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GEOURGE B. TRACHSEL,  
Sworn to before me and subscribed in my  
presence this 30th day of April, 1898.  
N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

The airships never were in it with the war ships.  
Saturday has been designated as Flag day. Have your flags ready.  
Exposition day must be the biggest holiday ever celebrated in this part of the country.  
Every day will be flag day in Omaha after the exposition gates shall have been opened.  
With the help of the newspapers the class in geography is making rapid and marked progress.  
Now for that company which the Jacksonians were so eager to raise before the call for troops issued.  
Why not contribute the "reliable man" and the "man of influence" to the staff of the Third Nebraska volunteers?  
President McKinley went through one war with honor, and his courage and prudence can be relied on in this war.

Any city can have clean streets if it has the money to keep them clean. But it is not every city that can raise the cash.  
There seems to be some danger of Colonel William Jennings Bryan interfering with the laurels of Colonel Walter Moise.  
Kansas City got ahead of all the other western cities this spring by having the early half storm. And it was a \$30,000 half storm, too.  
With all our advance in science and industry we cannot turn a modern cruiser out of the shipyards every week in the month or even every month in the year.  
Before Bryan begins the actual work of unlisting his regiment it may be advisable to have the three silver parties appoint conference committees and agree in advance on the division of the spoils.  
Nebraska people have not been lying awake nights to listen for the sound of "heavy cannonading off shore," but they have been entertained for some weeks by the concert of the complacent brigade.  
There have now been two convictions of gamblers in the district court, but the organ of the bogus reform police commission has not had a word of commendation for the county attorney and his assistants.  
The exposition directors have recognized the demand for a general manager. The demand for an independent comptroller to verify every item of the receipts and expenditures is only second in importance.  
The season for calling congressional conventions is well advanced, but the crop of candidates is not as large as it might have been by the prevalent sentiment in all republican districts in favor of renominations and re-elections.  
Wonder what influence Ransom brought to bear to fix Lincoln and Omaha papers to suppress the news of his arrest in that gambling joint raid. But then Ransom always did pride himself on being an adept in the fixing business.  
If the school teachers of the trans-mississippi states know a good thing when they see it they will not miss the treat offered by the program arranged for the Transmississippi Educational convention, Omaha should be the school teachers' Mecca the last three days in June.  
A big scoop—The Bee in its noon extra as well as in its regular editions printed full, authentic details of the arrest in a raid of a Lincoln gambling joint of Frank Ransom, chairman of the reform state committee, attorney for W. J. Broatch, senator from Union Stock Yards and Pokerchippville. No other paper in Omaha had it at all.

According to trustworthy reports from Washington the War department realizes that a campaign in Cuba is to be no holiday affair. The unsuccessful attempts to land small bodies of troops in the island have shown this. The best information obtainable is to the effect that the Spanish forces in Cuba amount to between 130,000 and 140,000, more than half of which is at Havana. There are estimates above and below these figures, but there is good reason to believe that the force under Blanco is not less than 130,000. This army is well entrenched. Miles of fortifications surround Havana and the lesser ports of Cuba are defended by earthworks and batteries. The observations from our blockading ships show that these defenses are being constantly increased and strengthened. Outside of the fortified points a large force is maintained at strategic points which an invading army would have to encounter before the main army could be reached. Perhaps from 30,000 to 40,000 soldiers are stationed at various points outside of Havana, but whatever the force may be it must be overcome before the capital city can be reached.  
This means, as we have heretofore pointed out, that it would be a grave mistake to send to Cuba a few thousand troops. We believe that to put a force of less than 50,000 men in the island at the outset would be to invite defeat and it is probable that double that number, with the co-operation of the insurgents, will be found necessary to effective operations against the Spaniards. It will be wise not to count too much upon the assistance of the insurgents. Undoubtedly their numbers have been overestimated and it is not unlikely that their fighting qualities have been somewhat exaggerated. Admitting that they have done well in the sort of warfare they have carried on, they are yet to be tested in the kind of hostilities which American commanders would prosecute. Our army is not going to Cuba to do guerrilla fighting. The purpose is to make a sharp, short and decisive campaign. Quick and hard fighting is what is contemplated. The insurgent forces are not familiar with and it is a question whether, if brought to the test, they will show themselves to be the soldiers they are commonly supposed to be.  
At all events the principal part of the task of expelling the Spanish forces from Cuba must devolve upon the American army and it should be large enough to perform this task without the aid of the Cuban forces. While that assistance will undoubtedly be valuable, it will be wise to proceed without counting upon it as a necessary factor in the operations. It is no less important that our military authorities shall not underestimate either the strength or the fighting qualities of the Spaniards. The safe plan is to assume that they have an army as large as the highest estimate made on responsible authority and to expect that they will make the very best fight of which they are capable. If this view of the situation shall prevail the government must send a much larger force to Cuba than has been contemplated.

