

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss. George E. Tschuck, 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 May, 1901, was as follows:

Parties leaving for summer. Parties leaving the city for the summer may have the Bee sent to them regularly by notifying The Bee Business Office, in person or by mail.

Hot air will propel an engine, but hot air has never yet built an air line road.

The state supreme court has wound up for the season and the force pump commission will take a breath.

Mr. Stubbs of California admits that he is to be the whole thing on Harrison's transcontinental octopus.

Denver wants pointers from Omaha for a half million dollar auditorium. There's nothing small about Denver. Drop an eagle in the slot.

A new reform party has just been organized at Kansas City with the initiative and referendum as the keystone. Here is a chance for Governor Yeiser.

Now that the county has been redistricted the Board of County Commissioners will find time for concentrating its attention on the equalization of assessments.

With \$100,000 of his own and a wedding present of \$100,000, young Mr. Clark of Montana will not be forced to buy furniture on the installment plan in order to start housekeeping.

South Dakota's apportionment of school funds is the largest in the history of the state—the legitimate result of republican prosperity. No sign shines in the sky for populism in this shining.

The Jersey City court is angry because the newspapers accepted it on testimony which the judge proposed to suppress from the jury. Judges have no license to go to sleep if they do not wish the press to beat them out.

Democratic talk about running Justice Harlan for the presidency is strangely at variance with the comments lately made by the same party through its press and public men regarding the appointment of the judge's son to a position in Porto Rico.

President Mellen of the Northern Pacific announces through the Associated Press that he has no thought of resigning. Mr. Mellen may rest assured that nobody suspected him of such foolishness. The average railroad president does not resign a \$200,000 job unless he has a \$25,000 job in sight.

The smaller manufacturers of agricultural implements have held a meeting to discuss ways and means of defending themselves against the big concern soon to be incorporated. It looks, however, that through its alliance with the steel combine the big company has plowed a wide fireguard around its preserve.

It remained for a Denver man to discover the real object of the financial syndicates in buying up the railroads of the country. According to this authority all the roads in the country are to be bought up and sold to the government for \$10,000,000,000. This will probably be news to the magnates. Another thing which is peculiar about the discovery is where the great financiers expect to make a profit, as at the price paid for the roads so far bought the sum named would hardly be sufficient to purchase all the roads in the country.

Woman suffragists will receive very little encouragement from the proposed enfranchisement of white women in Alabama as an offset to the negro vote. Under the fifteenth amendment to the federal constitution the right of citizens of the United States to vote cannot be denied or abridged by the United States or any state on account of race, color or previous condition of servitude. If suffrage is granted to the white women of Alabama, it must also be granted to the black women, and in Alabama black women outnumber the white women.

WHAT CUBA WILL ASK.

The allied commercial associations of Cuba have sent a representative to Washington whose mission is to present information from the commercial concerns of Cuba which it is hoped will result in the adoption of a reciprocity tariff agreement with the island. The planters and business men of Cuba are particularly anxious to secure a reduction in the tariff on sugar and every effort will be made to obtain this concession from congress at its next session. It is stated that General Wood favors a reduction and has recommended to the president that congress be asked to make a reduction not only of the tariff on sugar, but also on tobacco. He is said to have pointed out, in a recent communication to the secretary of war on the subject, that the financial condition of Cuba makes a reduction of tariff duties on the staple products of Cuba almost a necessity and it is thought, that the president will recommend to congress that a reduction be made.

President McKinley informed the Cuban commissioners that as soon as a government should be established in Cuba the question of trade relations between the island and the United States would be taken up and undoubtedly this will be done. The matter is of vital concern to the future of Cuba. The island cannot develop and prosper without the American market for its sugar and tobacco. But as we have heretofore pointed out, there will be a formidable opposition to granting any special tariff favor to Cuban sugar and tobacco. Already the sugar and tobacco interests in the United States are preparing to fight any attempt on the part of the planters of Cuba to secure a reciprocity agreement with this country and those interests will doubtless be thoroughly organized by the time congress assembles, while they may be expected to do effective work with members in the meantime.

We noted a short time ago the appearance of a pamphlet strongly denouncing the proposed tariff concessions to Cuba. It is argued in this that the United States has done quite enough for the island—all that is either necessary to restore prosperity or fair to our own taxpayers and our home industries, all that is decent and honest toward our sugar producers in the states and in our new and pacified possessions, Hawaii and Porto Rico. It is urged that "with forty best sugar factories representing \$90,000,000 of more in Michigan, Ohio, New York, Indiana, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Nebraska, Colorado, Utah, Oregon, Washington and California, we do not believe the people of those states desire their senators and representatives to vote for either free sugar from Cuba or for reduced duties thereon." It is declared that "Cuba is on an even keel now with our sugar producers and to say that her Spanish planters need reduced duties is deceptive and false."

