THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, | ss.
Douglas County, |

George B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of November, 1896, was as follows:

1	21,669	16	21,603
2	21,111	17	21,612
3	21,456	18	21,419
4	22,275	19	21,232
5	22,437	20	21,246
6	21,957	21	21,411
7	21,326	22	21,669
8	21,150	23	21,622
9	20,325	24	20,651
10	20,924	25	20,131
11	21,021	26	19,894
12	20,776	27	20,011
13	20,536	28	20,015
14	20,661	29	20,925
15	21,010	30	20,625

Totals	609,342
Less deductions for unsold and returned copies	12,782
Total net sales	617,560
Net daily average	21,585

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of December, 1896.

N. P. FEIL,
(Seal.) Notary Public.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS NUMBER.

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

THE BEE OF NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, WILL BE A CHRISTMAS NUMBER, HANDSOMELY ILLUSTRATED WITH SPECIAL FEATURES PECULIARLY APPROPRIATE TO THE HOLIDAY SEASON.

CHRISTMAS STORIES.
CHRISTMAS POEMS.
CHRISTMAS PICTURES.
CHRISTMAS HISTORY.
CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.
CHRISTMAS SPORTS.
CHRISTMAS MUSIC.
CHRISTMAS GOWNS.
IN ADDITION TO
THE NEWS AND ALL THE NEWS.

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS NUMBER.

The Fair pencil will has been decided by experts not to be a fair deal at all.

The agitation for a union depot is neither dead nor sleeping. Some interesting and important developments may be expected soon.

The great new state of Montana is enthusiastically in line for the exposition. All the mineral-producing states will be found in their places at the proper time.

Warm weather at this season of the year may not exactly suit the coal dealers, but it is a blessing without disguise for the poor people who ordinarily have to burn coal to keep warm.

Senator Allen will oppose the present repeal of the sugar bounty. Senator Allen is a far-seeing and exceedingly politic statesman, bound to advance his own interests and those of his party.

The populist party finds itself in the position which all political parties have occupied at some period of their history, where it can best serve its own ends by advocating wise and moderate legislation for the good of the people at large.

Councilman Wheeler's charter committee wants to reduce the salaries of members of the police commission by $300 a year. Some people, including Mr. Wheeler, would doubtless be willing to serve without pay, but they might be dear at half the price.

The unanimity with which the outgoing state officials and clerks announce their intention of devoting themselves to the making of money on their exit from office would lead the uninitiated to believe that they had been serving the public for nothing but glory all these years.

There are several members of the coming legislature who deny that they are anxious to be elected speaker, but in no case is it because they feel that they are not capable of filling the position. Nebraska never elects a man to the legislature unless he is qualified to preside over the body.

German newspapers profess to believe that Germany is oppressed by the re-imposition of the American tonnage duties on German vessels. When Germany learns, however, that the United States is not to be trifled with, it will be more careful about discriminating against American trade.

Any contemplated reform in the method of keeping the county treasurer's tax books should embrace a provision for keeping them accurately. There is less ground for complaint on the score of clerical errors at present than formerly, but any one who has had occasion to look up old taxes and tax sales will know that under other treasurers the records have been very loosely kept.

The free and unlimited coinage of cabinet gossip seems to be the order of the day. A week without two or three new cabinet possibilities would be a dreary waste in the political hemisphere. So prolific are the self-appointed cabinet makers that they could easily produce material enough to form a dozen cabinets and have odds and ends left over to fill all the vacancies that might occur for four years to come. The difficulty which President-elect McKinley must encounter is not whom to select, but whom to reject.

IN DEFENSE OF NEBRASKA.

Every citizen of Nebraska, irrespective of political affiliation, will heartily welcome and commend the timely speech of Senator Allen, in which he gives assurance to the country that no injury or wrong or injustice to any interest is to be feared from the success of the populist party in this state. It is needless to say that Senator Allen is authorized to give such an assurance. He is a leader who enjoys the highest respect and confidence of his party, who is in close touch with its rank and file and who exerts an influence in the councils of the party second to none. When, therefore, he declares from his place in the national senate that the populist party of Nebraska contemplates no legislation that can be hurtful to any interest, that it proposes no action that will destroy, but that on the contrary it intends "to build up and make more secure the rights of all and to give to all that full measure of justice their position as members of society entitles them to," he speaks as one with authority and his assurance is entitled to confidence.