THE NEW SPANISH CABINET.  
Sagasta has succeeded in forming a cabinet and it would seem to have been rather more fortunate than was expected in finding men of some political reputation and character to accept the responsibility of administering the affairs of the government at this juncture. Several of the new ministers have long been more or less conspicuous in Spanish politics and presumably all will continue to be faithful to him so long as they are permitted to remain in office. The tenure of a cabinet position in Spain under existing conditions, however, is extremely uncertain and that of the new ministry may be determined by the next battle. If the Spanish fleet now somewhere in West Indian waters shall be defeated and destroyed Sagasta and his colleagues will undoubtedly be forced to resign and what then? Probably a military dictator, if there is a man who is strong enough in the popular confidence and with the army for such a position. It would certainly be useless for the party in power to attempt to hold on after another defeat and it would hardly be disposed to hand over the government to any of the opposing political factions. Sagasta earnestly desires to save the dynasty and after him nothing could do this but a military dictatorship, even if that could. It is not improbable that this last resort will be taken within the next thirty days.

HOMICIDES AND PUNISHMENT.  
The New South Wales method of dealing with felons has merits that cannot be questioned. Its characteristics are quickness and efficiency. There were but thirty murders committed in the colony in the last four years, and for these crimes eight persons have been hanged and seven others sentenced to life imprisonment. The average time from arrest to conviction was about sixty-five days and from conviction to execution forty-five days. In every case of a known murder in the colony in the time mentioned the guilty persons have been either executed or sent to prison for life. In 1894 there was one murder in the colony for every 250,000 of population, and in the years since the average has been about one for every 400,000 of population.  
Statistics for the United States are different. In 1894 there were 7,700 murders, or about one for every 8,400 of population, and in punishment of these crimes there were only 112 legal executions and these after long delays. For the 8,000 murders in 1895 there were but 113 executions. In more recent years murders have been still more frequent, but neither executions nor prison sentences have increased. Had the proportion of murders in the United States to population been as low as in New South Wales there would have been but 175 murders in 1896 instead of 8,000 or more.  
A case illustrating the difference between Australian and American methods of dealing with criminals is that of Butler, who murdered several persons and fled to California, where he was caught. The extradition proceedings in America occupied 117 days of the courts'

of identification, and the expense was \$28,000, while on his return to Sydney the man was tried and convicted in two days and a half. In view of the fact that Australia was first settled as a penal station these facts are surprising.  
The value of execution as a deterrent of crime has never been exactly determined, but in providing sure and speedy punishment for those who take human life the Australians seem to have little to learn. Having made such a success of the secret ballot our American reformers might make a further study of Australia for other good examples.  
BRYAN AS A TIN SOLDIER.  
After a protracted council of war, attended by all the big and little popguns, Governor Holcomb informs the public that much against his will he has reluctantly decided to perform his military duties as head of the Nebraska army and navy through a substitute in the person of William Jennings Bryan. He has therefore commissioned Mr. Bryan as colonel to raise a third regiment of state militia.  
This announcement is equivalent to a proclamation of martial law among all the tripartite reform forces. An armed truce is declared in the fight against the hated money power to permit the silver cohorts to direct their fire temporarily at least against the hated Spaniard.  
As a tin-soldier William Jennings Bryan ought to be a glittering success. His sagacity in withholding his offer to enlist in the military service until after Nebraska's quota of troops has been fully made up and sent to the front indicates a foresight that should stand him in good stead when he emerges from the stage of rear guard duty among the reserves. What greater proof of bravery could be demanded than Bryan's consent to sink his aversion to the yellow metal long enough to don a colonel's uniform resplendent with gilt epaulettes and gold braid? What unselfishness in weighing himself down forever under a colonel's title? What self-sacrifice in renouncing the profits of the platform and the county fair to accept a paltry colonel's salary?  
Colonel Bryan enters upon the military stage of his career under most favorable auspices. It ought not to take him sixteen hours to raise and equip his regiment at the existing ratio, even though the little girls and gray-haired men and infants in arms who always flock around him when he holds out his hand are not eligible as recruits. And when the Third Nebraska volunteers under their gallant colonel return from the scenes of bloody victories over Spain's degenerate armies we will all look forward in patient expectation to another volume in that biographical series to be entitled, "The Second Battle," and sold only by subscription at the usual popular price.

