THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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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 November, 1900, was as follows:

1	30,870	16	28,350
2	34,095	17	28,260
3	31,010	18	28,100
4	28,940	19	28,380
5	31,320	20	28,370
6	32,010	21	28,410
7	68,429	22	27,970
8	41,250	23	27,620
9	31,310	24	28,220
10	30,760	25	28,410
11	28,400	26	27,960
12	29,200	27	27,620
13	28,940	28	27,740
14	28,680	29	27,770
15	28,530	30	27,555

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Net daily average, 30,447

GEO. B. TZSCHUCK.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of December, A. D., 1900.
M. B. HUNGATE,
Notary Public.

The identity of Mr. Speaker will not be concealed much longer.

Those kidnapers appear to be about as adept at letter-writing as they are at child-stealing.

Old Boreas seems to think it is about time for him to give his own celebration of the transit of the century.

Wanted—A dark man who has the key to that $25,000 reward. Apply to the official sleuth of the Daily Whirligig.

Our warring fraternal insurance societies are of course merely having a friendly bout in the name of fraternity.

The fusion members of the legislature find themselves in a quandary as to who to compliment with their votes for United States senator.

The next convention Omaha will entertain will be the Retail Implement Dealers and Omaha's hospitality will be again at their disposal.

The arrival of a cold wave should call for extra precautions on the part of people who heat their furnaces to such a temperature that the house catches fire.

It is only fair to set Postmaster Crow right before the public by stating that he claims no relationship to Pat Crowe, who has become so famous over night.

Governor Poynter will wait at least until next summer before retiring to his farm as a result of his taste of city life. Cincinnatus did not take so long to return to his plow.

If the fusion conspirators were so anxious to have Mr. Rosewater testify in the legislative contest case why did they not call him as their witness? A subpoena would have reached him without difficulty.

If Edward Rosewater felt it incumbent on himself to go on the witness stand to deny all the malicious fakes and stupid roorbacks sprung about him he would be kept busy testifying all the rest of his natural life.

The city building inspector has received notice by cipher telegram all the way from Washington that Dave Mercer is on his way post haste to Omaha to take out a permit for the new house that he has built so often.

Watch for some great cataclysm of nature when Trust-Smasher Smyth lets go his official position. Nothing short of a tremendous disturbance of the elements can do justice to the violent earnestness of the great octopus exterminator.

The Nebraska sheriffs want some way devised to make sure that they get their fees even in cases where the man assessed with the costs is too poor to pay. Most of our business men would be glad to join an organization that would give a guaranty of payment on all bills of goods sold.

By the will of the late Henry Villard several chunks of his estate are distributed to educational and charitable institutions, some of them getting as high as $50,000. In the bestowal of these gifts he has shown even more discrimination than in his remarkable business career.

Sir Edwin Arnold has written a poem on the advent of the new century in which he echoes a greeting between Columbia and Britannia. This ought to be enough to give Bryanite yellow journalism another cold shiver over that imaginary secret alliance between John Bull and Uncle Sam.

The popocratic organ is now engaged in the self-imposed task of dictating to the judges of the district court what assignment of dockets they shall make among themselves for the coming year. The only thing the judges can do to satisfy the popocratic sheet is to turn the whole matter over to the World-Herald, whose interest is so plain and palpable.

THE CLOSING YEAR AND CENTURY.

Today we bid farewell to the old year and the old century—a year of events whose influence upon mankind will be felt for all time, a century marked by greater progress in all that pertains to the material well-being and enlightenment of the human race than all its previous history, while the political, social and moral advancement has been hardly less striking. The Bee has already laid before its readers the most notable events of the closing year and of the century. An adequate review of these is beyond the limitations of the newspaper.

The transformation that has taken place in the world during the last hundred years is wonderful. Of the eight great nations two, Germany and Italy, are creations of the nineteenth century. Austria has been entirely remodeled. Japan has entered for the first time into the society of the nations, passing at a single step over the distance that it took the states of Europe hundreds of years to traverse. France has changed its form of government a number of times. Russia, while continuing an autocracy, has not been wholly impervious to the enlightening sentiment of the world. England has been transformed into a democracy and has created the greatest empire in the annals of mankind. The United States has multiplied its population by fifteen, quadrupled its area and advanced from the last place among important powers to the first. The struggle for self-government in Europe has been so successful that nowhere, except in Russia and Turkey, does the century close on an absolute monarchy.

