THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY

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1	24,990	17	25,200
2	24,530	18	25,110
3	24,760	19	30,380
4	24,780	20	25,755
5	24,710	21	28,410
6	24,910	22	25,640
7	25,870	23	25,840
8	24,760	24	25,530
9	24,710	25	25,715
10	24,980	26	25,840
11	24,750	27	25,980
12	32,400	28	26,535
13	25,710	29	26,220
14	26,740	30	27,030
15	25,330	31	26,620
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G. B. TZSCHUCK,
Secy and Treas.

Subscribed and sworn before me this 1st day of February, A. D. 1900.
(Seal) M. B. HUNGATE,
Notary Public.

Editor Metcalfe will now raise Krugers.

Shake—Call it even on the poetical acrostic.

Keep an ear to the ground for important news from the seat of war in South Africa. The time is ripe for something to happen.

A contemporary labor organ admonishes District Court Clerk Broadwell "not to monkey with the buzz saw." That expresses it in a nutshell.

The donothing state railway commissioners might have fooled the people once, but the time has passed. No grandstand play will go at this late day.

It is to be hoped Editor Metcalfe will not fail to return that photograph of Oom Paul to the address given, as the owner would not want to part with it for anything.

It is to be hoped the reopening of the hemp ports in the Philippines will not be taken as a stimulus to the hemp route as a substitute for judicial executions in the south.

Fifteen miles of rotten paving blocks still ornament the streets of Omaha as a reminder of the cheap paving era. The cheapest things are usually the dearest in the long run.

Jim Dahlman still holds the fort both as chairman of the democratic state central committee for Nebraska and as $2,000-a-year secretary of the donothing State Board of Transportation.

It is an ill wind that blows nobody good. The absence of snow this winter has saved the city several thousand dollars for street cleaning and snow hauling, but there is still a fair prospect for a little snowballing.

One wing of the local democracy wants to install a Kentuckian into the management of the coming city campaign. Wonder whether this means the introduction of Kentucky methods into Nebraska political warfare?

Great Britain has given up everything it seized in the cargo of American foodstuffs and supplies in South Africa. Great Britain may lay claim to dominion over the seas, but it will be wary about exercising it on American property.

Omaha is now assured of securing a United States appropriation for an Indian supply depot, but the army supply purchasing depot hangs in the air, thanks to Captain Palmer and the wiseacres who know more about such matters than the War department officials.

The republican state committee meets this week to fix the time and place of state conventions and outline the general conduct of the campaign. The need for wise and shrewd leadership for Nebraska republicans was never more strongly emphasized, and it is to be hoped the committeemen will make no mistakes.

Every true American will deplore the untimely death of Goebel, even though many may regard it as retribution for the desperate political methods for which he stood as the incarnation. The most deplorable part of it is that it threatens to mark not the end, but simply a turning point in the most bitter political feud known to recent history.

The absence of the heavy taxpayers from the public meeting called by the council to discuss the 1900 tax levy does not reflect any great alarm over a high tax rate on the part of the people who usually do the most complaining. Perhaps they are satisfied that with an election impending in which most of the councilmen are seeking further political honors the natural disposition to hold the levy down will be strong enough.

NOT A VALID EXCUSE.

In a short communication to the New York Independent, purporting to outline the democratic issues, William Jennings Bryan says:

> There is only one platform which I know of for keeping present democrats in the party and bringing the gold democrats back and inviting republicans to join, and that is for the party to advocate the measures which are the best for the people and thus obtain the support of every well-meaning citizen. I believe the Chicago platform, with the addition of new planks to cover the new questions, including a strong plank against trusts and another against militarism and imperialism, would give ample excuse for supporting the democratic party.

What republican and what democrat who opposed Bryan and the Chicago platform in 1896 has any reason to look for an excuse to go back and support Bryan and an augmented Chicago platform in 1900? Is there anything promised in the platform of 1896, upon which President McKinley was elected, in which the supporters of McKinley and Hobart have been disappointed?

McKinley promised the party would restore the credit of the nation by maintaining a sound currency system, and the credit of the United States was never better nor its money in circulation more plentifully.

McKinley assured the people that the triumph of the republican ticket and the endorsement of the republican platform, followed by a republican administration of national affairs, would reopen the mills, restore employment to labor and bring general prosperity to all.

