THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Daily Bee (Without Sunday), One Year	$6 00
Daily Bee and Sunday, One Year	8 00
Six Months	4 00
Three Months	2 00
Sunday Bee, One Year	2 00
Saturday Bee, One Year	1 50
Weekly Bee, One Year	65

OFFICES:

Omaha: The Bee Building.
South Omaha: Singer Blk., Cor. N and 24th Sts.
Council Bluffs: 10 Pearl Street.
Chicago Office: 317 Chamber of Commerce.
New York: Rooms 13, 14 and 15, Tribune Bldg.
Washington: 501 Fourteenth Street.

CORRESPONDENCE.

All communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed: To the Editor.

BUSINESS LETTERS.

All business letters and remittances should be addressed to The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha. Drafts, checks, express and postoffice money orders to be made payable to the order of the company.

THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.:
George B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of August, 1897, was as follows:

1	19,460	17	19,573
2	19,449	18	19,494
3	19,435	19	19,574
4	19,370	20	19,764
5	19,410	21	20,020
6	19,502	22	19,620
7	19,653	23	19,528
8	19,460	24	19,355
9	19,413	25	19,541
10	19,424	26	19,361
11	19,849	27	19,675
12	19,929	28	19,563
13	19,638	29	19,608
14	19,896	30	19,463
15	19,890	31	19,445
16	19,665		

Total	617,995
Less returned and unsold copies	9,825
Total net sales	608,170
Net daily average	19,618

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 2d day of September, 1897.

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

THE BEE ON TRAINS.

All railroad newsboys are supplied with enough Bees to accommodate every passenger who wants to read a newspaper. Insist upon having The Bee. If you cannot get a Bee on a train from the news agent, please report the fact, stating the train and railroad to the Circulation Department of The Bee. The Bee is for sale on all trains.

INSIST ON HAVING THE BEE.

Assassination is not likely to become popular in Mexico while President Diaz remains chief executive.

With Nebraska's harvest of the yellow ears Klondike's harvest of the yellow metal is not to be compared.

Prof. Andrews has decided that the presidency of Brown university is, after all, preferable to the uncertain rewards of a political martyr on the free silver shrine.

Wonder if there is any relation of cause and effect between the spring floods along the lower Mississippi and the yellow fever epidemic now flourishing in the same region?

The report of an impending change in the color of our postage stamps proves to have been a false alarm. We will stick to the old stamps whether or not the old stamps stick to us.

The flour trade review reports all the mills a-running, prices good and demand brisk. This looks as if a few mills had opened without waiting for the mints to be first opened to 16 to 1 silver coinage.

Governor Holcomb has not yet explained why after denouncing in his message the emblem blanket ballot he completely reversed himself by signing a bill for the most obnoxious form of the ballot he had condemned.

The postal savings bank system has worked successfully wherever it has been established and given a fair trial, and there is no reason whatever why it could not be made a valuable adjunct to the postal system of the United States.

Should a detachment of United States regulars be sent to Alaska the Klondike prices by which they will be surrounded will make the $13 a month of the enlisted men look mighty small when compared to the wages of the average miners.

Postoffice authorities in Denver believe they have unearthed a gigantic scheme to defraud the government by means of counterfeit postal cards. But why imitate 1-cent postals when the metal in the silver dollar is to be had on the market for only 40 cents?

Experimental marketing of American butter in London has proved fairly satisfactory. There is no good reason why, if the people of Great Britain must import their butter, they should not import it from this country, especially if they really want the best.

Ex-Secretary Morton has announced in a public speech that he does not believe the pupils in the public schools ought to be provided with the free use of text books at the expense of the government. But Mr. Morton will have an uphill job to persuade the people to his way of thinking.

Nebraska will this winter be one of the great sheep-feeding regions of the country. And if the state can be relied on for an annual output of wool large enough to keep woolen mills steadily at work, the sheep industry should eventually form the foundation for a profitable woolen industry.

The man who wants to succeed Judge Doane on the governing board for the state institutions for the deaf and dumb must agree in advance not to oppose Governor Holcomb, no matter what dangerous or costly experiments the governor may want to try for the benefit of political proteges.

Statistics just compiled by the Indian bureau go to show that there are few if any of our Indian wards who can properly be classed as insane people. The theory that insanity, like a great many of our modern diseases, is the result and accompaniment of advanced industrial conditions thus receives additional confirmation.

PROSPERITY THROUGH FAMINE.