The political changes in America have been not less remarkable than in Europe. At the beginning of the century there was but one republic in the western hemisphere. Now there are nineteen and Cuba will add another early in the new century. In 1800 the United States constituted the only independent territory on either American continent. Now the whole of South and Central America is independent and republican and no European power but Great Britain has any important footing in North America. Asia, Africa and Australia were brought into the main stream of world interest and activity during the nineteenth century, while the hermit empires of Japan, China and Corea have been thrown open. The history of the United States since the early years of the century has consisted mainly of territorial expansion, industrial and commercial development, and the settlement by political agitation and the conflict of arms of the problems entailed upon the republic by the heritage of slavery. No other nation has contributed more to the advancement of civilization and to the uplifting of mankind, while to the example of this republic is due the progress of liberty and self-government everywhere.

But what more than all else characterizes the nineteenth century and perhaps constitutes its chief glory, is the vast strides in scientific discovery and the application of the forces of nature to the service of man. In this respect the achievements during the century have been marvelous. With the exception of mathematics and astronomy, all the sciences may be said to have been established in this century. Some existed in name before, but all have been revised, changed and developed, so that as they exist today they bear little relation to the sciences of the same names in the eighteenth or preceding centuries. Nearly every material agency for the transaction of commerce and the comfort of mankind with which we are now familiar is a product of the nineteenth century. The century is also remarkable for educational advancement and diffusion. At its beginning there was no such thing as a national system of schools for the masses anywhere in the world. At its close there is not a people in the family of nations, no matter what the form of government, which is not moving toward such an ideal. In this the American people led the way. In art and literature the closing century has been one of the world's greatest eras, rich in genius whose labors will influence and illumine the world for ages to come.

We step upon the threshold of the new century facing a still brighter era for human civilization and for the improvement of all the conditions that make for the social, moral and material betterment of the race. There is much to do, but the forces that enlighten and elevate humanity have gained tremendous power in the century and are dispelling ignorance, degradation and misery as never before.

COST OF NATIONAL GOVERNMENT.

In the current Century Magazine Carroll D. Wright, the eminent statistician in charge of the national bureau of labor, reviews the figures of income and expenditure of our national government since its organization under the present system in a most instructive manner.

Carried out by computation and estimates into a tabular exhibit the budget record shows that the net revenue of the government has gradually yet steadily increased from $4,409,951, or $1.12 per capita, in 1791, when we had a population of 3,929,214, to $567,240,852, or $7.43 per capita, in 1900, when we have a population of 76,295,220. In the intervening years the per capita net revenue has ranged from $1.14 in 1840 and $1.78 in 1860, as low water marks, to $9.60 in 1865 and $10.67 in 1870, as high tide.

A similar exhibit of net expenses shows the per capita in 1791 to have been $0.49 and in 1900 to have been $6.39, with a maximum of $37.34 per capita in 1865 and $8.03 in 1870 and minimum of $0.73 in 1815 and $1.09 in 1845.

The bare figures, of course, would convey a wrong impression unless accompanied by the necessary explanation and read in conjunction with the concurrent history of the country. The government has been constantly from the first extending its field of operations and does far more for the people today in every direction than ever before. The pensions, the expenditures for army and navy and land and water fortifications, interest and reduction of debt and a dozen more important items make up the aggregate list of national outgo, each in millions that foot up for the year 1900 the grand total of $487,713,792. Comparison with the national wealth and annual production, however, makes these colossal figures sink to insignificance and furnishes the foundation for this conclusion best stated in Mr. Wright's words:

"The whole showing is an exceedingly satisfactory one and demonstrates clearly that the federal government since the civil war, which marked an exceptional period, has been doing just what the wise and judicious head of a family would do under increasing wealth and resources—keeping pace with environment, making improvements as the wealth of the country warrants, providing for great educational work and carrying on extensive and expensive operations at home and abroad, but nevertheless increasing the burden of the people to such a slight degree that it can hardly be felt. When it is considered that the federal government spends more than $8,000,000 annually for purely scientific work and often from $20,000,000 to $40,000,000 for improvements, at the same time taking care of its credit to such an extent that its bonds are ever at a premium, one cannot complain of national improvidence."