It would be idle to deny that there was warrant for the apprehension created by populist success. Some of the doctrines of that party are a menace to private rights and to the public welfare. As a political organization it is largely composed of men whose tendencies are reactionary and even revolutionary. Its success in other states than Nebraska has been productive of injury to the credit and welfare of such states. With these examples it was only natural that the triumph of the populist party in Nebraska should cause those toward whose interests populism has assumed an attitude of hostility to fear adverse legislation and to take precautions to protect themselves, as far as possible, against such legislation.

But after what Senator Allen has said none can reasonably doubt that the populist party in Nebraska will be found ready to deal fairly and justly with all interests and that its administration of the affairs of the state will have reference to the development of its resources and to its material upbuilding. Our people already know that Governor Holcomb is a conservative chief executive who can be confidently depended upon to conserve to the extent of his authority and influence the best interests of the state. No man could be more solicitous than he to maintain Nebraska's character and credit. Senator Allen vouches for the ability and the loyalty to Nebraska of the populist members of the legislature and says they will be guilty of nothing that will impair the standing of the state, nothing that will destroy its credit or detract from its glory. "But they will, on the contrary, build up and make better and more secure and inspire confidence in all." More than this could not be desired.

Senator Allen firmly believes in the importance of the beet sugar and chicory industries of Nebraska and consequently is in favor of promoting the development of those industries by bounties. Accepting his views as voicing the sentiment of his party it is safe to expect legislation favorable to the beet sugar and chicory interests, the value of which to the state has already been demonstrated, while their future importance, if their growth shall be properly encouraged, cannot easily be overestimated.

Unquestionably Senator Allen has done a great service to Nebraska in giving to the country a statement of the sentiments and purposes of his party in this state. It will serve to remove apprehension and to put Nebraska in a better light before the country. It is a service no other man is better qualified than he to effectively render and all Nebraskans will heartily thank him for it.

ARMS AND ENLISTMENTS FOR CUBA.

Reported preparations for shipping arms and ammunition to the Cuban insurgents and of the enlistment of men at various points to join the insurgent forces are the indications of a marked revival of popular interest in the cause of Cuban liberty. Sympathy with that cause has, indeed, never abated, but since the utterances of the president and secretary of state the public interest regarding Cuba has undoubtedly been intensified, while a stimulus has also been found in the spirit manifested in congress and in the death of the able Cuban leader, Antonio Maceo, who is believed, despite Spanish assertions to the contrary, to have been betrayed to his death. There can be no doubt that this circumstance has made a strong impression upon the American people and persuaded many that the time is ripe for some decisive action on the part of this government. The feeling of resentment toward the Spanish for the killing of Maceo may not be quite reasonable, but none the less it is natural and it is taking expression in more vigorous efforts to aid the Cuban cause.

This manifestation will necessitate increased vigilance on the part of the federal authorities to prevent violations of our neutrality laws, the scope of which should be now well understood by everybody. This government is bound to put a stop to expeditions with hostile purpose toward the Spanish government. Its duty is to prevent organized bodies of armed men from leaving this country to join the insurgents. But according to the attorney general's interpretation of the law, the government is not called upon to interfere with the sale and delivery of arms and ammunition to the insurgents, as an ordinary commercial transaction. It has always been held that our citizens have the right to sell such articles and ship them wherever they please. Jefferson stated this in 1793 and the right has been reasserted many times since. The fact, therefore, that a ship loads with arms and ammunition for the insurgents is in itself no offense to our laws or to international law. It is only when in connection with such shipment of munitions of war there is taken on an organized force, officered and equipped for a warlike purpose, that the government can properly detain such vessel.