What man, then, either republican or democrat, who voted for McKinley and prosperity in 1896 wants an excuse for voting against prosperity in 1900 by supporting Bryan and the democratic party? If the Chicago platform, with its money fallacies, could not be swallowed in 1896 how can it be made less objectionable by keeping all its obnoxious features and simply adding one or two new planks?

Those who would accept an expansion of the Chicago platform as an excuse for going over to the democratic party in 1900 would accept any pretext. They really would not care what the platform is, and their sincerity in refusing to abide by the Chicago platform in 1896 will be open to serious question.

THE GROWTH OF NAVIES.

The plans of the European powers for increasing their navies contemplate an enormous expenditure during the next few years and it cannot be confidently predicted that naval expansion will stop with this. Russia proposes to spend nearly $90,000,000 in building new ships, while Great Britain will put as much or more than this sum into additions to her navy. The naval program of Emperor William, if carried out, will be more extravagant than that of Russia, while the naval budget of France provides for new ships and coast defenses involving an outlay of $180,000,000.

Referring to this extraordinary proposal, a member of the French Chambers remarked that France had nearly reached her limit of naval expenditure if she was not to renounce her obligations as a continental military power. He argued that the two principal objects which should be kept in view for a naval war were, first, the defenses of the coast by means of coast defense vessels, and secondly, the war on commerce by means of many rapid cruisers, with long-steaming power. Germany has less need of a great navy than France, but the kaiser has determined to create a sea power that will complement Germany's military strength, and if he lives long enough he may accomplish this. Great Britain, of course, will go on increasing her navy as long as the continental powers add to theirs, so that a halt in naval construction by the European powers is not likely in the near future.

This building up of the navies of the old world cannot fail to have an influence upon the United States, for this country can hardly now afford to be at the tail end of the naval powers. The new conditions and enlarged relations of this country create a demand for a large navy which cannot safely be neglected. We must maintain a sea power adequate to the protection of the new possessions and our coasts, as well as for the security of our commerce, which in the event of a European war would require naval protection. To what extent it will be necessary to increase our navy is a question that will have to be determined by the extent to which European powers enlarge their navies, but it would seem to be quite evident that we cannot yet halt the work of building up a navy, since to do so would in a few years place us in a very inferior position as a sea power.

WHERE THE BRITISH ARE WEAK.

There is no fault to be found with the rank and file of the British army. The common soldiers have as much courage and fortitude and tenacity as those of any other country. In these respects the troops in South Africa have fully maintained the high character of British soldiers. The weakness is in the want of really able officers—men of superior military ability, thoroughly versed in the science of war. The British commanders in South Africa have won distinction fighting inferior races and now that they have white men as a foe, commanded by men who have shown remarkable military capacity, they find that the knowledge they acquired in fighting savages is quite useless.

Roberts, Buller, Kitchener and some of the others did good service in fighting people who knew nothing whatever about military science. Against such foes, poorly equipped for war and ignorant of strategy, they were able to accomplish whatever they undertook. But fighting white men who do know something about strategy and tactics, who have every modern appliance for warfare and thoroughly understand how to use them, who are as brave as any people in the world and are perhaps unequalled as marksmen, is a very different proposition, as the British have learned to their great distress and humiliation. Buller was regarded, at the time of his appointment to the command in South Africa, as a great soldier. No Englishman would then have tolerated the suggestion that he might find his match in Joubert. Now, however, although he is retained in command, perhaps for the reason that it might be injurious to the morale of the army to displace him, there is no confidence in him. Much is hoped for from Roberts and Kitchener, but as yet there is nothing to warrant any great faith in these officers. They may have formulated a plan of campaign that will be effective, but it will be no surprise if they too shall find Boer strategy as difficult to deal with as Buller has found it.

A high order of generalship is the obvious need of the British army, and in view of the fact that ninety-nine per cent of the officers are from the aristocracy this is not to be expected. Undoubtedly the war will develop some good soldiers. There are men engaged in it who will learn a great deal about the science of war that will fit them for future commanders. But if the Boers are beaten it will be due to the overwhelming forces of the British rather than to superior generalship.

OMAHA'S FLOOD TIDE.

There is a tide in the affairs of cities, as well as of men, which taken at the flood leads on to fortune. The flood tide which promises to make Omaha a great distributing and manufacturing center is at last in sight. For several years past Omaha has ranked as the third meat packing center of the world, and in the no distant future will rank next to Chicago. Up to this time, however, the ambition of Omaha to become an important grain market has not been gratified.