THE PHILIPPINE EXPEDITION.  
The cruiser Charleston has sailed for the Philippines with supplies for Admiral Dewey. Troops for the same destination are being concentrated at San Francisco as rapidly as practicable and it is expected that the military expedition will depart in a short time. The original intention was to send a force of only 5,000, but General Merritt, who is to command the army for the Philippines, urged that to send so small a force would be to invite disaster and the authorities accepted his view. Consequently there will be from 12,000 to 15,000 men sent to the islands and it is quite possible that even a larger force than this will be found necessary to expel the Spanish forces, the exact number of which is not definitely known, and to adequately garrison the islands.  
It is not expected that the task of establishing our occupation in the Philippines will be so difficult as that of driving Spain out of Cuba, but it appears to be the opinion of General Merritt, whose ability and experience entitles his judgment to the highest consideration, that there will be serious work to be done in the Philippines. This may not consist wholly in overcoming the Spaniards, who may be expected to make a vigorous resistance. Our forces may also find it necessary to apply repressive measures to the insurgents, especially if the rebel leaders should conceivably be disposed to hand over the government to any of the opposing political factions. Sagasta earnestly desires to save the dynasty and after him nothing could do this but a military dictatorship, even if that could. It is not improbable that this last resort will be taken within the next thirty days.

Two Extremes to Be Avoided During Contest of Arms.  
St. Louis Globe-Democrat.  
While overconfidence is to be discouraged, a spirit of foreboding or pessimism is far worse. A prominent peace journal has just written that victory itself will be disastrous. "Is there any reason to suppose," it asks, "that such a war will ever end?" As all the numberless wars of history, and before history, came to an end, there certainly is reason to believe that this war with Spain will be no exception. New York agrees that victory itself will be disastrous, and the work made so hot that the white flag will go up. The idea that Spain, after meeting with disaster in a large sense, will fill the seas with private ships and more of them. Guerrilla tactics modern wars are short. The idea that an exhausted nation can successfully prolong belligerent conditions has nothing to support it. When the Spanish navy is destroyed, or crippled and driven to home ports, and Cuba, just, Spain will sue for peace.  
Some reverses will probably come during the war. The way to meet them is with fortitude. Despondency is not to the purpose. This country is abundantly able to carry through what has been undertaken. American spirit, when an obstacle met, is to redouble efforts until it is surmounted. It is said that some timid people fear to go to seaside resorts this year, lest the whistle of Spanish shells should be heard in the night. But firing on unfortified towns or buildings without giving a day's notice is contrary to international law. Spain can not afford to wantonly violate the usages of nations. Courage, hope and a conservative attitude as to rumors are to be commended as a war provision for our citizens. Sydney Smith's favorite rule was against borrowing trouble. "It becomes as customary as last," he says, "to view things on the good side of the question as it was before to despond and extract misery from every passing event." Whatever may happen during the war, it will be a great blessing with the firm determination and sanguine energy of the American people.