When silver and wheat parted company the false prophets who had been preaching the doctrine that the prices of all farm products were governed by the price of silver found that their deceptive theories had been knocked out by stubborn facts. Compelled to admit what they had always denied, that the price of all commodities was fixed by the inexorable law of supply and demand, they sought to shift their position by ascribing the marked improvement in industrial conditions in this country to the prevalence of famine in other lands.

With his customary shallowness Bryan gave the keynote to his followers by asking whether the country had any cause to rejoice because people in India were starving. Immediately the big and little silver-plumed parrots took up the refrain and joined in a chorus of lamentation over the transfer of calamity from America to Central Asia. A manifesto just issued by the executive committee of the Kansas populists embodies these declarations:

For the lack of wheat, enough people this year in India have starved to death to populate eight such states as Kansas as thickly as Kansas is populated today. Crop failure in all the countries mentioned, potato rot in Ireland, and famine of the direful character depicted above and graphically pictured in Julian Hawthorne's article on "Starving India" in the July, August and September numbers of the Cosmopolitan, have produced the rise in the price of wheat, and these conditions are the result of the seasons.

The fruitfulness of the seasons is in the keeping of an overruling Providence, while in all nations statute laws are the works of man.

Famine in other countries has been the means of demonstrating to our farmers the advantage of an increase in the price of food products, and they will readily understand how much better would be the price of all products and labor if bimetallism were in force.

If the Kansas manifesto had been designed to be an arraignment of the British government for allowing millions of its subjects in India to starve while the coffers of British banks are bulging with wealth there might be some point in it. But the Kansas populists, like all visionaries, overshoot the mark. The crop failures in India have been magnified in America for political consumption by writers who are hired to furnish material for sensational papers and magazines. Drouth-stricken India is but a comparatively small factor in the increased demand for wheat and the revival of prosperity in the United States.

A marked rise in the price of breadstuffs does not necessarily spring from famine. The people of Russia, Hungary and Argentine may have no wheat to export, but still they have plenty to supply their own wants. On the contrary, the marked increase in provisions and farm products frequently springs from increased consumption due to prosperity. While this factor is completely ignored by Bryan and his delusionists, it has been taken into account by the grain dealers of the world. It is safe to assume that under the improved conditions that prevail in the United States, the home consumption of wheat will be increased at least one bushel per capita, or 70,000,000 bushels. This is fully as much as the wheat product of Kansas and Nebraska together.

In a word, the prosperity that is upon American farmers is not due to famine in India or elsewhere, but to the reopening of the mills in America and the re-employment of hundreds of thousands of men who when idle had been forced to stint themselves in food and clothing, but who now constitute an army of consumers. Neither Bryan, Towne, Jerry Simpson nor any other perambulating statesman has yet been able to reconcile their exploded doctrines with the rise in the price of wool, cotton, live stock, iron, copper and other products of the soil. Surely they cannot be charged up to famine. These commodities, like wheat, are also regulated by the law of supply and demand. They also have risen with returning confidence, which enables capital to invest without undue risk and employ labor which in turn consumes the product of farm and factory and makes the wheels of commerce to revolve.

THE EFFECT ON LABOR.

The last Massachusetts report on labor in that state presents some instructive facts which are of general application. It appears that the year 1896 opened with 308,000 persons employed in the factories of Massachusetts and the number was increased to 311,339 in each of the next two months, but in June there was a decline to 301,000. In July the Chicago convention was held and that month the number of employes in Massachusetts factories dropped to 285,000, falling still further in August, under the influence of an apprehension that the Chicago ticket might win, to 276,000. In the succeeding months, as the prospects of republican success improved, more persons obtained work and the year closed with 298,000 employes in the factories of Massachusetts.

It is thus seen that the action of the Chicago convention had the effect to throw 25,000 people out of employment in the single state of Massachusetts, or about 8 per cent of the highest number employed in the factories there in 1896. It will not be questioned, it is presumed, that all the other manufacturing states were similarly affected and we think it safe to say that labor suffered to about the same degree in all these states as it did in Massachusetts. Assuming, then, that in June, 1896, there were 5,000,000 persons employed in the manufacturing industries of the country and this number was reduced 8 per cent in July and August, the Chicago convention was responsible for throwing out of employment 400,000 people. As a matter of fact, however, we believe this to be an underestimate and that if it were possible to obtain approximately accurate statistics in the matter it would be found that double that number of persons employed in the manufacturing industries were thrown out of work in consequence of the apprehension caused by the revolutionary doctrines and declarations of the Chicago convention. To these must be added other hundreds of thousands who were driven into idleness by the stoppage of projected enterprises of numerous kinds.

It is demonstrable that no other national political convention in American history had such disastrous effects upon the business and labor of the country as the Chicago convention of 1896. But these effects, bad as they were, were slight in comparison with what would have followed if the work of that convention had been indorsed by the American people.