THOSE SOUTH OMAHA FRAUDS.

It should be remembered that the charges of fraud perpetrated in the interest of the fusion ticket in South Omaha were not afterthoughts, but were preferred promptly as soon as the returns disclosed the crooked work and even before the official canvass. The prompt denunciation of the corrupt manipulation of the election machinery in South Omaha by the fusion conspirators, as confirmed by later developments, must make the case all the stronger.

Three days after the election The Bee outlined the conditions that existed in South Omaha in the following editorial comment:

Evidence is conclusive that the grossest election frauds were perpetrated by the fusion managers in Douglas county in the South Omaha precincts and that the large majority for fusion candidates shown on the returns from South Omaha are fictitious, the result of miscount, fraudulent voting, repeating and colonization.

Some of the election boards in South Omaha, although supposed to represent both parties, took orders directly from the fusion committee, even to the extent of ignoring court orders requiring them to conform to the law in the count instead of pursuing arbitrary, dark lantern methods to make good their agreements to deliver the stipulated majorities to the fusionists.

The Bee makes bold to assert that at least half of the majority in South Omaha recorded against the republicans is fraudulent and would be wiped out by an accurate count of the ballots honestly cast.

Such flagrant defiance of the law, striking at the very root of popular government, should rouse our people to a realization of the dangers threatened by the lawless and unscrupulous practices of the fusion machine. If there is any redress to be had they should insist upon having it.

The frauds then indicated have since been proved in detail by a mass of corroborative evidence, showing up a gigantic conspiracy, including not only the fusion managers, but also certain treacherous republicans whose betrayal of party trust is self-admitted. With the registration stacked and the booths wide open, almost every species of election fraud and chicanery was practiced to count in Ransom, notorious as the senator from Union stock yards, and his fusion associates.

Fraud vitiates all contracts and certificates of election procured by fraud have no claim to recognition by any legislative body.

Whatever agreements the county commissioners come to with the projectors of the proposed suburban electric road they should see to it that the public interests are safeguarded at every point. It might be well to call for expert advice from the city engineer or some other competent person. The taxpayers of Douglas county do not want to give away franchises for speculative purposes, but they are ready to encourage legitimate enterprise.

President Cleveland has gone on record in favor of a one-term presidency, but with a longer tenure and selected by more direct choice. He thinks this will be one of the changes accomplished during the next century. The demand for a one-term presidency coming from the only living ex-president who has had two terms and who has been three times a candidate is probably born of an experience to which no one else can testify.

Staring at a Shadow.
Baltimore American.

China keeps alluding to The Hague conference just as if it thought the powers meant anything they said about that infatuation for peace and international harmony.

Limited Class of Thinkers.
Baltimore American.

The class of thinkers who hold that a young man's development, mentally, morally and physically, is helped by hazing appears to be limited to the hazers themselves.

No Money to Waste.
Washington Post.

Spain has decided that she will do nothing toward a new party just at present. Spain doubtless feels that it would be useless to waste money in that direction as long as there are Deweys and Schleys in existence.

He Spouted at Lincoln.
Indianapolis Press.

In 1896 the Hon. John W. Kern failed to perceive the democratic drift toward populism until after he had made a speech he has been regretting ever since. This year he seems just as slow in comprehending the movement of the party back toward saner ground. The things he most needs are a padlock and a political divining-rod.

Dealing with China.
Philadelphia Press.

It would be too much to expect haste in the Chinese settlement, but so far as the drift of events justifies a forecast it looks as if the agreement would be accepted more or less promptly by the court. Though the United States has subscribed to conditions which, as President McKinley noted some time ago, call for the action of congress, there is nothing that has been suggested that strains our sovereignty or commits us to any permanent territorial occupation. The note might have been worded otherwise, but certain features of it which seem the harshest to Christendom will worry the Chinese the least.

APPRECIATED COMPLIMENTS

Cambridge Clarion.

The Omaha Illustrated Bee's special Christmas number was issued a little in advance, appearing last Sunday. However, it lacks none of the excellent features that might have characterized it had it appeared on Xmas day. The people of Nebraska should rally to the support of a paper that is doing more than any other publication to advertise the state and promote its interests through the medium of its weekly illustrations.

West Point Democrat.

The Omaha Bee's illustrated Christmas number was certainly a work of art from a pictorial point and was full of good reading for both old and young. The Bee is all right, excepting its politics.