Major General Wesley Merritt and Other Notables.  
The task before the new military governor of the Philippine islands, Major General Wesley Merritt, is regarded as the most responsible to which distinguished officer has yet been assigned. That he is fully equipped for the duty is shown by his record. By many military students General Merritt is ranked as the ablest of American general officers. He is a West Pointer of the highest rank in the regular army and his career is one of honorable service. In the civil war he called General Merritt a "boy brigadier." This was because of his youth, of course, and the title was never applied with a sneer, for Merritt was understood to be brave and capable from the day he was graduated at West Point. There were three others in the union army who were also called "boy brigadiers"—Custer, McKenzie and Upton—and they were often referred to as the "youthful quartet."  
General Merritt's career in the civil war began as adjutant of the Second Dragoons under Colonel Philip St. George Cooke. Just before the battle of Gettysburg, because of his quick military perceptions and thorough knowledge of the cavalry arm, he was made a brigadier general of volunteers. General Sheridan later was well pleased with the nerve, dash and courage of the boy brigadier, and the two became close personal and military friends. At Winchester Merritt fought a division under Sheridan's eye, so to speak, and fought so well that Sheridan recommended the brevet of major general, which was promptly allowed. From that time till the close of the war he was one of the busiest and most successful fighters in the union army, and he came out a full major general of volunteers.  
After the war he served in the Department of Texas, and was in the military district of the Gulf. In 1896 he was mustered out of the volunteer service and made lieutenant colonel of the Ninth cavalry. He has been busy since then fighting Indians and on other duties. In 1895 he became a major general of the regular army.  
Commander George Francis Faxon Wilde, who has been assigned to command the ram Katabdin, belongs to the noted Annapolis class of '64, the members of which went from their school rooms to the fighting squadrons. He is a Massachusetts man who won his Annapolis appointment in competition with the best of others and walked to Bantonia to Boston, nineteen miles, to enter the contest. He completed the college course in three years and won two promotions for war service. Commander Wilde originated the famous white squadron. He was an officer on the Dolphin in the summer of 1888 as it lay in New York harbor. At that time all naval ships were black. The Dolphin was white and the crew suffered severely. Commander Wilde issued a requisition for white paint. Notwithstanding naval regulations, the commander transformed the dark hull of the Dolphin into one of gleaming whiteness, resulting in reducing the temperature of the ship 17 degrees. A few months later the Dolphin was in the Gulf of Mexico, anchored in Bar harbor. Commander Wilde related the circumstances necessitating the change of color, and the beneficial results. The secretary complimented his foresight and announced that henceforth all the war ships would be painted white. Commander Wilde's present command is a unique and probably the most destructive of all the naval fleet.  
Corporal Anthony, the brave marine who so distinguished himself for coolness and courage on the ill-fated Maine, has applied for a transfer from the Detroit to the St. Paul, under Captain Sigbee, and the application is now under consideration by the Navy department.  
In view of his heroic conduct at a time of such imminent danger, Captain Sigbee promptly recommended Anthony for promotion, but owing to delay on the part of the department no action has as yet been taken toward some such well-deserved acknowledgment by the government. Anthony's eagerness to serve again under his old commander has from the first been marked, and no sooner was Sigbee detailed to command the St. Paul than he received a letter from the corporal urging his influence in obtaining a transfer.  
Seeing is believing. Casper Whitney of Harper's Weekly staff, who recently visited several European armies on parade, returned fully impressed with the superiority of the soldiers of England, Germany and France over those of the United States in drill and general tactical efficiency. Mr. Whitney is present with the army at Tampa. The study of his observations is a radical change of opinion. He writes: "I have been most delightfully surprised by what I have seen here as compared with what I saw on the continent. Uncle Sam's soldiers at Tampa are equipped for business, and there is no comparison between them and the continental soldiers whom I saw in exhibition drilling. But for alertness—dash, speed and accuracy in action—these United States troops seem to me to excel anything I have ever seen in that line. Alertness and dash, indeed, are the characteristic and, especially as compared with France and Germany, distinguishing features."  
The example of Helen Gould in donating \$100,000 to the national treasury for war purposes has many imitators. Though the donations are mostly small, the patriotic spirit of the givers is highly commendable. One received on Monday last was a check for \$200 from Julius Pepperberg of Plattsmouth, Neb. Mr. Pepperberg wrote an interesting letter to the president, who read it with pleasure. In his letter he says he is too old to pitch in and fight and asks the president to accept in place of his services the check which was inclosed. Mr. Pepperberg said that when he came to this country years ago he was penniless, but he prospered. Mr. McKinley endorsed the check and the president returned it to the donor. The president mentioned his intention of writing a letter to the generous Nebraskan. Secretary Gage received a donation of \$10 from an old soldier who resides in Alexandria, Ind., but who would not disclose his identity. The money was accompanied by an unsigned note which read: "To help the Cubans. From an old soldier dividing his pension."  
ANGLO-AMERICAN ALLIANCE.  
Chicago Post: It will be interesting to watch the reply of startled Europe. As for the United States, it certainly recognizes the solidarity and identity of its interests as civilized power with those of England, and this bond is more vital than a formal alliance.  
Chicago Tribune: "The stars and stripes and the union jack" are not likely to wave together over an Anglo-Saxon alliance. It is not to be expected that the United States will get tangled up in English controversies and members of the geographical society are not directly and immediately involved. But while the United States and Great Britain are, and always will be, industrial rivals, they should live on terms of amity so that if it is best at any time that they should act together there will be no existing bad feeling to make it more difficult for them to do so.  
New York Tribune: There may never be such an alliance in formal, written terms. And there may be. But what is unmistakable, not only inevitable in future, but actual in the present, actual and potent, is this: That the great powers of the world and the American people are drawing nearer and nearer