UNION PACIFIC FORECLOSURE.

According to latest advices from Washington the foreclosure sale of the Union Pacific railroad will be consummated about November 1. It is to be hoped that this announcement will prove correct and that no further obstruction will be interposed to the process of winding up the receivership and placing the road in the hands of responsible owners who will manage and operate it on business principles as a productive property rather than as a stock-jobbing octopus.

The assertion of Senator Harris of Kansas, who has sought to prevent foreclosure by congressional interference that the government can recover the full amount of the second mortgage has no substantial basis. The forced sale of the Union Pacific will leave the way open to all who may see fit to compete for its purchase. If the property is really worth $25,000,000 more than the upset price, as Senator Harris contends, there should be no difficulty in finding a syndicate to outbid the bondholders' reorganization committee. Ample time has certainly been given for the formation of any new company that may desire to acquire the road and the conditions of the world's money markets are such that any of the existing great trunk lines connecting with it could if deemed advantageous buy the road in at the public sale. It is doubtful, however, whether even under the improved situation any capitalist or combination of capitalists can be found to make a better offer than the one negotiated between the government and the bondholders' committee.

For the people of the United States there is another side to the question. Their interest is to have the Union Pacific reorganized and operated on an actual value basis. Such a railroad managed on a business basis would be in position to compete actively with other transcontinental lines and carry traffic at rates at least not exorbitant. To add $25,000,000 to the purchase price would mean simply increased fixed charges to be levied upon the people and these charges would form the standard by which all competing roads would gauge their rates. The government would get $25,000,000 but the people would pay principle and interest tenfold in increased tolls.

What Senator Harris should have done in the interest of the people of Kansas and all the western states was to have inserted a condition in the bill of sale limiting the capitalization of the road, placing bars upon future watering of the stock and putting restrictions upon dividends. As it is nothing is to be gained by any interference looking solely to screwing the upset price up beyond the figures already agreed on.

THE FINANCES OF MEXICO.

In his message to the Mexican congress President Diaz referred only briefly to the condition of Mexican finances, but he said sufficient to show that the condition is very unsatisfactory. It has compelled the government to adopt a rigid economy and while the president says there is not, for the present, any serious reason for alarm and seems to take a hopeful view of the future, the fact is that the government does regard the situation as being serious. President Diaz professes to regard as more or less artificial the factors which have had an influence in the decline of silver and therefore expects a reaction. It is pretty safe to say that the Mexican president will find this a mistaken view. The factors influencing the decline of silver are of a very substantial character, the essential one being the nearly world-wide tendency toward a gold basis. With all the great commercial nations on that basis and some of the lesser ones preparing to place themselves on it, the chances of a reaction favorable to silver seem very small and very remote. A material decline in the production of silver would of course lift its price, but a reaction effected in this way would not help a silver-producing country like Mexico. The reaction she requires, in order to maintain prosperity, is one that will restore the market value of the white metal without reducing the supply and we can see no hope of such a reaction. Certainly there is no reason to expect any departure by the gold standard countries favorable to silver. It is far more reasonable to expect the ultimate abandonment of the silver standard by Mexico, for it is quite possible that country will be compelled to do this, however reluctant the government and people may be to even contemplate such a change.

The testimony of President Diaz as to the unfortunate condition of affairs in his country confirms all the advices that have come from there. The prosperity about which so much was heard from the silverites in the last campaign has been blighted. The business of the country is in a state of paralysis and while there is not actual panic the situation is not far removed from it. The condition of affairs is most severe upon the common people, who get no more than formerly for their labor, but must pay more for all commodities. Can any one doubt that if the free silver cause had triumphed in this country last year we should now be in the situation that Mexico is, or perhaps a worse one? Here panic would not have waited for the decline in the price of silver. The crisis would have come immediately after the election and in a day disaster would have swept the country from end to end. Thousands of business men would have been made bankrupts and as in Mexico the severest hardship of such a situation would have fallen upon labor.

There is an object lesson in the financial and business condition of our free silver sister republic which the American people should carefully consider. It should completely dispel the free silver delusion.

LABOR TROUBLES IN ENGLAND.

The opponents of the protective policy are wont to ascribe to it the labor disturbances in this country, ignoring the fact that free trade England is as much afflicted with labor troubles as the United States, some of the greatest strikes in the history of conflicts between capital and labor having occurred there. At this time there is a formidable strike of engineers in England, made to secure an eight-hour day. It has been maintained for about two months and according to the latest advices a settlement is still remote. An extensive coal strike in Wales has been in progress for several months. A London correspondent states that in July there were sixty-five strikes in the United Kingdom, which involved over 46,000 people. During the corresponding month in 1896 the number of persons involved in strikes was 19,000, thus showing that in respect to labor troubles the situation has been growing worse.