The establishment of large flour and cereal mills during the present year affords a substantial basis for creating a demand for grain that cannot fail to make Omaha a desirable market for the vast agricultural region tributary to this city. Omaha's superior advantages as a meat packing center are derived by reason of the fact that it is located in the heart of the great American corn belt, which must always remain the best cattle feeding and cattle raising region of this country. The supremacy of Minneapolis as a flour manufacturing and exporting point is due to the appliance of the water power of St. Anthony's falls, but water power and even steam power is gradually being supplanted by electrical power. It is only a question of time, and that perhaps less than five years, before Omaha will be in position to rival any American manufacturing city in the matter of electrical power.

In the meantime, however, the building of flouring mills and the erection of more elevators, coupled with improved facilities for the distribution of grain and grain products, either to the Pacific coast, the gulf or the Atlantic seaboard, will stimulate and enlarge the grain traffic, which up to this time has been chiefly carried on by the bucket shop. The growth of all great cities within the past century has been brought about by the industrial revolution which concentrates the productive energies of every country in the manufacturing and distributing centers. Every mill and factory that utilizes the natural products of this section and affords steady employment for labor becomes a factor in the upbuilding of the city and not only helps to support an increased population, but enlarges the area of its commercial activity.

Omaha is paying dearly for the folly of its founders who desired to lay out a city that would enable them to sell the largest number of corner lots. The wide streets and short blocks have entailed an enormous outlay for street paving, which already aggregates over $5,000,000, with one-third of the area of the city yet unpaved and fifteen miles of rotten paving blocks to be replaced. The annual interest charge for the paving already laid exceeds $250,000 and the cost of maintenance and repairs will run up the amount to at least $400,000 per year more, which makes it altogether $650,000 annually. The city engineer makes the same mistake in his per capita calculations that has been made by the tax commissioner. He makes his Omaha comparisons with St. Louis, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, St. Paul and Kansas City on the basis of Omaha's census figures, when it is a matter of notoriety that our census figures do not represent the true population, and consequently estimates based on relative populations are worthless. In the matter of public improvements, as in the matter of taxation per capita, figures amount to nothing. The city of Paris, with an area but a trifle larger than Omaha, has a population of nearly 3,000,000.

The proposal to expedite the transaction of supreme court business by abolishing written opinions except in cases involving new legal or constitutional points might afford a certain measure of relief to the overburdened docket, but it is not a sufficient solution of the problem. The present judges can hear and decide only a limited number of cases, whether they hand down written or oral opinions. What is needed is more judges, or in their absence the assistance of advisors or commissioners who can hear cases and make recommendations for their determination to be approved by the regular court. Unless some such plan is put into force, the mass of accumulated litigation will continue to grow constantly larger until a constitutional amendment is enacted, for which at least three years will be required.

Has the impending city election anything to do with the raid of County Attorney Shields upon the South Omaha gamblers? The county attorney has time and again had evidence thrust into his hands that his friends in South Omaha were violating the gambling laws, but steadily persisted in ignoring the facts and permitting the gamblers to operate unmolested. His sudden awakening can be explained only on the theory of a political Senegambian in the woodpile. The fusion campaign fund may be needing more grease.

After the belligerents on both sides have finished amusing themselves destroying railroads and bridges which the enemy might use in connection with a base of supplies, a great field should be opened in South Africa for American railway contractors and bridge builders in restoring transportation facilities of the country needed for the pursuits of peace.

Up to date the Board of Education has not signified what it proposes to do with the High school building. All we know is that it is not to be removed and it is not to be occupied in dangerous parts, but as the entire structure has been condemned as dangerous the whole of it must be vacated sooner or later. But when?

If our amiable popocratic contemporary wants a formidable list of the copperheads of history why go outside the ranks of the present fusion party? At least one of the Knights of the Golden Circle is holding a high office in the state house as a reward from the fusion forces.

The more candidates before the republican city convention, and the greater the choice, the more likely will the ticket be made up finally of the best men.

Two Methods of Flying.
Philadelphia Times.

> At least a flying squadron at sea is a pleasanter sight for Britain than to see its squadron flying on land.

One Advantage of Youth.
Washington Star.

> The new emperor of China has a great advantage inasmuch as his youth will enable the empress dowager to merely spank him instead of having him beheaded.