This gives an idea of the opposition that will be made to any effort to give tariff favors to Cuban sugar and tobacco and the American interests directly concerned will be very likely to have the sympathetic support of other interests. It is obvious, therefore, that it will be a difficult matter for the Cubans to secure the consideration they desire for their products, though it is probable some favor will be shown them.

BOER SYMPATHIZERS IN ENGLAND.

A pro-Boer meeting in London, attended by thousands of people, is at this time significant. It had been commonly supposed that there were very few people in England who felt any sympathy for the Boer cause, but it appears that such are quite numerous and that they are willing to make themselves heard. Perhaps they do not seriously expect to accomplish anything. It is hardly conceivable that they believe they may be able to bring about any change in the policy of the government. That policy has behind it a strong parliamentary majority, it is supported by the influential newspapers of the country and unquestionably a very large majority of Englishmen think that it must be carried out. Yet these Boer sympathizers are to be commended for having the courage of their convictions.

Meanwhile the Boer cause seems to be holding its ground remarkably well. The force in Cape Colony is reported to be increasing and the fact that there are no reports of British successes shows that little if any progress is being made toward ending hostilities. It is certain that if the British were to accomplish anything of consequence the world would be told of it. The war has become astonishingly dull, from a military standpoint, but its effect is keenly felt in England by reason of increased taxation, and while there is no reason to expect any change of policy on the part of the government, it is quite possible that the sentiment in favor of a change will grow. Such meetings as that held in London Wednesday can hardly fail to produce that result.

WITHOUT POLITICAL IMPORT.

The Russian ambassador to the United States has assured Secretary Hay that the action of the Russian minister of finance in increasing duties on American products has no political import and was in no way connected with any movement in Europe antagonistic to American interests. There was no suspicion that it had any such significance, yet it is obvious that its effect might be to lead other governments to adopt a like policy toward us. If we should tamely submit to this form of tariff retaliation, undoubtedly the Russian government has no thought of entering into any European combination against our products, but in adopting a retaliatory policy that government is furnishing an example to other countries that some of them may follow and this the United States is justified in regarding as distinctly unfriendly.

The matter appears to be receiving serious consideration at Washington. It was discussed at a cabinet meeting Wednesday and Secretary Gage raised the question whether the action of the

Russian government was not an infringement upon the treaty rights of the United States. If such is the case, however, it appears that our government also violated the treaty in imposing a duty on Russian petroleum. In that event this government would doubtless at once remedy the mistake, and it is safe to assume that Russia would promptly recede from her position, so far as the last increase of duties is concerned.

At all events, the situation calls for careful and conservative treatment by both countries and this it will undoubtedly receive. Neither country wants a tariff war and it should not be difficult to avoid one.

THE COUNTY GERRYMANDER.

For more than twenty-five years the affairs of this county were managed and controlled by a board of three commissioners, elected by the vote of the whole county. Some twelve years ago the Board of County Commissioners was increased from three to five, and the county was subdivided into five districts, each commissioner being elected by the vote of the particular district in which he resided.

Under the general statutes governing county commissioners the district boundaries may be changed not oftener than once every three years, but the law expressly requires that no change in the district boundaries be made unless every member of the board is present at the meeting when such change is voted. Another section of the law requires that the county shall be subdivided after every national or state census has been taken and officially published.

The present board of commissioners consists of three democrats and two republicans. During the past eighteen months repeated efforts have been made by the democratic majority to force a redistricting that would insure a democratic majority in the board of commissioners for years to come. This scheme was spoiled by the absence from time to time of one or the other of the republican members. In spite of the absence of both of the republican members of the board the democratic majority has just redistricted the county on lines that seemed to them to make sure of the two democratic candidates in November next and the perpetuation of the democratic board for years to come.

While there is grave doubt as to the legality of this gerrymander, it will, if declared valid by the courts, by no means prove of advantage to its proponents. The law authorizing the redistricting expressly provides that no member shall be deposed or legislated out of office. In other words, every member of the existing board is protected in his right to represent the county on the board of commissioners during the entire term for which he was elected.

Under the gerrymander the First, Second and Third wards constitute one district; the Fourth, Seventh and Eighth wards another; the Fifth, Sixth and Ninth another; South Omaha and Clontarf precinct constitute one district, and the remaining country precincts constitute another district. Inasmuch as Commissioners Harte and Connolly both now reside in the same district, each will continue to remain in the board until their respective terms expire. Connolly's term expires with the end of this year, but Harte will remain a member of the board until the close of 1903. There would be no vacancy in the First, Second and Third wards, or the First district, in 1902, and consequently there can be no election for a commissioner from that ward this year. The district comprising the Fifth, Sixth and Ninth wards would be represented by Ostrom, who holds over until the end of 1902, and hence there can be no election in his district in 1901. This would leave the district comprising the Fourth, Seventh and Ninth wards with a vacancy next year, and South Omaha and Clontarf with another vacancy.