The fact is that the laboring classes in Great Britain are less contented than these classes in the United States and that the friction between capital and labor there is sharper than it is here. It is needless to say that the average American workingman in nearly every branch of labor is better off than the average workingman in Great Britain. He receives more pay for his labor and can live better in all respects. It may be said that the cost of living is cheaper there than here, but such is not the case, taking all things together. It is certainly true that the English workingman cannot get his foodstuffs at a less price than the American workingman and if the former has any advantage it is in the matter of clothing and this advantage is so slight as to be hardly worth considering.

Nor is the dissatisfaction confined to those employed in the industries and in transportation. It reaches to many who are in the service of the government. Complaint about pay and long hours and other hardships on the part of government employes in this country would only arouse ridicule, but in Great Britain that class have serious grievances. The postoffice employes are a particularly discontented class and recently the carriers and telegraph operators in the postoffice department have been threatening a strike for the purpose of obtaining relief. It is stated that the average pay now received by these classes of government employes, outside of London, is $5.50 a week and they work from twelve to fourteen hours a day. The average pay of American letter carriers is more than three times that amount.

It is true that labor in England is somewhat better paid than labor in other European countries where the protective policy is in operation, but that proves nothing for the British fiscal policy. It merely shows that in England labor has been more aggressive in efforts to improve its condition than labor in other parts of Europe. But the important fact to be impressed is that dissatisfaction in the ranks of labor and conflicts between capital and labor are as prevalent in free trade England as in any other country. Indeed, it is said that in proportion to population there are more labor disturbances in Great Britain than in any country in the world.

Interest in the Transmississippi Exposition is increasing right along among the people of the transmississippi states, who are realizing more and more what the enterprise means for them. Many of the western states are only beginning to appreciate fully the benefits which they can reap by a complete and attractive exhibit at Omaha, and it is safe to say that were the legislatures in session the demand for appropriations for state participation would be irresistible in almost every transmississippi state. The disposition of the people is favorable everywhere, and they may be depended on to find a way to do credit to themselves and to their states.

By the end of the month all the colleges and universities in the state will have resumed their work of education. Nebraska has a number of excellent denominational colleges of moderate size, but which each year give instruction of a substantial character in the arts and sciences to a goodly number of ambitious students. These colleges form an important factor in our scheme of popular education, and, while they make little ado over their work, the results tell at the end of the year when they turn out hundreds of graduates well prepared to enter business or professional life.

"Where are the country's Washingtons, Sumners, Beechers, Lincolns and Grants?" we are asked in a circular letter. Unfortunately all the originals referred to have long since been taken away from us. There are a few statesmen left, however, and many more in embryo stage, so that whenever the emergency arises that requires great leadership America may be depended on to supply its own demands.

The populist state platform throws boquets at the populist state officers because registered state warrants have gone to par since January 1 last. But as county warrants have risen just as much in counties which have been under uninterrupted republican control, to find the exact measure of credit earned by the populist state officers is something like working out the thirteen-fourteen-fifteen puzzle.

For some occult and unknown reason Bryan has neglected to charge up the high price of wheat to the grasping trust and grinding monopoly always found doing the will of the hateful money power. Why the money power should let wheat rise and permit the prosperous farmers to pay off their debts with the proceeds of their crops must pass popocratic comprehension.

International patent treaties for the protection of inventors at home and abroad are all right, but they should be framed on the basis of reciprocity. American patents taken out by foreign inventors should not give greater rights than those carried by patents taken out by American inventors, nor greater rights than are accorded American inventors who take out patents abroad. If there are inequities in the existing treaties they should be remedied when the treaties come up for amendment at Brussels in December.

Senator Foraker is sadly disappointing his enemies by his persistent talk in favor of the re-election of Senator Hanna. Unable to find anything in his speech or actions indicating hostility to his colleague, the popocratic organs are trying to make out that Senator Foraker is playing double. But their attempts are miserable failures, for the reason that there is no foundation for the charge.

While the western states lead with reports of improved industrial conditions, the south wants it distinctly understood that it is also gobbling a share of returned prosperity. Every southern state is witnessing the projection of new enterprises and the realization of enlarged trade, and its people would not have political conditions in the national government changed if they could.

Text for a Sermon.
Somerville Journal.

People talk more or less about original sin, but is there any?

The Old and the New.
Atchison Globe.