With regard to enlisting men to join the insurgents, the law makes it a criminal offense "for any person within the United States to begin or set on foot or provide means for any military expedition or enterprise to be carried on from thence against any foreign state with which the United States is at peace," but it is a question whether this would apply to the simple act of men enrolling themselves to go to Cuba, even with the avowed intention of enlisting when they got there, provided that there was no military organization among them. The departure from our shores for Cuba of a body of unarmed and unorganized men could not fairly be regarded as a military expedition, though it should be well known to be the intention of the men to enlist with the insurgents when they got there. The courts have defined a military expedition as a force equipped with arms, officered and organized. It would seem, therefore, that the simple act of an individual enrolling himself to go to Cuba and join the insurgents would be no offense against the law. On the other hand those who set on foot or provide means for such enlistments may be amenable to the law.

These fresh demonstrations in behalf of the Cubans can hardly fail to aggravate popular feeling in Spain against the United States, but they ought not to disturb the friendly relations between the governments. It is undoubtedly safe to say that they will not affect the attitude of the present administration.

A PUBLIC DEFENDER.

County Commissioner Kierstead suggests among other reforms in the direction of economy the creation of an office to be known as the public defender. The public defender would stand to the indigent prisoners accused of crime in the same relation as the public prosecutor to public offenders. Instead of as now permitting the judge of the criminal court to assign one or more attorneys for the defense of each prisoner who makes affidavit that he has no means with which to employ one, the office of public defender would be filled either by appointment or election, and the duty imposed upon its incumbent to defend without charge in all such cases.

That this would allow the public defender a fair salary and at the same time effect a considerable saving to the tax payers admits of no doubt. That it is perfectly feasible has been shown both by experiment elsewhere and by a practice nearly akin in this county. For a while in assigning the defense of indigent prisoners the work was thrown all to one person, and aside from the complaints of favoritism no particularly bad results were noticed. The judges to whom the assignment of these favors falls ought to be glad to get out of the unpleasant duty, and, as for the prisoner, the character and ability of his attorney would on the average be bettered rather than changed for the worst.

A great deal would, of course, depend upon the person who happened to be appointed or elected to fill the new position. A conscientious and painstaking official would give these prisoners the same service as if he had been specially retained at an attractive fee. If the place is to be used, however, simply as a political reward for attorneys who cannot make a living in any other way and who would regard the salary simply as a stipend for continuing political activity to the neglect of the duties, the change would be a detriment rather than a benefit to the public.

The proposition, however, has every appearance of merit and deserves the careful consideration of the legislature.

When it comes to the game of bluff and hold-up the publishers of the World-Herald stand unexcelled. After the public has been fooled and defrauded so many times by its successive fakes it is strange if any one now will walk into its trap once more. The law governing the issuance of liquor licenses requires notices of applications for licenses to be published in the paper having the largest circulation in the county. That paper is The Omaha Evening Bee. Druggists and saloon keepers who want to obey the law and make sure of securing their licenses will advertise their notices in The Omaha Evening Bee.

Senator Peffer is not having things all his own way down in Kansas notwithstanding the fact that the state went for the populist ticket at the last election. The senator is very much exercised over the possibility that the new legislature may forget to re-elect him as its representative at Washington. It would be a pity to deprive the senate of those picturesque Pefferian whiskers just when the public is beginning to get accustomed to them. By basing his plea for re-election on these grounds the senator ought to be able to touch the heart-strings of the most obdurate Kansas populist.

Governor Stone of Missouri publicly expresses the opinion that the best way to put an end to train robbery is to execute a few of the highwaymen who always richly deserve such a punishment. In offering rewards for the arrest and conviction of the perpetrators of the recent train hold-up in that state he therefore makes the sum $100 for arrest and conviction, with a further sum of $200 if conviction is followed by the sentence of death. The bandits who selected Missouri as the scene of their operations evidently were ignorant of the ferocious governor with whom they would have to deal.

The latest turn in the maximum freight rate case, by which the motion for advancing the rehearing in the United States supreme court has been headed off almost indefinitely, calls for an explanation that will explain why the state's interests have been made subsidiary to the interests of the railroads all through the conduct of the case.

Omaha wants a beet sugar factory. If its citizens had the free capital they would build it at once themselves. As it is they will require the assistance of foreign capital. The profitableness of the beet sugar industry in Nebraska has already been demonstrated and foreign capital should have no hesitation in venturing into this field.