Stick to the Old Style.
San Francisco Route.

The companies controlling the various patents for voting machines have combined, and now before we can take a step toward the improved system of voting we shall have to pay tribute to the trust.

Gains of a Century.
Boston Advertiser.

In material matters, in the care and treatment of the pauper, the insane, and even the criminal dependents on public bounty; in the stability of the currency and in the growth of public and private credit; in these and many other ways, the advancement of the nation is wonderful. To those critics who see so many faults in the body politic today; to those who despair of the future because of present shortcomings in national life or policies; to those who fear that they see in modern American tendencies the threat of a downfall of this republic; and to those who think the world is growing worse in all things, nothing more forcible can be said than to ask them to study the condition of this country at the close of the eighteenth century in contrast with that of today.

DAWN OF THE NEW CENTURY.

Its Light Will Be First Seen in the Antipodes Island.
Pearson's Magazine.

If the change of the centuries took place at either of the equinoxes—March 22 or September 22—then, since on these days the earth's axis is at right angles to the plane of the orbit and there is equal day and night all over the world, the matter would be very easily decided. The dawn line would coincide with the date line, and from pole to pole the first sun of the new century would rise at the same moment.

But unfortunately this is not so, and the consequence is that the line of dawn, as it sweeps round the earth, first touches the date line to the south of the equator and then gradually creeps up this line till it leaves it far to the north. So the first sun of the twentieth century will rise on the places along or near the date line in the order of their position from the south upward.

Now there is no land along this line from the Antarctic circle to Antipodes Island, hence this tiny spot of earth will see the twentieth century dawn. A few minutes later Bounty Island will see it. Then it will sweep along the northeast coast of North Island, New Zealand, then over Vanua Levu in the Fiji islands. Next it will shine on the scattered coral islets of the Ellice group, and after traveling about 9 degrees more to the north the light tide will touch the crossing of the dawn line and date line at 6 o'clock.

Two hours and five minutes will have to pass before it reaches the banks of the Yarra. In six hours and twenty-five minutes it will gild the temples and palaces of Calcutta. In nine hours and fifty minutes it will be flowing over Lion's Head and down the rugged sides of Table mountain. In twelve hours and twenty-five minutes it will have crossed Montmartre and touched the base of Eiffel tower in Paris. Five minutes later it will have passed the cross of St. Paul's and be flowing up Fleet street. In seventeen hours and twenty minutes from the time it crossed the dawn line it will be flowing round the feet of the Statue of Liberty, and in three hours more it will have reached the Golden Gate. Thence it will cross a stretch of ocean, unbroken by rock or islet, back to the dawn line, and so will have accomplished the evening and morning of the first day of the twentieth century.

IS IT FALSE SIGNIFICANCE?

Nothing Mysterious or Important About the End of the Century.
St. Louis Republic.

As the days of the waning nineteenth century grow fewer there comes more and more the inclination that showed so prominently in the year 1000 to attach a mysterious, creepy significance to the close of that period of time. The reported fin de siecle tendencies of which Max Nordau made so much in his "Degeneration" are studied with apprehension. Not a few even of the trained thinkers seem inclined to work themselves into a fever over the death of the century.

Men can fret as easily now as they did in the year 1000. At that time they were panic-stricken with the notion that the world would come to an end with the first century. They interrupted commerce and industries of all kinds in preparation for the end.

Men can easily work themselves into apprehension over the most trivial matters simply by sitting down and thinking hard of them. They can conjure up ghosts and hobgoblins and turn their hair gray in a single night if they abandon themselves to fears.

This tendency belongs to ignorance. The century is merely an arbitrary human device for measuring time. Absolutely no mysterious significance can be attached to a century's end. It might have ended just as logically four years ago as now.

Much more attractive is the plan of looking backward on what the century has accomplished for human progress. Up to the present this looking backward has been confined chiefly to material things; for instance, to tracing light production from the steel and tinder to the parlor match and illumination from the pine knot and tallow candle to the incandescent light. While this progress is the most important, the mental and moral changes have been marked and are as well worth considering. This does not refer to the new theories like the theory of evolution and the germ theory of disease which have been developed in the past century, but to the concrete progress in ethical and moral philosophy. Have men learned better how to live their inner lives and to increase their own sum of happiness while teaching others to do likewise?