The old-fashioned woman knew how to make a delicious peach cobbler; the new-fashioned woman says it isn't good for you.

For Weal or Woe.
Indianapolis News.

The hard times certainly illustrated the fact that all sections of the country suffered together and returning prosperity is demonstrating that we all prosper together. No section can long be benefited at the expense of another.

Are the Weedless Privileged?
Boston Globe.

The motives of the Omaha girls who have organized themselves into a society for the suppression of the tobacco habit might be above suspicion if in announcing their refusal to kiss young men who use the weed they did not announce also that young men who do not use tobacco are privileged to kiss them whenever they please.

Paying the Piper.
New York Herald.

By her headstrong belligerency Greece shocked the peace of Europe, caused useless shedding of blood and spread ruin and misery not only among the subjects of the sultan, but among her own people. And what is the net result? An increased burden of taxation upon the unfortunate Greek population and the appointment of foreign guardians who will collect the income of their government and dictate its financial policy.

Good Place to Shun.
New York Tribune.

According to reports and indications the Klondike region during the coming winter will have a famine of its own, like India and Ireland, not embracing so wide a population as either of those countries, but pinching such as it has with equal severity. It cannot be said of it, as of money, that the fool and his autumnal Klondike fever are soon parted, but a good many of his species find relief from it in the hardship and starvation on the way. Only a small proportion of those who set out for that destination will get there, and it is by no means certain that the luck will not be with those who turn back.

American Manufactures Abroad.
Philadelphia Record.

More and more American manufacturers are showing a disposition to invade markets heretofore deemed inaccessible. Six iron and steel manufacturers of Pittsburg and vicinity have formed a company to go into the British markets and seek trade. They have opened offices at Pittsburg, and the company is capitalized at $110,000. The backing, it is stated, is sufficient to guarantee any amount as soon as an increase in business shall demand it. A London agent has been appointed, and an attempt will be made to transact business in India South America and Japan. A specialty will be made of cotton ties, hoops, bands and other manufactured products.

Society Rules in Gotham.
New York Press.

Is it proper in good society to suck bones at the table or to chew them? No. Only dogs suck and chew bones. Must the front or the back of the fork be used in carrying food to the mouth? If the carting must be done, by all means use the front, as it is safer and will carry a bigger load. But it is bad form to cart food to the mouth. A gentleman and lady are always known by the size of the mouthfuls they take. How shall a person help himself to sandwiches? With his fingers or with a fork? With his fingers, provided he has the decency to avoid fingering the whole lot. Most men examine all the sandwiches carefully, as if they feared poisoning. They are free-lunch fiends, as a rule, and know no better. Must a gentleman sit erect while eating? By all means, and have certain knowledge that his fork and spoon do not drip. Most men reach after their food with their mouths, as in the case of a dog catching flies. They grab and snap. Bad form! Must one eat at the last drop of soup? Certainly if the soup is good, but avoid tilting the plate and scooping up the last drop in the edge.

BRYAN'S SPECIAL PROVIDENCE.

Why Should It Not Work Both Ways as Well as One?

Rev. T. J. Mackay in Church and Home.

Nebraska not only stands today at the head of the grand column of states as having the least percentage of illiteracy, but in material prosperity as well. What will our eastern friends who have been in the habit of referring to our grand state as part of the great "American desert" say now, when they are told of the immense crops that are being harvested in Nebraska? The State Board of Agriculture estimates the value of this season's crop of grain at one hundred and ninety-five millions of dollars ($195,000,000)! Talk about the Klondike! The soil of Nebraska is a better gold mine than the whole of Alaska. Even Mr. Bryan is hard put to it to account for the prosperity of his state. He attributes our prosperity to "Providence," and is grateful accordingly, though one cannot help suspecting that his gratitude is grudgingly granted. It's funny how even politicians fall back on Providence in order to explain things when they are "up a stump." They are like some Christians who always have a "special Providence" to account for their marvelous escapes from danger without a thought as to the Providence that didn't take care of the other less fortunate ones! No doubt Mr. Bryan attributed his narrow escape from death last week in that railroad wreck in Kansas to that same Providence as a man I heard of once who, while waiting for a train with a companion, went to get a glass of beer. While drinking the beer, the train arrived. His companion went on, and in a wreck which occurred half an hour later was killed. That saved man always considered that glass of beer a "special Providence." And so our prosperity in Nebraska is due to—a special Providence. Our hard times were the result of a gold conspiracy, but our good times and dollar-a-bushel wheat—!! Oh, well, let's be thankful together and let bygones be bygones, but as a special favor to Providence would it not be well for Mr. Towne of Minnesota to correct his wonderful tales showing how wheat and silver always rise and fall together, so as to leave a loophole for an appeal to Providence on such an occasion as the present? Hurrah for Nebraska with its shower of golden corn and wheat, and hurrah for the Transmississippi Exposition, to which we shall invite all our friends, that they may see what the mighty west can do in reclaiming deserts, in educating her citizens and in building up an empire founded on the intelligence and integrity of all her children.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.