Pertinent Comparisons.
Indianapolis News.

> If such things as are now occurring down in Kentucky had happened in Cuba we should all jump to the conclusion at once that the Cubans were not fit for self-government. And we should be pretty near right.

Shadows on Freedom's Perch.
Globe-Democrat.

> It is not certain that the proposition to elect United States senators by a direct vote of the people would be any improvement upon the present plan. In some of the states the people are not even permitted to choose their own governor.

Canada's Closed Door.
Philadelphia Ledger.

> There is a demand in Canada for an export duty on nickel, which is an important product of that country. It is in line with the prohibition of the export of lumber, and goes to show that Great Britain's free trade ideas are not always followed by her colonies. At the rate things are now going, we shall soon be demanding an open door in Canada.

Perish the Thought.
Philadelphia Ledger.

> A curious dispatch from Cincinnati says the project of inviting the democratic national convention to that city has fallen through and intimates that it is because "the railroads favor Kansas City or Milwaukee." But is not the democratic party down on corporations, railroad and otherwise, and is it going to let the railroads dominate it in its own headquarters?

Master of Civic Administration.
Philadelphia Record.

> The military governor of Cuba evidently knows more about the arts of peace and the true theory and practice of civic administration than has been learned by many men of wider fame and greater experience. He has already won golden opinions from all classes of Cubans by redeeming faithfully every promise of authority and setting a valuable example of patience, discernment and diligence in the performance of present duty. It is such men as General Wood who, when given the opportunity of power, create and re-create states and republics.

Proposed Territory of Seward.
New York Tribune.

> It is proposed to cut Alaska in two, make a new territory and name it Seward in honor of the great statesman who brought about the Alaska purchase. Its area is large enough for two territories, or a dozen, for that matter, and the name proposed for the first one to be sliced off, though secure in the nation's memory without such celebration, is the most appropriate that could be selected. But what is the need for two territories, when congress has not yet been able, after twenty years' consideration, to devise a full and practicable territorial government for one?

Vastness of Our Resources.
Baltimore Sun.

> The crops of 1899 have not broken the record, but have approached it closely. The wheat crop was 547,303,846 bushels; corn, 2,078,143,933 bushels; oats, 796,177,713 bushels; barley, 73,381,563 bushels; rye, 23,961,741 bushels; buckwheat, 11,094,473 bushels; potatoes, 288,783,232 bushels; hay, 56,653,756 tons. The average farm prices reported were: Wheat, 58.4 cents; corn, 30.3 cents; oats, 24.9 cents. The figures of production, though exceeded once or twice before, are enormous and show what a continent we possess. Our natural resources are almost unlimited and on the strength of them we have built up manufacturing plants on an extraordinary scale. No country shows such railway systems, such furnace outputs, such huge shops and mills and huge trusts. If our statesmanship were on the same scale as our material resources we should occupy a most enviable position.

POOR TIME FOR CALAMITY TALK.

Alliance Times: Nebraska banks, as shown by the last reports, held $50,525,771.50 individual deposits. It is not much wonder Bryan is blazing away at anything that bobs up.

Gothenburg Independent: The last consolidated report of the banks of Nebraska show that there is deposited $50,325,771.50. This is $50 apiece for every man, woman and child. What is the use of talking calamity with such existing circumstances as this.

Beatrice Express: The Corn Belt contains several interesting communications from Nebraska farmers who were as poor as Job a few years ago, but who, by taking advantage of their opportunities, are now prosperous and free from debt. There is no state in the union that affords the honest man a better chance than can be found in Nebraska.

Wayne Herald: The aggregated bank deposits in Nebraska, amounting to $50 per capita, or $25 per family, is hard to beat in the west. Nebraska seems to be getting along pretty well with the gold standard of values. The crime of '73 may still oppress the jawsmiths, but it doesn't seem to be much of a burden on the farmers and manufacturers and laboring men.

POLITICAL COMMENTS.

Lyons Sun: Mr. Bryan seldom presents any new issues, but he frequently shifts his position on old ones.

York Times: Fusion candidates for the clerkship of the supreme court may never learn to labor, but they will have to learn to wait.

Oakland Republican: Senator Allen has taken the trouble to announce that he is not a presidential candidate. Shucks! Neither are we.

Gothenburg Independent: If all the men who would like to form the tail of the democratic ticket should ask Colonel Bryan to dinner, he would perish of indigestion.