In prosecuting such studies the idea of attaching importance to the century's end for any reason except as a fitting time to balance accounts should be kept firmly in the background.

NEBRASKA POLITICAL GOSSIP.

Hastings Tribune: Last week's issue of the Nanchez (Miss.) Daily Democrat contained a picture of W. A. poynter and announced that he was the newly-elected governor of Nebraska. It is quite evident that the editor of the Democrat read the World-Herald until a few weeks after election.

Tekamah Herald (rep.): The retirement of C. J. Smyth, the fusion attorney general, will not cause any regret among the thinking people in the state. He has proven himself a grand stand player who made a good deal of noise and doing no good. Nebraska will be blessed if it will never have another of his kind.

Bloomington Echo (rep.): The trustees of the State Institute for the Deaf and Dumb in their report to the governor cover themselves over with boquets and floral offerings for the fine progress made by the institution under their care. They go on the theory that if they do not pay the compliments no one else will.

Holdrege Citizen (rep.): It is quite possible that some of the politicians who are so anxious to keep Rosewater from being elected United States senator will be very anxious next fall that he should uphold the principles of republicanism. Some people seem to think that a republican editor should run his paper to help the party, but should not ask for anything for himself.

Beaver City Times (pop.): A number of populists have mentioned Senator Allen as the proper man for the fusion candidate for judicial honors next year. While the Times does not question Senator Allen's qualifications for the position of supreme judge and could support him with a will, yet we are of the opinion that the Hon. R. D. Sutherland would make an ideal candidate for the supreme bench. Do we hear a second?

Wayne Herald (rep.): The Herald is heartily in accord with the Republican in that the country north of the Elkhorn does not receive, or has not, the recognition it merits at the hands of those who have the appointing power in their hands, and especially when the magnificent gains by the republicans in this section of the state is considered. The Herald is in favor of any Wayne county republican, no matter who it is, that seeks recognition.

Oakland Independent (pop.): The security bond companies want $6,000 for furnishing State Treasurer-elect Stuefer's bond for two years. The office only pays $5,000 for the two years and just how the company would expect the new treasurer to come out even and be honest is an important question. We hope our new treasurer can get the personal security and the corporation, who have the right to check him up at any time, may lose its fat fee.

Table Rock Argus: Some ardent enemy of E. Rosewater is sending out from Omaha to the newspapers throughout the state a screed against Mr. Rosewater and his ambition to be United States senator. The article sent out this week was clipped from the World-Herald. Very few republican editors in the state draw their political opinions from the World-Herald, and the fact that its spleen against Rosewater is used to attempt to prejudice republicans against him, would almost force republican editors to give Mr. Rosewater their earnest support, even though they don't like him.

Grand Island Independent (rep.): The matter of bonds for custodians of public funds has been a vexing question for years. There are many arguments in favor of the guaranty bond and perhaps, following the general rule, the best goods come higher in price. The cost of a guaranty bond for the state treasurer, for instance, is pretty nearly as much as his salary. No state, county or city can hope to secure the best public servants unless it remunerates them, and there is much to be said in favor of the state, county and municipality paying for such bonds, particularly since expert checking up and examination of books and accounts is done by bond companies for their own benefit and the public shares in the benefit.

Howells Journal (dem.): The democrats and populists of Colfax county have fused for four years past. They have treated one another with fairness and consideration, and consequently have been successful in the election of their nominees. Had the populists of the state been as white as the members of their party in Colfax county the republicans would have met defeat in the last campaign. There is no good reason why fusion should not be continued in this county regardless of what may be done in the state. We believe that the time is not far distant when the true populist will join the democratic organization and under one party name fight for the overthrow of the common enemy. Until that time comes we believe in treating them fairly.

Stanton Picket (rep.): A well known Fremont German-American citizen was on a train coming up from Omaha a day or so ago when he got into a post-mortem political discussion with an excited fusionist, who thought an empire was upon us, and that the country has had its last Fourth of July celebration. "Der trouble mit you free silver folks," said the German citizen, "is you vant a kind of money vat it takes a veelbarrow to get der money home ven you sell a load of hogs." "The trouble with you blankety foreigners," said the other man, "is that you come over here with $4 and a blanket, stay six months and think you ought to run the country." "You vas porn here, I suppose," said the German. "You bet I was," said the other. "Vell vat did you bring ven you come?" A roar went up that drowned the noise of the train and the joint debate was over.