Boston Globe: The clergy are returning to their churches to renew the fight against sin and satan, who never have time to go on vacations.

St. Louis Republic: It should be hoped that the anti-spiritualist paper to be established in St. Louis will not be forced to give up the ghost for want of material support.

Denver Post: The attention of the band of Christians who are praying that all pain may be removed from the world is respectfully called to the fact that 325,000,000 pecks of pain-building garden truck were raised in this country this year.

Chicago Tribune: A Jesuit priest comes to the aid of "Pope Bob" and assures him that notwithstanding his ignorance of matters spiritual he will be allowed to twang the strings of a celestial harp in the great beyond. It is now in order for Ingersoll to apologize for some of the mean things he has said of the Jesuits.

New York Sun: A prophet somewhat pleonastically described by the Philadelphia Press as Rev. Elder Merrell said in his sermon last Sunday that "the signs of the time indicate that before the sun rises on January 1, 1900, the great American nation will groan and writhe in the agony of revolution and the streets of all her great cities will be slippery with blood—a hundred drops of blood for each gem that flashes on the necks of the rich and pampered women, and ten days of blood for each tear that has washed the faces of the poor." There are other sentimental soothsayers, lay and clerical, who can equal Mr. Merrell in this vein. It is as a statistician that he shows the most originality and power. He says that $1,400,000,000 was spent on intoxicating liquors last year. No wonder the revolution is coming, and coming before sunrise.

POSTAL SAVINGS BANKS.

Globe-Democrat: Postmaster General Gary has just remarked, during a visit to New York, "I am satisfied that postal savings banks will be one of the features of this administration if we can inaugurate the system." The republican policy is marked as usual by constructive ideas.

Minneapolis Journal: The details as to how this system shall be worked out, to what extent the government shall become the custodian of the earnings of the people, and what provision shall be made for the investment of the funds, all these details can be committed to the wisdom of such an advocate of the system as Secretary Gage. The main point is to establish a system for the good it is calculated to do and work out the details of its scope and management in the light of experience.

Springfield Republican: But the rub comes in the investment of the savings. We have no large and perpetual government debt as England has, in the bonds of which the deposits of the people could be amply invested. One argument urged in behalf of postal savings banks is that they would provide a receptacle for the people's savings safe from the frauds and bankruptcies of private bank management. Obviously, however, in that case only public securities could be used for the investment of savings, for private corporate securities and property would be subject to the same frauds of private management.

New York Tribune: Postmaster General Gary's announcement that the establishment of postal savings banks will be made the leading feature of his administrative policy will undoubtedly stimulate the hopes of those who for many years past have been vainly urging upon congress the advisability of engrafting on the present postal service certain limited and guarded banking functions. The idea of enlarging the government's postal operations so as to include within their scope the maintenance of a system of national savings banks has found, indeed, in the new head of the Postoffice department an eager and enthusiastic champion. Mr. Gary believes that public convenience emphatically demands the opening under federal supervision of small and easily accessible savings institutions everywhere throughout the country, and he can see no obstacle to the satisfaction of this acknowledged popular want by means of slight and thoroughly feasible extensions of the existing machinery of postal administration.

OUT OF THE ORDINARY.

Londoners eat 1,000 pigs daily.

California has 3,000,000 orange trees.

Germany makes 2,000 pianos a week.

The Glasgow, Ky., Times tells of a negro who lives near Savoyard, Metcalfe county, who is only 11 years old, but has already mastered the common school rudiments of education and is away up in algebra, geometry, gastronomy, calculus and other higher branches. He is a lightning calculator and a marvel in many respects. His name is J. R. Thompson.

The first and last stand of the confederates was made on land owned by the same man. A part of Bull Run battlefield was owned by Mr. McLean. After this famous battle he decided to move to a locality where there would be less fear from the ravages of war. By a strange coincidence he took up his abode at Appomattox, which subsequently proved to be the final battle of the civil war.

Aloise Manhardt of Vienna, who died at the beginning of the present year, left to his heirs a number of huge cases filled with railroad tickets which he had collected from all parts of the world, and for which he had spent a fortune. When the heirs caused the value of this strange legacy to be estimated their disillusion was painful. The 400,000 tickets had to be sold to an English house for 2,000 florins, or less than $1,000.