Albion News: Editor Hitchcock places the price which the democrats will demand for supporting the fusion ticket this year to be one United States senator and two placers on the state ticket.

Monroe Republican: Aided by the World-Herald Secretary of State Porter is going to try his hand on the congressional law firm of Allen & Robinson. And, incidentally, the "sting of ingratitude" is getting in its work.

Beaver City Times: During the approaching campaign, the more than 70,000 farmers in this state ought to wake up to the fact that six lawyers represent them in congress where six farmers ought to be in their places.

York Times: An octopus is all right with the pops, if it is their octopus. After all, their fight is not upon octopuses in general, but upon those they do not train in their crowd. If any old octopus, even Andrew Carnegie, bows its knee to Baal, from that moment it becomes whiter than snow.

Osmond Republican: Congressman Robinson had a great spasm over the polygamous entanglements of the king of the Sulus in the Woodman hall in this place during the recent campaign, but when it came to seating Brigham Roberts of Utah his vote was in favor of polygamy. John is a hot duck, anyway.

Clay Center Sun: It is said that Bryan closes some of his political meetings with prayer, asking, we presume, the blessings of deity upon himself, his remarks and the democratic party. If heaven enters upon the business of blessing the work of Tammany, Goebel and Bryan it will be about time for its inhabitants to take to the woods.

York Times: Where the sting of ingratitude rankled most was in the fact that Mr. Hitchcock had furnished Mr. Bryan thousands of miles of railroad transportation he was not entitled to before Colonel Bryan had sufficient prestige to get it for himself. Now he has no use for World-Herald mileage books and can snap his flogers at his old benefactor.

Wayne Republican: Our fusion brethren in this congressional district are having some troubles of their own. Secretary of State Porter of Merrick county has shied his castor into the political ring and is after the nomination for congress, while the democrats as a matter of course and the firm of Allen, Robinson & Co., political brokers of Madison, want the present incumbent, John S. Robinson, to have the nomination. Porter is bidding for popularity with the masses by prodding up the secretaries of the Board of Transportation to take action in regard to rates, and his friends point out the fact that Robinson cannot claim the precedent of a second term because it requires but a very short memory to recall the setting aside of Samuel Maxwell after just one term by Robinson's friends.

PERSONAL POINTERS.

Taking a leaf from the book of his pale-faced brother, Eli Jimerson, full-blooded Indian treasurer of the Seneca nation, is $1,000 short in his accounts.

Goebel, it is said, was never known to drink, but after he was shot he indicated where a draught of whisky might be found—in a flask in one of his pockets.

The Kansas City Journal gives a column of "reason why Missouri should go republican." The effort is praiseworthy, but reasons do not capture votes in Missouri.

Lord Albemarle, the colonel in command of the London Imperial Volunteers, is the third holder of that title within nine years. His grandfather was an ensign at Waterloo at the age of 16.

The republican campaign managers and numerous other lovers of peace and harmony are greatly agitated at the announcement that George Fred Williams of Massachusetts is taking singing lessons.

President Hadley of Yale is an admirer of President Gilman of Johns Hopkins. "I never saw a man with such a capacity for work," he said the other day. "I think he is the hardest working man in America."

Mrs. O. O. Hall, who has bought the farm on which William Henry and Benjamin Harrison were born, paid $15,000 for the property, and proposes to place in the wall of the dwelling house a tablet telling of the two presidents born under its rooftree.

AMERICAN BOOKS OF 1899.

Curious and Interesting Changes in the Book Trade.
Chicago Tribune.

The Publishers' Weekly has just issued its annual summary of the previous year's books and the figures show some curious and interesting changes. According to the tally sheet of this trade organ the total number of books published in the United States during 1899 was 5,321, which was several hundred more than in the preceding year, but still several hundred less than in 1896. The number of copies sold, however, probably exceeded the sales of any previous year, while the proportion of fairly meritorious works was unusually large.

Fiction continues to lead all other departments. Including juvenile works the fiction constitutes 25 per cent of the total. An increase over the preceding year is shown in all departments except that of religion and that of political and social science, in each of which there is a slight decrease. Law books come second in point of numbers, as before, but the third place is held by juveniles, while religious works have dropped from the third to the fifth place, with education and language in the fourth place, as before. Literary miscellany, poetry, biography and history follow in the order named. At the foot of the list of nineteen departments stands that of humor and satire with a total of only twenty-seven books during the year. Evidently we are not running to humor, whatever the decrease in religious works may signify.