logical sequence—in war as well. Every word that promotes that movement is to be welcomed and applauded. And well to be fore among such words are those spoken by Mr. Chamberlain, directly to an English audience, but indirectly and not less meaningfully to all the world.  
St. Louis Republic: Is it possible that we have been swept into this tempestuous sea of world politics? Chamberlain assumes that we have and rejoices because of it. Mr. Chamberlain counts on too much. We are not ready to enter into foreign alliances. But the future may force us beyond our traditional policy.  
Chicago Inter Ocean: Mr. Chamberlain's words are worthy of the most careful consideration by the United States government. They mean too much to be hastily put aside or inconsiderately accepted. The friendship of a nation like Great Britain is always to be desired. The proposition of an alliance, however, is to be considered with the interests of the United States rather than those of Great Britain in mind. One question is, Would an alliance with Great Britain be better for the United States than an alliance with Russia, and through her with Germany and France? Or this alternative question would be better: Would it be better to be an ally of neither while sought after by both? These are the most important diplomatic questions of the time. This country is in a proud position when it is given opportunity for such a choice. We could receive no handsomer tribute to our growing power.  
Chicago Chronicle: The experience we have had of Great Britain both as an enemy and as a neutral ally in wars against our country is in a name of territorial aggrandizement. We have fought England from Saratoga to Yorktown, from Lundy's Lane to New Orleans. We sank rebel pirates fitted out in its ports. Its language is our language. Its race is our race—its race is made up of Germans, Greeks, Bohemians, Poles, Hungarians, Celts and Latins. We will trade jackknives with it to the crack of doom. We will exchange bouquets with it until it is summoned to Jehoshaphat, but for striking a hard and fast alliance with it to hold, occupy and possess the world profited by stolen goods. Chamberlain may wag his tongue until, as the saying is, he is now at St. James', would say, "the cows come home." What Britain grabs let it keep if it can. What we grab we ought to lose.  
MIST OF THE WAR WAVER.  
Nicola Tesla talks about "How I can disable a war ship." Talking will not do it.  
Captain Clark of the Oregon is a Vermont as well as Dewey. The Oregon is safe.  
Statisticians of congress calculate that one year of war means an outlay of \$75,192,000. Cuban liberty costs money, but we must have it.  
It is a mistake to assume that Joe Chamberlain just discovered the value of an Anglo-American alliance. Joe married an American woman.  
In computing Missouri's contribution to Cuban liberty the mule should not be omitted. The animal is competent to emboss "good luck" on the enterprise.  
"Matanzas" is the West Indian equivalent of "dark and bloody ground." It means "slaughter" and was derived from an Indian butchery which took place long ago on its site.  
Admiral Montjoie concedes that American gunners are good marksmen. Having had three ships shot from under him the Spanish admiral's opinion betrays the wisdom of experience.  
The distance from Cadiz via the Suez canal to Manila is 8,580 miles, from San Francisco to the same point 6,923 miles. In the matter of distance as well as possession your uncle is several laps ahead.  