The council charter committee has sliced down a number of city hall salaries and abolished several of the offices, including the street commissioner, boiler inspector, sewer commissioner and assistant city engineer. But as yet it has not proposed a cut in the pay of councilmen or the salary of the city attorney.

Diagram of the New Tariff.

Chicago Times-Herald.

The tariff law of 1897 will be a protection measure conservatively adapted to present industrial conditions and revenue needs, with a reciprocity provision calculated to widen and extend the markets for the products of husbandry.

Now Watch the Box Office.

Indianapolis Journal.

The individual who has undertaken to manage W. J. Bryan's prospective lecture tour has fixed the terms at "75 per cent of the gross receipts with a guaranty that our share will not be less than $3,000." There is not a city in the United States where Bryan can draw a $3,000 audience.

Register Letter Indemnity.

Globe-Democrat.

It is likely that the great majority of people believe that the registration of a letter signifies a guaranty of indemnity by the government in case of loss, while as a matter of fact the guaranty does not go beyond that of reasonable care in handling and due efforts to trace the letter if stolen en route. There should be an indemnity for such losses, however, as there is in other countries, and a bill providing for it is now pending in congress.

A Populist Silver Brick.

New York World.

In the present senate there are thirty-nine democrats and six populists. In the next senate there will be thirty-two democrats and nine populists. This is simply the face of the figures, and does not take into account the division of the thirty-two democrats on the money question.

The democrats lost seven senators and the populists gained three as a result of the fusion adventure with free silver. And this is only one small part of that extremely good bargain for the populists and extremely bad bargain for the democrats.

The Gold Standard Democrats.

Louisville Courier-Journal.

The silver democrats pretend to scoff in fine scorn at the insignificant number of the sound money democrats, disdaining, they assert, to take serious notice of a party which cast less than 5,000 votes for Palmer in Kentucky and less than 150,000 for him in the union. But are they willing to make their future calculations on the basis of those figures? They know perfectly well that the sound money democrats cast nearer 50,000 votes than 5,000 in Kentucky and nearer 1,500,000 than 150,000 in the union, and any future program which they make without taking into account those votes won't be worth the trouble of making.

The Situation in the Senate.

New York Sun.

Last winter the democrats were allied with the republican or silver men, for the prevention of tariff legislation for the increase of the revenue. They seem to be allied still for the same policy, sound money democrats included. President Cleveland is also generally regarded as a part of this combination. The populists in the senate are again holding up the revenue measure of the house of representatives, where all revenue bills must originate, for the sake of silver, and the democrats are with them for the sake of some idea, no one knows what, touching the principle of protection.

In this extraordinary check to the readjustment of the national finances, and to reparation for the criminal folly of their recent management, the poor, belabored populists make really but a small factor.

This is where we are at.

MUNICIPAL FRANCHISES.

Some Figures Showing Their Money-Making Value.

New York World.

The first annual report of the street car combination known as the Union Traction Company of Philadelphia gives a striking illustration of the value of such municipal franchises as are recklessly thrown away in New York.

President Welsh asserts that the combination pays "directly or indirectly" to the city and state as a consideration for its franchises $1,640,003 per annum, or about 16 per cent of its gross receipts. Yet after all expenditures, including the usual necessary and unnecessary fixed charges, have been deducted, it reports net profits for the year of $1,400,448.

Of course this sum, large as it is, does not represent the total profits of the promoters. In every such enterprise as this, managed by methods of speculative consolidation, a large part of the profits generally goes for what are practically "rake-offs," though it may not be polite to term them so. But leaving out of consideration stock watering and other financiering devices which make it difficult to tell what the face of an annual showing really means, it appears here that these Philadelphia franchises, owned by a single company, yield nearly a million and a half net after over a million and a half has been paid "directly and indirectly" to the city and state.

How much longer will sane and responsible communities allow such immensely valuable privileges to be traded away for a song?

A KICK FROM CARACAS.