No less interesting is the table showing the relative number of American and of European books. Of the 5,321 books handled by American booksellers 3,626 were by American authors, as against only 2,908 in the year preceding. This marked increase in American books was commented upon by the Tribune a month ago, when it was also remarked that the most popular fiction of the hour was all by American authors. The figures of the Publishers' Weekly indicate that the change applies not only to fiction but to all the other departments. During 1899 there were only 571 books by English or other foreign authors manufactured in the United States, as against 834 in 1898. Of these reprints 354 were fiction. The books imported, both bound and in sheets, numbered 1,124, as against 1,144 in the preceding year. Nearly three-fourths of our books are now written by our own authors, while four-fifths are manufactured by American printers and binders.

There would be no particular reason for congratulating the public upon these facts if it could not be added that the moral and artistic standards of the books of 1899 are as high as those of any previous year. The mechanical work done by American printers and binders is also such as to challenge comparison with that of any imported books. The United States has arrived at the place in its literary career where it can paddle its own canoe.

ECHOES OF OUR WAR.

Major Llewellyn of the Mexican battery of Roosevelt's Rough Riders tells a story illustrative of the magnificent bluff that organization put up to prove its readiness for service with the Santiago expedition. It will be remembered while other volunteers were going through medical examinations and setting up drills and all sorts of seasoning processes, the rough riders were hastily assembled from Tombstone, Las Cruces, Harvard university, the New York police force and a great variety of sources. The organization was rapidly recruited, hurriedly mounted, recorted fit for anything and rushed to the front at Santiago with the regulars. Roosevelt dropped his duties as assistant secretary of the navy one day, started that night for the rendezvous of the regiment in the southwest and ten days later was in the saddle. "The colonel arrived one day and hadn't been in camp an hour when he sent out an order for a council of officers," says Llewellyn. "We all hurried up to headquarters, not having any idea what was meant. Roosevelt addressed us sharply. He said: 'I am going to have regimental drill in the morning at 9 o'clock. Here are the movements you will be prepared to execute, and I want them done not only accurately but with a snap.' I'll never forget how the colonel got out that word 'snap.' He said no more, but dismissed us with all the manner of the strictest disciplinarian. I went off with the cold chills running up and down my back, for I was conscious how rusty I was in all the tactics. We carried off the list of movements the colonel had given us and studied them until taps. At 9 o'clock the regiment was out, and until 12 o'clock we pounded away under the hot sun at the program Colonel Roosevelt had given us. The most exacting West Pointer ever turned out couldn't have put us through a more severe trial than Roosevelt did. When we got to the end of that regimental drill we were covered with dust and sweat and used up worse than if we had been riding the range all day. A little later I had washed andwas passing the headquarters when Colonel Roosevelt saw me and beckoned to me to come in. He was lying on a cot and laughing to himself gleefully. He said to me: 'We got through that regimental drill pretty well, but do you know, captain, that those movements were every blessed thing I knew of the tactics? I studied them out on the cars coming from Washington. If Wood had ordered any other movements I would have been in a bad fix.' After that," said Major Llewellyn, "I knew that the thing to do in the rough riders was to put up a bold front and go ahead, and we did."

"When a woman wills she will." Lest we forget that truism, the experience of a loving daughter of Iowa brings it to the fore. Her soldier lover was in the Philippine army. At least she claimed him as her lover, and poured out her soul in frequent letters to her soldier boy. But the soldier boy was not stirred by the sweet music of the girl he left behind him and failed to answer. She wanted to know what became of him and clamored at the postoffice department and war department for information. Finally the congressman, desiring peace, went to the war department and, at the rate of $3 a word, sought information regarding the young man concerning whom the young woman was so anxious. He was found with his regiment, in good health. He confessed the reception of thirty odd letters, which came to him in packages, but he had not acknowledged their receipt because the weather was so hot, and further excused himself on the ground that he had told the young woman before leaving that he was no hand at writing letters.