A widower on Long Island has fitted up like a living room the vault where the remains of his wife repose. It is furnished with tables and chairs, bric-a-brac is given a place, a clock ticks on the shelf, a canary sings in its cage and a squirrel spins round on its wheel. An empty coffin is ready for its occupant in the course of time. The widower spends several hours there daily. But it is said that the cemetery authorities are likely to interfere with this invasion of their customs.

It has been found that the oil bursting out of the bed of the creek on the farm of S. B. Smith, five miles from Compton, Ky., contains a very valuable quality hitherto unknown. By laying a plank or anything across the creek a person can dam the oil up and gather any amount of it, and it has been discovered that the oil will burn as fast as dry paper. The people, through curiosity, go to this oil spring, dam it up on the top of the water and then strike a match to it in order to see spread over the whole surface of the water a perfect blaze. This oil for lubricating purposes is hard to surpass, and the beauty of it rests in the fact that it does not have to undergo any process whatever to be valuable for such purpose. It has also been found to work wonders in perfecting cures for bruises, cuts and sores.

That a stout buggy whip, four and one-half feet long, could remain in a horse's stomach nearly two years and the horse survive the ordeal, seems improbable, but just such a thing happened to a valuable horse owned by Allen D. Eakle, near Rohrsville, Washington county, Md., which died a few days ago. Dr. J. T. Hiberger of Hagerstown held a post-mortem, and the whip was found protruding from the stomach. Mr. Eakle, in October, 1895, used a six-foot buggy whip to punch an obstruction down the choking horse's throat, putting a horseshoe in the animal's mouth to keep it open. The horseshoe flew out, and the horse bit off the whip, swallowing the long part with no bad effects until a few days ago, when the horse sickened and died. After the swallowing the horse worked every day and ate three meals a day.

William Settle of St. Louis, Mo., wants the courts to restore to him certain property which he deeded to his wife, claiming that the transfer was made while he was afflicted with abaulia. Seventeen years ago William retired from business, and, during an attack of the dreadful ailment already referred to, decided to make a tour of Europe alone. He left his property, with an income of $6,000 a year, with his wife, and whenever he wanted any cash Mrs. Settle sent him a draft. Everything might have continued satisfactorily on this basis if Settle had not been overtaken by an attack of abaulia in London, during which he acquired another wife, by whom he had five children. Mrs. Settle learned of William's foreign affairs by means of a letter intended for him, which fell into her hands. She at once cut off her liege lord's allowance, and this action has caused the afflicted husband to take his abaulia into court. If he wins the suit, abaulia may become as popular a defense as insanity or hypnotic influence.

ASSESSMENT INSURANCE.

Changes Necessary for Safety and Permanance.
Minneapolis Times.

Eastern papers are declaring that a crisis has been reached in the history of life insurance by the assessment method. The recent failure of the Massachusetts Benefit Life association and the expulsion of the Bay State Beneficiary association of Westfield, Mass., from the state of New York have opened the eyes of the other assessment companies to weak points in their system, and they are setting themselves about the task of correcting what seems to be an inherent defect. This determination is at least a hopeful sign, especially as regards the fraternal beneficiary orders, which are not handicapped, as the assessment companies are, by the fear that the members may be held liable for standing indebtedness after the companies have become insolvent. In the state of New York it has been decided by the courts that members are liable under such circumstances.

It is only necessary here, however, to call attention to the fact that both the corporations and the fraternal orders that deal in assessment insurance have awakened to the necessity of changing their methods of apportioning assessments upon their members. They have become convinced, at least the most of them, that it is impossible to go on indefinitely charging no more for protection, when by reason of advanced years the actual cost is much greater than when a member was young and his life expectation at its best. Having been thus convinced by the arguments of practical experience that the old system was defective, both the corporations and the fraternal orders have either made a radical change to correct this defect, or they are considering as to the best way in which they shall make the change which has practically been determined upon.

As a matter of fact, there are but two safe systems upon which life insurance can be conducted for any considerable length of time. One of these is the level-premium system pursued by the old line companies, the foundation principle of which is to charge enough more than it costs in the early years of a policy to pay for the enhanced cost of the risk in later years. The other system is the step, or natural life plan, under which the rate is increased annually, so that in each year the assured pays what it costs, plus an addition for collateral expenses, to carry his insurance for that year. Under this plan, it is believed that the assessment corporations and the fraternal orders, especially the latter, have a better prospect than it was possible that they ever could have under the old system. Assessment insurance has reached a crisis, apparently. When it is reflected how large and comprehensive is the interest and the welfare of the people concerned in its preservation, it will be seen that it is incumbent upon the public generally to give those orders and corporations endeavoring to correct the organic defects in the old methods and remove future difficulties all possible encouragement and assistance.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

The cold wave brought little relief to the stricken city of Chicago. The golf epidemic is spreading.