Pender Times (dem.): The editors of several democratic papers in this state are continually howling "no more fusion," but we have so far failed to see one argument to strengthen their course. The democrats of this state have much reason to rejoice because of fusion. Of course here and there one or the other of the parties in the compact have played "hog," but generally the fusion of the reform forces has proven advantageous to both sides. As for the state, fusion has given the people an excellent administration and the vote at the last election shows that while thousands of voters followed the McKinley administration they voted for fusion state and county officers. The fusionists have left a record behind them that, even if they never again hold an office, they can point to with pride. The fusionist parties are the only ones that have in this state attempted to redeem their pledges. Before the days of fusion the democratic party of Nebraska was little better than a tail to the republican kite. We elected a state treasurer and he immediately gathered a lot of republican barnacles around him to run the office. We elected a governor and he drove a majority of the party into the populist fold by following in the footsteps of the g. o. p. We worshiped at the shrine of the Mortons, the Norths, the Whites, the Martins, the Millers, the Boyds and the Castors, but when a young man arose up in our midst to fight the enemies of the people these worshiped gods of ours skulked away and were found succoring the enemy, either as soldiers in their ranks or spies in ours. May be we have got little in the way of pie out of our compact, but we don't now nor will not in the future have to blush for the actions while in office of the Smyths, the Sullivans, the Robinsons, the Schellenbergs et al, not to say anything of the acts of our partners in the fusion movement—the Allens, the Holcombs and the lesser lights. The Times editor is a democrat, who has no apologies to make for being a fusionist, and hopes that he can vote for a fusionist for supreme judge, who will be elected, next fall.

THOSE SOUTH OMAHA FRAUDS.

O'Neill Frontier (rep.): The Omaha Bee has been showing that the fusionists of South Omaha perpetrated some rank frauds at the late election. The fusion vote was augumented by fraudulent registrations and many votes appear to have been cast that were illegal. When it comes to corruption in politics and unscrupulous methods to secure office our friends of the reform party are strictly onto the ropes.

Howells Journal (dem.): Should the republicans succeed in throwing Frank Ransom, one of the representatives-elect from Douglas county, over the transom there would be no tears shed in this democratic print shop. Ransom was engaged in the job of depriving republicans of their rights four years ago, and now it is his turn to take a dose of his own medicine. Such bogus reformers as Ransom have been a curse to the fusion cause, and we care but little what disposition our republican friends make of him.

Auburn Post (rep.): Some queer things are developing in the legislative contest case in Douglas county. For instance, in one voting precinct in South Omaha forty-five republican votes were thrown out by the returning board because they were marked with a black lead pencil instead of an indeliable pencil, and in other places the footings were forced to show totals that the tally sheets contradict. The contest has not proceeded very far, but it has gone far enough to indicate that the entire republican legislative ticket in Douglas county would have had clear sailing had it not been for the frauds in South Omaha.

Kearney Hub (rep.): There is but one consideration for the legislature in disposing of the legislative contest from Douglas county. If it shall have been shown that the three contesting republican candidates were counted out or failed of election by fraud, they should be seated without question. If there was no fraud they should not be seated through any political considerations. It is hinted that some republicans may vote against seating them because to admit them would increase the Rosewater vote from Douglas county. But this is not the question at all. Any wrongs that have been committed should be righted, and that is all that there is to the proposition.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

Dewet has been cornered again. This time the irrepressible Boer will capture a British division.

The Courier-Journal notes that Christmas passed off quietly in Kentucky. Only eleven men were shot.

The new Mormon discoveries in Mexico tend to confirm the geologists' assertion that the new world is the oldest world we have.

Missourians threaten to make kidnaping a capital crime. It is a waste of energy. Missouri kids would not yield a paying ransom.

More than forty centuries overshadowed the Kentucky as she passed through the Suez canal and yet she sailed on without turning a hair.

Girls with red hair will be great favorites of the New Year. The demand is so great in New York that men are advertising for them.

A cold-blooded Indiana court holds that husband and wife are two people and that when a husband gives his note to his wife he must pay her just as though she were a stranger. Mem: Don't give your note.