Chicago Chronicle: There promises to be a scandal in the Venezuelan boundary business. All the dirty linen will be washed and hung upon the Schomburgk line.

New York Tribune: Venezuela can have no worse enemy than a man who would stand in the way of her acceptance of the arrangement made with Great Britain in her behalf by the United States.

Globe-Democrat: Venezuela will make a serious mistake if she refuses to abide by the boundary treaty that the United States has negotiated in her interest. It insures her a chance to prove that she is right, and if she rejects it the inference will be that she is afraid, after all, to put her claims to a fair and square test.

Chicago Tribune: A dispatch from Caracas states that, owing to the pressure of public sentiment, Venezuela, after already having given her consent to the arrangements between Secretary Olney and Lord Salisbury for the settlement of the dispute between this country and Great Britain, has withdrawn it. The government does not seem to have been able to stem the tide of popular opinion, or was afraid of its own existence if it should oppose it. If the Venezuela hot heads have really done what is charged, thus forcing the United States to drop out, they will find that their latter end is worse than the first, and that they will come out even worse off than when they went into the struggle.

Chicago Record: But should Venezuela refuse its assent to the arrangement effected for it in a friendly spirit and by a friendly power this government will then be in a position to wash its hands of the affair, leaving England to bring Venezuela to terms as best she may, always provided that as a result of her contest she shall not enlarge her territory in South America or elsewhere on the American continent. If England chooses in that event, to overrun Venezuela and force the latter to pay her an indemnity the latter country can have only herself to blame. That is the case in a nutshell, and the sooner Venezuela understands its significance the better for all concerned.

Philadelphia Ledger: It would be a great misfortune if Venezuelan politicians who are plotting to overthrow Crespo should be able to organize successful opposition to the treaty on sentimental and unsubstantial grounds. The clause in the proposed treaty fixing fifty years' undisturbed possession as sufficient to quiet the title to lands claimed by Great Britain or Venezuela is furiously assailed by Michelena as "inimical to Venezuela;" but this has been regarded by our State department as equitable. As Secretary Olney put it, the negotiations provide for a full arbitration of the whole controversy "upon bases alike just and honorable to both the countries." Venezuela should agree with her adversary quickly. If she rejects the treaty, this government will be slow in assisting such a capricious neighbor again.

M'HUGH'S CASE HOLDS OVER

Senate Committee on Judiciary Hangs Up Nebraska's Federal Judge.

PASSES MANY PRIVATE PENSION BILLS

Several Nebraskans Remembered in the Senatorial Distribution of Government Care for Veterans and Their Dependents.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—(Special Telegram.)—The senate judiciary committee at a session this morning decided to postpone action on the nomination of W. D. McHugh to be judge of the United States district court for Nebraska until after the Christmas holidays.

The executive session of the senate today was devoted almost entirely to the receipt of reports on nominations made by committees, a large share of those made coming from the committee on judiciary, which met today. Among those on which favorable reports were made were those of Hon. Charles G. Nott to be chief justice of the court of claims; of Hon. John H. Rodgers, to succeed the late Judge Parker as judge of the western district of Arkansas, and of W. B. Childers as district attorney for New Mexico, Childers' nomination is among those which failed of confirmation last session because of the opposition of Delegate Catron, which has now been withdrawn. Among the nominations not reported today were those of Judge Hawry of Mississippi to a place on the court of claims bench and George F. Moore to succeed Henry D. Clayton as district attorney for the district of Alabama. There is opposition to Moore on the part of friends of Clayton, who was removed during the last campaign because he accepted a congressional nomination as a silver democrat.

The scene of legislation was shifted from the house to the senate today. That body got down to business and passed a whole raft of pension bills. Senator Thurston stayed with the calendar until every bill he had reported passed the senate. These were: Pension to Samuel A. Smith, $30 per month; to Mrs. Catherine E. O'Brien of Omaha, widow of the late General George M. O'Brien, $30 per month; to Franklin C. Plantz of Hay Springs, Neb., $16 per month; to James M. Simeral of Omaha, $30 per month; to Mrs. Celia A. Jeffers of Bassett, Neb., $30 per month. Senator Allen also passed a bill to pension Olive W. Cook of St. Paul at $12 per month.