The proposed Third regiment of Nebraska volunteers will never be mustered in with a political colored army regulations are changed for the emergency. Press regulations forbid officers talking politics.  
"Remember the Maine!" is the war cry imprinted in large letters on the face of the new hard bread ordered by the United States government from St. Louis bakeries. The rumor that the St. Louis variety was to be used as templates for the men has not been verified.  
The first class protected cruiser Columbia can steam around the world without once stopping her engines or running short of fuel. Her coal carrying capacity is enormous. She ranks next to the Minneapolis in speed, but her range of action—25,000 miles far surpasses anything afloat.  
When the governor general of the Philippines hands over his job to Admiral Dewey consideration for a fallen foe forbids punishment. Before he feasts on American hardtack, however, his appetite might be brought up to the proper pitch of appreciation requiring him to recite his famous manifesto.  
Eastern seacoast resorts are rightly fearful lest a hostile war ship disturb the gaiety of the summer season. These fears are well founded. The only safety for summer resorts is to head for Omaha and after studying the new map of the exposition go to the mountains. Such a trip is better than a lifetime beside the seashore.  
PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.  
It takes \$1,500 a day to maintain a battleship, more than the cost of shooting.  
The beauties of the boulevards in St. Louis will have its name changed to Dewey boulevard.  
The enterprising thief who stole 104 glass eyes was perhaps the victim of an optical delusion.  
Admiral Dewey has 13,000 tons of coal, enough to make him independent of the coal combine all winter.  
Rev. Sam Jones has been visiting Toronto, Canada, and pronounces it "the most moral city on the face of the earth."  
It is remarked as a peculiar coincidence that the time which the comforter Gladstone most is the same one with which the martyr, Gordon, prepared for death—a death for which Gladstone was held largely responsible.  
Captain Gridley of the Olympia, Captain Coghlan of the Raleigh and Captain Wildes of the Boston, who fought together in Manila, were classmates at the Naval academy, graduating in 1863. Gridley and Wildes roomed together.  
Emperor William never wears an evening dress suit, and there is an imperial regulation ordering that wherever possible courtiers and guests shall wear the frock coat of Anglians, otherwise the newly introduced dress is de rigueur. The black swallowtail is thus fast being forced out of German court circles.  
Charles T. Rowe, a New Yorker, is in personal appearance almost the exact counterpart of Admiral Dewey. He has been connected for years with jockey clubs, horse shows, dog shows, and other amusements, and exhibitions of all kinds in an executive capacity, generally as secretary—a man generally known and much liked.  
Dr. Nansen's journeys through Europe brought him finally to St. Petersburg, where he was enthusiastically received at the station by the minister of Norway and Sweden and members of the geographical society. The Grand Cordon of the Order of St. Stanislas was given him before he could escape from the building. An elaborate dinner was tendered to him, at which Grandduke Constantine was present. He delivered a lecture before the geographical society, and a great banquet was projected. He started for Norway on April 30.