If there were anything in hypnotism, those Klondike miners might solve the food problem by simply putting each other to sleep for the winter.

The late Ogden Goelet left a fortune estimated at about $30,000,000, but it is not recorded that he left a penny of it for any public purpose.

The bondsmen of the defaulting treasurer of Boone county, Iowa, have paid up his deficit, amounting to over $13,000. The policy has not been copyrighted.

Lutie A. Lytle, Tennessee's colored woman lawyer, is described by her state papers as "young and comely." That is a great concession for southern papers to make.

Dawson City's police force is the richest in the world. By frequent touching of the surrounding country they have secured fortunes ranging from $20,000 to $1,000,000 each.

Boston takes no stock in the moldy adage, "The good die young." "We are as good as we are beautiful," modestly exclaims the editor of the Boston Globe. Trust him not; he is 50 and very gay for his age.

Buck Taylor tried the cowboy act on a street in the suburbs of Philadelphia. A meek appearing Quaker disputed Buck's claim to the whole road, and when Buck threatened to eat the Quaker right there, the latter shied his coat and buckled to. At the conclusion of the argument the Quaker handed Buck over to a policeman.

Jersey justice has exalted itself some more in settling the perplexing question, "What is the legal value of whiskers." Ike Glickman stroked and caressed a luxuriant set that rendered shirt fronts superfluous, but in an evil day he became mixed up in a trolley car wreck, in which his whiskers were cruelly mutilated. He fixed upon $200 as salve for his pain and sorrow, but an ungallant corporation declined the price. Now a Jersey court throws out the case, virtually informing the amazed Glickman that his whiskers weren't worth a continental.

DOMESTIC IDYLS.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "The major has a fine war record, hasn't he?"
"I believe so. He has been married fifty years."

Boston Herald: Benedict (proudly)—My wife kisses me goodnight regularly.
Rounder (bitterly)—Women are suspicious creatures, ain't they?

Philadelphia North American: She (after the quarrel)—And must we part forever, Harry?
He—Well, at least until tomorrow night, Maude.

Indianapolis Journal: "His love letters are very persuasive," said the fair girl's confidante.
"Yes," was the pensive reply. "They would persuade any jury in Christendom."

Cincinnati Enquirer: "Your husband seems to be a pretty easy-going sort, eh?"
"Don't you believe nothin' of the kind. He is the hardest work in the world to start him goin' at all."

Boston Traveler: Baum—We had a row at our house yesterday.
Jackson—What was the matter?
Baum—Our pretty housemaid broke my china cup and brought me another, on which was inscribed: "To one I love."

Chicago Tribune: "John, you ought to buy a whole barrel of flour. It's getting higher every day."
"I know it is, Maria, and I have been surprised that it doesn't have a more buoyant effect on your biscuits."

Puck: Newly Made Widow—Ah! no one can take John's place. I loved him from the bottom of my heart.
Friend (frightly)—But you know what they say—there is always room at the top.

Chicago Record: "Before we were married you said you wouldn't put an obstacle in my way for the world."
"Did I? Well, perhaps I did."
"And now you are everlastingly sticking your feet out so that I fall over them."

HIS DOWNFALL.

Cleveland Leader.

He used to be a "ladies' man,"
Babbling and gay;
He wore his hair in bangs and had
A winning way;
He used to be a "ladies' man,"
But things are run on another plan
Today!
Now he is just a woman's man,
Silent and meek;
His wife says men are fools, and he's
Afraid to speak;
She's big and strong, and runs affairs,
And sits upon him if he dares
To speak!

BETWEEN LOVES.

She ran along the beaten strand
And called against the storm,
While wet winds swept her peasant's dress
And whipped it to her form.

The light from out the cabin streamed,
It never seemed so dear
As now, with Seth's wee, wistful face
Which 'gainst the pane was near.

For love pulsed wildly in her heart,
Divided and unfree;
Between the crippled child at home
And Donald on the sea.

And yet he came, as oft before,
Though neither tried to say
Why he was saved, while other men
Were tossed ashore at day.

"Come, wife," he always said, "I know
That death was near me then,
But Seth should not be left alone
For half a hundred men."

And Seth, before the sun was up,
Was out in idle play,
Gathering up the yellow heads
Of poppies on the bay.

CATHERINE RUSH.