Francis Norton of Springfield, Mass., is said to hold the long-service record for tax collector. He has held that office in Springfield for forty-one years and is now about to retire on account of ill health.

Ex-Speaker Reed declares that he has lost something over thirty pounds in weight during the last few months and says the reduction in flesh has done him a world of good. He refuses, however, to make public his prescription if he uses any.

In keeping with its custom in former years, the Philadelphia Record issues its almanac for 1901 several weeks in advance of the new year. It is filled with a vast amount of information—astronomical, political, sporting records and useful reviews of the principal events of 1900. Though affairs local to Philadelphia receive greatest attention, there is in it an abundance of national and world-wide facts, which give it much value as a work of reference.

The holiday number of the Northwestern Miller, Minneapolis, is a magnificent specimen of the "art preservative." The illustrations, typography and press work are notably fine and the special articles, as well as the copious display of "ads," are in keeping with the high character of the number. It may be doubted if the "art preservative" of the nineteenth century has produced a handsomer specimen of its marvelous development than the holiday number of the Miller.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Some Hard Problems Go Over to the New Century.
Boston Transcript.

The close of one century and the opening of another means in the thought of men a sharp demarcation in time; but as we survey the field of the world's operations we are struck by the fact that there is no rounding out of achievement to correspond to it. We can measure off time to a second, but in the ending of one definite set of enterprises and the beginning of another the balance is never struck. In evolution there is no cessation, and so far as we can see no starting point. Movements have their birth, we know not how, and they take us with them. We do not direct or end them. They direct and terminate themselves. We talk of policies and flatter ourselves upon our own potentialities, but all these things are but expressions of forces outside of ourselves.

For instance, a survey of the world's undertakings discloses the fact that never before was there so much raw material in the crucible of history as at the present time; but that material is, nevertheless, in a very chaotic state. Great changes have marked the last five years. Geography has been almost revolutionized. The maps that answered for a class now about to graduate from the grammar school, when it began its studies, are almost worthless; and its successor will be equally embarrassed to keep up with the changes that are making from year to year. When we undertook a war of humanity, we did not suppose it was to have such momentous consequences. We did not see that it was to carry us into every corner of the earth and heap upon us trials and responsibilities from which even the twenty-first century may not see us freed.

Great Britain also finds herself confronted by a task in South Africa of whose magnitude and embarrassing features she certainly had no adequate preconception, as she is herself obliged to admit. Her commander-in-chief at the beginning of the struggle promised to be in Pretoria by Christmas of a year ago, and official announcements of the practical ending of the war have been made several times in vain. Conquered fields and forces have to be reconquered, and the end is more problematical than ever before. Our own operations in the Philippines have also developed new features, and whatever the present tendency may be, encouraging or otherwise, the fact remains that we still have an unsettled problem, quite large of its age, to take over with us into the new century. We thought a year ago that by this time we should have all preliminaries settled and our arrangements made for the construction of an isthmian canal, but the way now bristles with obstacles but newly arisen.

If the chief characteristics of the transition from one significant period to another are incompleteness and uncertainty, so far as national, international and continental interests are concerned, the perplexed individual who finds affairs similarly mixed in his personal relations can at least console himself with the reflection that he is not peculiar in his strivings, his burdens and his embarrassments. He is in touch with the order or disorder of his time. His small matters only follow the lead of great affairs in their confusion and incompleteness. No previous century has had so much or so serious work cut out for it as the one upon which we are about to enter.

WESTWARD THE COURSE OF EMPIRE

Center of Our Population Moving in the Right Direction.

The report has been widely published that under the present census the center of our population has moved eastward. The Washington correspondent of the Boston Transcript pronounces the report premature, as the census office has not completed its study of the question. "Somebody outside the office," says the correspondent, "has noted the greater growth of eastern cities than of western and from these happenings jumped to the conclusion that the center of gravity of our millions had been stayed in its westward course and was returning eastward. While this conclusion was perhaps natural enough, census office experts do not anticipate that it will be sustained by the facts. They believe the center of population has moved westward, although very much less than usual. Ten years ago the movement had been forty-eight miles west and nine miles north. The guesses now are from ten to twenty miles westward, with still greater uncertainty as to movement on the meridian. Chicago and New York and Boston are north of the center of population, while Oklahoma and Texas are tugging it southward.