SENATOR PETTIGREW'S PROGRAM.

Senator Pettigrew gave notice of the following amendments to the sundry civil bill to be submitted by him: To establish an assay office at Deadwood, $10,000; construction of the northern branch of the Soldiers' Home, $150,000; to purchase site for public building at Deadwood, $20,000; authorizing the secretary of the interior to appoint a commission of three persons to settle differences between Rosebud and Lower Brule Indians; this commission to also negotiate with the Rosebud, Lower Brule, Cheyenne and Standing Rock Indians for cession of a portion of their reservation, and an amendment to existing treaties which require the consent of three-fourths of the male adults of the tribe to ratify treaties hereafter made. An appropriation of $10,000 for the expense of the commission is carried in this amendment.

R. M. Allen's paper on beet sugar, read before the recent convention at Grand Island and published in full in The Bee, was, on motion of Senator Allen, made a senate miscellaneous document, and will be published.

Senator Thurston introduced a bill today authorizing every judge of a district court of the United States to appoint a stenographic reporter and fixing the duties and compensation of such reporter, the salary to be $2,400 per year, with stipulated rates for transcription of evidence. This bill has the sanction of district judges throughout the country, who will endeavor to have congressional delegations support the same. He also introduced a bill to pension Charles A. D. Wiswell of Ainsworth, Neb., at $72 per month, on account of total disability.

Senator Gear presented the petition of the Congregational church of Danville, Ia., and the petition of 200 citizens of New London, Ia., praying for the enactment of legislation forbidding the sale of liquors in government buildings.

MONDELL'S OIL LAND BILL.

Representative Mondell of Wyoming introduced a bill relative to persons holding lands under the mining laws of the United States to enter and obtain patent to lands containing petroleum or other mineral oils, and chiefly valuable therefor, by making one bonafide discovery of such petroleum on any tract not exceeding 160 acres. This bill grows out of the recent decision of the Interior department, wherein it was decided in a California case that lands chiefly valuable for petroleum and mineral oils, could no longer be patented under placer mining laws. There being no other law under which lands containing petroleum or other mineral oils could be patented, the oil interests of the northwest were very injuriously affected, Wyoming being particularly made to suffer. To remedy this decision of the Interior department, this bill was introduced, that patenting oil lands might go on and the development of the oil fields continue.

Congressman Halner was in his seat today for the first time since the session began. He arrived Sunday with his family from the west.

Judge N. D. Jackson of Neligh, Neb., was a capitol visitor today and was received with open arms, after having announced to the republicans of the Nebraska delegation that he had no favors to ask from the incoming administration. He has been in Boston looking after some old matters of the Globe Investment company.

Tom Watson's Election Contest.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Hon. Thomas Watson of Georgia will appear before the committee on elections on January 8, to contest the title to the seat now held by Judge Black in the house. Today the committee on elections decided to hear the case on that day.

New Consuls Appointed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The senate in executive session today confirmed the following nominations: To be United States consuls, Walter B. Barker of Mississippi at Sagua la Grande, Cuba; Frank D. Hill of Minnesota, at Santos, Brazil; George D. Kedzie of Mexico, at Durango, Mexico; Samuel M. Simmons of Texas, at Piedras Negras, Mexico; Horace L. Washington of Texas, at Alexandretta, Syria; Paul Wiesike of Texas, at Wanagua, Nicaragua.

ON LINES OF ST. LOUIS PLATFORM.

Committee of the Senate Investigating International Bimetallism.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—The committee of the republican caucus to consider a bimetallic proposition held a meeting today and informally discussed the subject coming to no definite conclusion.

Senator Hoar, a member of the committee, gave the other members some pointers from his investigations of bimetallism abroad.