Rev. Peter McQueen writes in Leslie's Weekly: "I saw Lawton wade the Norzagary river where other men were swept away by the current. At this point he had been two days without food. He had a wet sandwich in his pocket and sat down on the bank of the river to eat his humble fare. That night I sent him down a chicken which I had picked up in my foraging tour, and the British consul, who was with him, told me that he paid the natives full price for it. This shows that Lawton was very careful in his dealings with the natives. Major Edwards, the adjutant, called us reporters up one day and asked us if we had receipts for all the chickens which we had. There was a twinkle in his eye as we told him that the owners of the chickens had gone away before we were able to get a receipt. But all these incidents show how strict General Lawton was in his endeavors to have the natives treated kindly. He had great hopes for the Filipinos. The last time I saw him he said to me: 'I have met men and women among the Filipinos who would grace society in any country in the world. I predict that when peace comes and the liberal government which the Americans will give these people they will be one of the most peaceful, prosperous, thrifty races on the globe.'"

Brigadier General Hawkins, U. S. A., who commanded the brigade in which was the Seventy-first regiment of New York at the battle of Santiago, has at last found time, now that he is relieved, to come forward and say that the Seventy-first showed no cowardice during that engagement and conducted itself commendably. He also says that some of the Rough Riders were seen running away.

FREEZING-OUT METHOD.

Efforts of the Glass Combine to Strangle Competition.
Indianapolis Journal.

Last December the window glass combination reduced the price 33 1-3 per cent without notice. It was done to compel a number of manufacturers outside the combination to join it or go out of the business. The cut in price did neither; consequently a few days ago the combination made another cut of 5 per cent. The combination is of opinion that this last cut will bring the independent competitors to terms by joining the trust or suspending operations. Is this an example of "the ruinous competition of which the champions of combinations tell us so much? If it is, who made it ruinous?

The public has a right to infer that the cut of 38 1-3 per cent in price would involve a great loss to the producers, but an expert friendly to the combination, with more zeal for the cause than discretion, is reported as saying that "while the combination could not make much profit at the reduced prices, on the other hand there will be no loss." This opinion leaves the inference that the 38 1-3 per cent representing the two cuts in prices is clear profit. Many people who are consumers will regard such a profit, obtained through an unlawful combination, as a degree of extortion that deserves the term robbery.

This is not the first instance of a resort to the freezeout method. The competition in trade known as cutting under is as old as trade itself. It was practiced years before manufacturing combinations were known. The practice has often resulted in temporary success, but it is doubtful whether it will in the production of glass. If the combination, by this cut in prices, should force those now outside to comply with its demands, and thereupon restore prices, new competitors would spring up, so that after a few months at most another list of outside plants would be putting window glass upon the market at a reasonable price, and would either compel the combination to buy them up or attempt another freezeout. The result would be that the manufacturers would have facilities to put upon the market two or three times as much glass as is needed, and only those could stand the pressure who can produce cheapest. The thing for the independent manufacturers to do in this and similar cases is to suspend production while the combination persists in selling at a loss. When those who instituted the destructive undertaking that they will have to bear all the loss themselves they will abandon their device.

It is probable that every state has a law which recognizes the freezeout policy as being designed to restrict trade and create a monopoly. The layman does not understand the mysteries of the application of laws, but there is a feeling that the law does or should regard such methods as contrary to the public welfare and prescribe a penalty. The extortionate price which such a combination seeks to establish is better called robbery than anything else, while the cutting of prices to ruin a competitor is no better than confiscating his estate.

FUSION TROUBLES.

Never Such Flagrant Bossism as That in the Democratic Party.
San Francisco Call.

Recently a grand conventicle was held in Nebraska, in which Colonel Bryan and certain Nebraska Populist leaders met and made a treaty, involving a fusion this year on the presidential ticket and a division of the spoils. As to the latter there is no light upon the ratio, whether 16 democratic to 1 populist, but it was decided that the populist national convention will be held a month in advance of any other, and it will doubtless nominate Colonel Bryan for president. It is believed that such action will placate the populist vote, a large section of which in 1896 objected to taking him second-hand after he had been nominated at Chicago. It is expected that the democratic taste has become so vitiated that it will take any dose that Colonel Bryan will choose to administer.

It will be seen that this plan for fusion is familiar. It was followed in California in 1898. Judge Maguire was nominated for governor by the populists first, signed their platform, partook of their communion, found a family strawberry mark on them, and then he was taken second-hand by the democrats, and then he was beautifully beaten by the people. Only a politician who believes he is a man of destiny, born with a caul, and having a horoscope that nothing can knock out, would follow the example of such a plan that had such a result.

