES LIGHT AS AIR.

"How do you know he has a lot of money?"

"He has gotten two automobiles."

"That is merely a sign that he used to have a lot of money."—Philadelphia Ledger.

"I see that a Pittsburg woman claims that her husband has been lazy for thirty-five years. Now she wants a divorce."

"Well, she certainly has given him a fair try-out."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Crabbe—Who don't you cut that out? Tone your talk down a bit.

Kandor—Well, it's all right to call a spade a spade, isn't it?

Crabbe—Instead of calling it you might whisper it occasionally.—Philadelphia Press.

"Mr. Rubinjay is a very timid young man."

"Timid. I should say so. He's afraid to begin a letter 'Dear Miss Smith' because it's leap year."—Washington Star.

"And do you know this man's reputation for veracity?" asked the lawyer.

"Veracity?" replied the witness. "I should say I did. He used to board with me, and I lost money on him right along."—Philadelphia Ledger.

"Johnny came mighty near choking to death the other day," said Mrs. Lapaling. "He was eating popcorn and he got a grain of it fast in his windpipe. At least that's where I thought it was, but when the doctor come he said it wasn't his windpipe, at all. The popcorn had logged in his sarcophagus."—Chicago Tribune.

"I don't believe Miss Vassar understands what she means herself by those long, learned words she uses. It is all parrot talk."

"She certainly does talk in polysyllables."—Baltimore American.

"How are you getting on with your great reform?"

"I can't say yet," answered the agitator. "But I heard the law you wanted was sure to be enacted."

"Yes. But that's the A, B, C of the proposition. We've got to get it enforced."—Washington Star.

## SOME DRAWBACKS.

Nashville American.

It's easy to say we'll be cheerful
Regardless of weather or luck,
And whether our schemes are successful
Or if we fall down and get stuck,
Or win on our ventures a pile,
But answer this question in passing:
Can man pay his taxes and smile?

We build a philosophy skyward
That's founded on love and good cheer
And say we will use in our business
That kind and that that only this year,
And really it looks well on paper,
But later it takes all our skill
To keep it in tune and good order
And pay our wife's dressmaker's bill.

We feel ourselves gently uplifted,
As though of superior clay,
By this line of conduct we've outlined
To guide us along day by day,
And then for a little diversion
We bet on a horse that's outclassed,
And where is our patent good nature
When it drags along toward the last?

It's lovely for fair weather sailing
And sounds very well to the ear,
But when there are tempests and thunder
Look out for the craft called Good Cheer.
It's wise, I opine, to keep striving
Your rash inclinations to check,
But don't be surprised if you falter
When fate lands you one on the neck.