Admirable Combination of Architecture and Landscape Art.  
Chicago Chronicle.  
The pictures illustrating the exposition as it is planned resemble those of the great World's fair in Chicago in 1893. The general outline of the grounds and the plans of the building are very similar. This was in some sort matter of course. The architecture and landscape art of the Columbian exposition in 1893 was so nearly perfect for the purpose that they could not well be excelled.  
In these respects—architecture and landscape art—the plans of the Omaha exposition appear to be in the highest degree objects of admiration. All visitors at the World's fair who go to Omaha must be delighted to see again, even on a reduced scale, a reproduction of the buildings, the displays of all kinds, the wonderful combination of attractions which were presented at Chicago in 1893. The photographic views of World's fair scenes are preserved for their interest and uncommon value. A similar exposition with many of the same features should be an object of interest throughout the country.  
Next to Chicago, Omaha is the intermediate station on the route of continental travel and traffic. It is an interesting point to visit at all times for all concerned in studies of trade, commerce and industry. It will be a center of greatly increased attraction when the exposition opens, at which the display of specimens of all the productions of civilization will appear. Every branch of industry and its products will be represented. Illustrations of the science and arts will be provided. Studies in ethnology and other branches of natural history will be illuminated by interesting objects. All that can be done will be done to make the Transmississippi Exposition a display illustrating the world's progress in the methods by which the civilization of the age has been inaugurated.  
It is understood that Chicago manufacturers and business houses are making ample preparations to be represented at the Omaha exposition. They cannot do too much to advance their own interests. The Illinois building and display will creditably represent the state. The Chicago display provided for the various departments of the exposition should be equal to the business and resources of the great metropolis of the west.  
SUMMER SMILES.  
Detroit Free Press: "See here, clerk, are the colors in this United States flag fast colors now?"  
"Couldn't be faster; yet they're warranted not to run."  
Indianapolis Journal: "We are trying," said the religious boarder, "to get a block of red laid on the street in front of our church."  
"But isn't that," asked the Cheerful Idiot, "blocking the way to salvation?"  
Chicago Tribune: "I'd like to know who started that story about the Spanish fleet heading for Boston."  
"There's no mystery at all about it. It was started by the press agent of some western summer resort."  
Judge: First Burglar—The first cop we meet that's asleep we'll steal his club.  
Second Burglar—What for?  
First Burglar—We may need it to apply to the warden of the night watchman in the store we are to rob. You know how hard these night watchmen are to awaken.  
Syracuse Herald: First Robber (who formerly lived in a boarding house)—Sh! These people must be really asleep.  
Second Robber—Why?  
First Robber—I went into the pantry and found a strawberry shortcake with strawberries in it!  
Detroit Free Press: "Issue our ultimatum," said the managing editor as he entered with disheveled hair and sweat-soaked face, "what shall we do?"  
"What shall we do?"  
"This flood of war poetry must cease at once or we will declare for peace at any price."  
Chicago Record: "Did you find the wide-awake salesman you advertised for?"  
"Yes, but we couldn't keep him; the only business qualification he had was insomnia."  
Harper's Bazar: "Harry," said Mrs. Treedy to her husband at the breakfast table, "I am quite out of money, and I want to spend the day shopping. Let me have 50 cents."  
"What do you want 50 cents for?"  
"Let me see for our fare and 50 cents for luncheon."  
Gladys and Her Garden.  
Somerville Journal.  
When Gladys got her garden dug, And all the seeds were sown, The place appeared all green, As neat as a new pin.  
With clothepins stuck to mark the spots Where sprouts are to appear, The buds looked nice and orderly, As they do every year.  
But oh! Alas! Eheu! Ah, me! The neighbors keep some hens! That cost so much to buy and afford Such luxuries as pens. And ere a single day had passed, That garden—Gladys' garden— Was scratched, and scratched, and And Gladys' sorry cry.  
THE BRAVE HOME GUARD.  
Nyxton Waterbury in L. A. W. Bulletin.  
Oke, take good aim, ye soldier boys, And shoot 'em through the breast; Sight your marks, ye boys, and And blow 'em galley-west. It's your job to move 'em down and think A mother's heart will break. For civilization's all a joke, And brotherhood's a fake.  
The Spanish people are asking God To save them from the coast shooting. But a Yankee prayer is a ten-inch gun. That is easy to understand. And the Lord will help us to plant new stars.  
In Freedom's diadem, For there's seventy millions, and more, of us. And but seventeen millions of them.  
This patriotic soul of mine Might be somewhat depressed, If here and now the Spaniards aimed Their cannon at me, so I yell for war. And they're too far away, so I yell for war. And makes a fearful noise. And the troops go marching off to death As I shout, "God bless you, boys!"  
Since we're so strong and they're so weak We're bound to win or bust. That Spanish race they call a flag, We'll trample in the dust. For justice we're sure to do 'em up, The heroes will be right. For justice always marches with The side that wins the fight.  
So blow their bodies full of lead Or sink their ships at sea. The more you kill the more I'll fill Our loyal land with glee. About the only thing that's worth death, Shall out and tear and maim. We'll pray the mighty god of war To give you perfect aim.

The Royal is the highest grade baking powder known. Actual tests show it goes one-third further than any other brand.

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