The incidents of the Nebraska conventicle were characteristic of the spirit Bryan has put into a politics that affects his interests. It is the spirit of intense intolerance. His organization does not permit the discussion of plans or policies. It adopts them, and then excludes all who wish discussion. In the call for the Bryan populist meeting at Lincoln, issued by the Nebraska member of the populist national committee, he said: "Those supporting Barker and Donnelly should not be permitted to take part in the meetings of our committee or in the convention."

Barker and Donnelly are opposed to the committee concluding the action of the convention in advance of its meeting. They desire the gathering of a free convention to discuss the policy of fusion and of Colonel Bryan's nomination, upon which the committee has already decided. Therefore because they wish the convention to be a deliberative body, to discuss principles and policy and decide after examination, rather than merely record a decision already reached by the committee, they are calmly ruled out by Colonel Bryan's dictation, and only those who favor his nomination and the fusion will be admitted.

It is doubtful if bossism ever went to greater extremes in American politics. The populist national convention will meet. All opposition will be excluded. Colonel Bryan will be nominated and the country will be called to admire the unanimity of ascription to his great talents and popularity. And he sits down with the populist committee and deliberately plans his own nomination and indorsement and excludes from the counsels and conventions of the party all who oppose him!

It is strange that any man of sufficient sense to find his own mouth with his food should expect to fool the country by such artifices. It is perfectly well known that California, New Jersey, New York and Maryland would send to the democratic national convention, under the regular call, solid gold delegations, opposed to the populist fusion and opposed to Bryan's nomination. But it is equally well known that if this were done that convention would give such delegations a dose of the same medicine Colonel Bryan has prescribed for objecting populists. They would be excluded from the convention, just as the Dakota, Nebraska and Michigan delegations were in 1896, and their seats would be filled, if necessary, by men who were not candidates in the state conventions. So it is recognized as useless to try for a hearing, even, in the democratic convention. Colonel Bryan will be nominated by the fusion, and self-respecting democrats and populists will see to it that his kind of bossism is killed so dead that it will never have an imitator.

LIGHT AND LIVELY.

Detroit Journal: Sweet are the uses of adversity, particularly if we happen to be on the bear side of the market.

Baltimore American: Editor—Ah, here's a contribution from a poet of the right stamp!

Assistant—Good stuff, eh?

"No; but he incloses return postage."

Chicago Post: "After all," she said, "women have to bear the burdens of life."

"How so?" he asked.

"Why, just look at the time Ladysmith is having, while Harrismith is taking it easy."

Buffalo Commercial: Ella—To think that it is two years since we met and you knew me at once! Then I haven't changed much, after all?

Bella—Oh, I knew you by your bonnet. Who would have thought there was so much wear in it?

Philadelphia Record: "My visit, sir, may be a little ill-timed," remarked the poet, "but I trust you will hear me out."

"Of course I will," replied the editor, graciously; "in fact, you can be sure of it if you just bang the door a little as you go."

Detroit Free Press: Uncle—What salary do you get?

Nephew—None.

Uncle—You're not working for nothing, are you?

Nephew—Oh, no; I'm only working for wages. I get $5 a week.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: Watts—I see that Mrs. Kendal says the great requisite of a successful actress is imagination.

Potts—Who has to have it—the actress or her press agent?

Indianapolis Press: The Managing Editor—How long will it take you to get up an editorial on the fitness of the Kentucklans for self-government?

The Editorial Writer—Bout half a minute. All I'll have to do is to change the names of this stuff I have just written about the Cubans.

WOMAN'S LOVE.

A woman's love—a little thing,
A gift, a tender offering,
A gleam, a little golden ray
To pierce the darkness of a day;
As fair as wing of snowy dove—
A woman's love.

A woman's love—can we but know
It is our own, what joyous glow
Of rapture then our glad heart fills;
What ecstacy our being thrills!
A priceless gift from realms above—
A woman's love.

LOUIS FERDINAND GERNHARDT
Omaha, Neb.

THE HIGHER LIFE.

How full this world is of deceit
That we the Tempter daily meet,
Who with his glibbring tongue doth speak
To poison minds of mortals weak.

Let's ope the portals of the skies,
That all may view the paradise,
And thus save souls from dire fate,
Ere it's too late, ere it's too late.

ADAM BREED
Hastings, Neb.