Senator Wolcott, chairman of the committee, said: "The senate republican caucus committee to report legislation in furtherance of an international bimetallic conference had a full meeting today and the question was discussed at some length. The subject was chiefly considered with a view to securing the widest possible latitude to a commission, and so framing legislation that the incoming president would be at liberty to act immediately upon his inauguration and without waiting for further legislative action. There were thousands of republicans in the west, who were in accord with so much of the Chicago platform as stood for the free coinage of silver, but who were unable to accept the other planks of the platform. There were also in the middle states hundreds of thousands of republicans, earnest bimetallists, who voted the republican ticket because they believed the financial plank in the St. Louis platform to be a sacred pledge committing the party to an earnest effort to secure international bimetallism. So far as I can observe, the sentiment is practically unanimous among republican senators in favor of an earnest and steadfast effort toward international agreement. I do not anticipate any serious trouble in the way of securing such legislation as has been outlined, and which will prepare the way for this effort. So far as I can learn, there is no opposition on the part of either democrats or populists to some such legislation as has been outlined, for I think it may truthfully be said that 99 per cent of the people are bimetallists, and even those who believe that this country can alone maintain the double standard have no sort of objection to the same result being accomplished by international agreement if it shall be possible."

SUGAR INDUSTRY IN GERMANY.

Gigantic Syndicate Being Formed to Regulate Prices.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Unless relief can soon be had from the Reichstag the entire sugar industry of Germany is likely to be organized for self-protection in a gigantic syndicate or trust, with the purpose of regulating production and controlling prices. This is the view of United States Consul Mason at Frankfort, set out in an elaborate report to the State department on the present state of the sugar industry in Germany.

Only last May a law was enacted to help out the sugar growers and makers, as this is now the only remaining field of profit for the German farmer. The act was passed at the demand of the agrarian party, yet already the sugar makers are appealing to the Reichstag "to rescue the sugar-producing interests from the consequences of the very act passed for its salvation," and which have presented themselves promptly and in a most serious form.

Mr. Mason tells how the act has failed, and, instead of limiting production, has had the very opposite effect. The increase of the exports bounty has also reduced the price of sugar in foreign markets and the German farmer receives no more than he did before the increase, while the government loses heavily. Then, too, France and other European nations have responded by an increase of their export duties, which charge in a measure neutralizes the benefits of the German increase, and altogether the situation so far as the sugar interests are concerned is as bad as it could be.

CARLISLE ON GOLD CERTIFICATES.

Secretary Not Inclined to Order Their Issue at Present.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Secretary Carlisle has written a letter in reply to one on behalf of the Boston banks, asking for the issue of gold certificates under the authority granted in section 12 of the act of July 12, 1882. The secretary says: "I am not yet prepared to give the necessary order. After the issue of such certificates has been stopped, it is not certain that the secretary of the treasury, and particularly in view of existing conditions, would be justified in resuming their reissue. It has been the experience of the department in the past that the normal increase of the gold reserve caused by the exchange of paper currency for gold is checked by the issue of gold certificates, and, in fact, upon various occasions considerable amounts of gold have been withdrawn by the presentation of notes for redemption and immediately redeposited in exchange for gold certificates. Moreover, the house of representatives of the Fifty-third congress, at its third session, passed a bill discontinuing their issue entirely and it is the intention of the department to present the subject again at a very early date. As the amount of the gold reserve is largely dominated from time to time by the available amount of paper in circulation, it seems inadvisable at this time especially, to increase the volume of that currency by the issue of gold certificates."

HOUSE-TO-HOUSE STAMP SELLING.

Radical Improvement in Postal System to Be Tried.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 14.—Postmaster General Wilson has issued an order extending the house-to-house collection and delivery letter system, so as to provide for the sale of postage and special delivery stamps through orders to letter carriers on slips contained in a unique official stampselling envelope to be furnished by the Postal Improvement company. The order provides for one of the most radical improvements yet made in the postal system. It will be tried in Washington at once, and if found practicable, extended generally. It affords the opportunity for the conduct of one's business with the postoffice at home, at least so far as ordinary transactions are concerned, and it is expected to largely increase stamp sales as soon as the system becomes general. The house-to-house collection of mail by means of ingeniously contrived boxes has already been adopted and extended to twenty-five free delivery cities.

THOSE MODEL NEBRASKA FARMS.