"It is probable that the census bulletins will this year for the first time report both the center of population and the "median point" of population. The latter is what almost everybody thinks the center of population is, or the point about which there are an equal number of persons north and south, east and west. The other is well described as the center of gravity of population, for in computing it the long arms of the lever exert the greater influence. It is maintained by sociological students that the center of population rather than the median point is of real importance. If a man moves, for example, from Ohio to Illinois it has as much effect upon the median point of population, assuming that to be in Indiana, as if he had migrated from Maine to Oregon, whereas the economic significance of the former is immeasurably less. The people at a great distance have less influence upon the national life than those near the center of its millions. Still it is interesting to know where the median point is. Ten years ago the Chicago Herald erected a monument at the center of population. Its successor, the Chicago Times-Herald, offers to do so this year. It is quite a distinction for a little village to know that a great nation finds its true sociological center there."

FLUSH DAYS FOR UNCLE SAM.

Crown Wearers of the Old Looking to the New World for Aid.
St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Even Europe's crown wearers are interested in American prosperity. Many of them, it is known, have made heavy investments in United States securities of one sort and another. The Russian czar, the German kaiser, the kings of Italy, Belgium and other European countries, as well as Kruger, the ex-head of the extinct South African republic, have large sums of money, in some cases well up into the millions, in railroad bonds or stocks and other kinds of American properties. These personages, as well as 76,000,000 Americans, are very much interested in the prosperity which the republican party has brought to the United States.

Very soon after the opening of the new year about $175,000,000 will be disbursed in New York as interest or dividends. Some of this money will go to its European owers, but the great bulk of it, of course, will go into the pockets of Americans. Not all of it which goes to Europe, or which is owned by Europeans, will be taken out of the country for any considerable length of time. Most of it will be invested here again, on the knowledge that it will bring more money. The United States is by far the best country in the world in these days of republican prosperity for everybody, American or foreigner, to invest money in.

These are "flush" days to the industries and commerce of the United States. In most of the great activities new records have been made this year. All the larger industries are busier than ever before. Apparently it will be hard for 1901 to beat 1900's exhibit in the industries and commerce, but the continuous increase which has been under way shows no signs of interruption. The coming spring will probably beat last spring in the amount of of its business, and the other seasons are likely to score advances on the corresponding times this year. The wave of prosperity is touching a higher mark than was ever reached before in the United States, but the opening year of the new century stands a chance to see an advance on even the present records.

LAST LAUGHS OF THE YEAR.

Pittsburg Chronicle: "The coal bin is empty," said Mrs. Spiffins to her husband.

"Then it is a has-been," replied Spiffins, unimpressed.

Washington Star: "Ef dere was sech a man as Santy Claus," said Uncle Eben, I'll bet a lot o' folks 'ud git up an' denounce 'im foh organizin' a Christmas gif' trust."

Indianapolis Press: "Did you suffer much when the dentist was working on your molars?"

"I don't mind telling you that my tortures were simply unspeakable."

Philadelphia Press: "There's an old saying that ought to be revised," remarked Sillicus, tossing away a half-eaten apple.

"How?" inquired the other.

"'The worm will turn when bitten upon.'"

Pittsburg Chronicle: In a music store they found a piano that had been newly polished. It bore a notice which read: "Hands off."

"Queer piano that," said one.

"How so?" asked the other.

"The intention seems to be to play it with the feet."

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "Do you see that man over yonder? He has just had greatness thrust upon him."

"Why, he's the only public man in the country who when asked to tell what would happen in the new century said he didn't know."

THE NEW CENTURY.

Jennie B. Harlswick in the Independent.

When in the dim, gray east shall rise
The morning of thy birth—
When thy first dawn steps from the skies
Upon the hill of earth—
Shall waiting nations breathless stand
Oppressed with haunting fears,
Of what thou holdest in thy hand,
Thou coming Hundred Years?

Or shall a glad world welcome thee
With laughter and a song—
Thou unborn child of Destiny
Whose reign shall be so long?
Who knows!—we only know that thou
Shalt enter like a king
Into thy courts—that we must bow,
Whatever thou dost bring.

What matter whether war or peace
Thy heralds shall proclaim—
The story of the centuries
Is evermore the same!
Thy children years shall tell abroad,
Through all thy mighty span,
Naught for the Fatherhood of God—
The Brotherhood of Man.