Denver News: The action of the Burlington road in establishing "model farms" along its line in Kansas and Nebraska is to be commended. Penetrating as it does a rich and productive agricultural section, the Burlington is vastly interested in successful farming, and such establishments as it has projected will prove a living demonstration of what good management and good judgment can accomplish even in a season of drouth and low prices.

Philadelphia Record: The Burlington Railroad company, which has established five model farms, or agricultural experiment stations, in Kansas and Nebraska, is about to start a number of others in the same states in the hope that the increased freightage from the larger crops will more than repay the outlay. Heretofore such work has been left to the state. In taking it in hand themselves the railway officials have shown a foresight which should bring generous returns.

Denver Republican: The Burlington Railroad company has entered upon a peculiar venture in establishing experimental farms in Kansas and Nebraska. But it is a wise move, and it may be expected to result beneficially to the farming regions through which the Burlington runs. There are many interesting problems connected with agriculture in the arid and semi-arid region and they have by no means all been worked out. The men in charge of these experimental farms may be able to do much to increase knowledge in regard to the methods which should be adopted by the agriculturists in the country lying between the mountains and the Missouri river.

GENIAL JABS.

Chicago Tribune: "Sixteen years in the employ of this railroad company!" soliloquized the man who was walking up and down in front of the passenger station. "Sixteen years! And kicked out! Kicked out!" he added bitterly. "And yet they say corporations have no soles."

Detroit Free Press: "Your wife's just met with an accident, Wilkins," said a man who rushed into the grocery. "She ran over a dog while riding her bicycle and they've carried her to the hospital."

The man sitting on the cracker barrel rose to his feet excitedly and his face turned pale.

"Did you notice," he asked, in a trembling voice, "whether it was a liver-colored dog with two white spots on his fore-shoulder or not?"

Cincinnati Enquirer: "Oh, I don't care," airily remarked the dramatic lady whose aigret had flown. "There's just as good fish in the sea, you know."

"I didn't go to school a whole lot," said the other actress lady, "but it seems to me that the sucker is a fresh water fish exclusively."

A RUSE.

Judge.

She sat before me at the play,
Her hat behind me and the stage.
I said: "She's of uncertain age.
She wears her hat because she's gray."
Two hards went up, two plus came down
Her hat was off; her hair was brown.

DRAFT ON THE "P" BOX.

New York Sun.

Pause, Pingree,
Pause;
Potato-planting patriot,
Pause!
Pleased with the
Paling baubles of the hour, you'd
Pay the price and get into the
Push. But hold hard!
Perhaps
Potato paths that lead to fame
Pass quite around the
Precious prize you seek.
Pause, Pingree, Pause;
Pull down the
Platitudes that please and
Put your head to shrink, which they have
Puffed.
Press to the earth ambition's
Purpose, that would
Place your popularity aloft as
Presidential preferment!
Pooh, Pingree!
Presidents don't grow on
Potato vines, and if you
Permit yourself to be
Pumpeoxied into thinking so, you'll
Pay for it with busted hopes.
Push on to glory by some other route;
Pair off with something else than that;
Pull down your vest;
Put Pingree on the ice a while!
Perish the thought that one should feed
Pingree could not fill the bill so
Perfectly that
Plenty and prosperity would
Perch upon the nation's ridge pole
Permanently. But that's not it,
Pingree is perfect, and the
Perfect president is as yet rather
Previous!
Passez vous?

ROYAL

The absolutely pure

BAKING POWDER

ROYAL—the most celebrated of all the baking powders in the world—celebrated for its great leavening strength and purity. It makes your cakes, biscuit, bread, etc., healthful, it assures you against alum and all forms of adulteration that go with the cheap brands.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

As Ducks.....

Take to water so are parents taking advantage of our great opportunity sale in the children's department. Yesterday we had a rush that tested our capacity to its utmost, and still we failed to sell all of the bargains advertised—two piece Suits, Kilts, Overcoats, Ulsters, Shirt Waists, etc., and all odd articles were included in this special sale.

We are going to continue it as long as an article remains, which won't be long. So don't wait till the last moment—come early before they are all picked over

B & K TRADE MARK

BROWNING, KING & CO.

S. W. Cor. 15th and Douglas Sts