The upshot of the whole matter is that the republicans would have two hold-over members for next year and would be sure to elect a member from the Fourth, Seventh and Ninth wards this year. The democrats, on the other hand, would have one hold-over—Hofeldt—and a fair chance for another in South Omaha and Clontarf. In any event Mr. Connolly has cut himself out of any chance of election. If the gerrymander is pronounced illegal by the courts he stands no better show by running in the Eighth, Third and Ninth, that constitute the district in which he now resides.

Viewed from any standpoint the gerrymander leaves very little comfort to the democrats for continuing in power in Douglas county for another year.

London papers have from time to time printed statements that the United States had sent an ultimatum to Denmark regarding the sale of the Danish West Indies, and their latest is to the effect that that country had been notified that it must either sell or fortify the islands. Such stories are absurd. The United States has never been in the business of sticking its nose into the affairs of European countries in this manner, and no departure from this custom will be made. It is possible that Denmark has been informed that under the Monroe doctrine the United States would object to the islands passing into the control of any European nation other than the present owners. In fact, there is a standing notice to that effect posted on all foreign-held territory on this continent.

If the new traffic manager for the allied Harriman roads is to manage the business on the basis which has prevailed on the Southern Pacific in the past, the community of interest may prove a detriment rather than a benefit to the west. The Southern Pacific policy has been "All the traffic would bear," and sometimes a little more.

Ordinarily scolding from the bench is neither good policy nor good manners, but there are times when it appears to be justifiable. One of them is the Minneapolis case, where unscrupulous promoters have reaped a harvest of \$250,000 out of an investment of wind and left

only a small quantity of that to satisfy the claims of the duped creditors. The common sneak thief is a prince of moralists compared with such financial high-walkers as these, and if the Minneapolis court will only provide them with striped clothing for which the state pays and a steady job of hard work for a few years, it will be doing humanity a service.

One hundred thousand people are waiting for the chance to make 13,000 entries upon land to be opened to settlement in Oklahoma. Someone is sure to be disappointed, but it remains for the future to show whether it is the few who get the land or the many who suffer temporary disappointment.

Another Message Awaited.

Kansas City Star. In the case of Captain Rowan, who is charged with unnecessarily arousing the people in the Island of Bohol, the country will give the gallant admiral in general the benefit of the doubt until he has had his hearing.

Rivaling the Corn Belt.

New York Tribune. The oil wells of Texas are pouring out floods of petroleum, and now asphalt has been discovered in that favored state. Asphalt will be in brisk demand for generations. It is needed all over the world for pavements. Lucky Texas!

A Public Calamity.

Washington Post. The accident to the Inland mail is a great hardship to those senators and representatives who had consented to take a trip on the transport at the government's expense. Perhaps the poor men will feel like paying their way to and from the Philippines.

Between Two Fires.

Baltimore American. One of the speakers at a New York college has declared that the party cannot hope for success unless it unloads Mr. Bryan. Ninety-nine per cent of intelligent democrats believe the same thing, but the populist terrorism prevents them from saying so.

Populist Terrorism.

Chicago Chronicle (dem.) Unlike most democratic politicians, Perry Belmont is not afraid to say what he thinks. He holds that the party cannot hope for success unless it unloads Mr. Bryan. Ninety-nine per cent of intelligent democrats believe the same thing, but the populist terrorism prevents them from saying so.

Free Trade with Porto Rico.

Springfield Republican. Free trade with Porto Rico seems to be near at hand. This is indicated in a call for a special session of the island legislature to meet on July 1 for the purpose, apparently, of giving formal notice to Washington that the revenues have been put in control of the island. It is a fair degree of success has attended the experiment. Of course, it would not be possible to transmit as far by this means as with a metallic conductor. Yet the system has its advantages. Occasions are likely to arise when it will be necessary to reach, by merchant steamer or naval vessel, rather than a land station. Even though the demand for such service is likely to be limited, it is interesting to know that it is possible.

AMERICA'S BEST SUPREMACY.

The Recognition of the Brotherhood and Equality of Man. St. Paul Pioneer Press. We hear a great many boasts nowadays concerning the supremacy which our country has in the world. It is in the fact of manufacturing and commercial exchanges. And, indeed, the triumph of inventive, administrative and industrial genius in shop and factory, in mine and on railroad, in production and transportation—no saying nothing of the other types of genius which have sought out and developed new markets abroad—have been such as American heart swell with exultation. If the least is to be said for ourselves, the country is deemed happy which finds itself "supreme" among nations in the magnitude of its business transactions. There's a deal of satisfaction in being simply the best.

But let us not forget, in contemplating these wonderful advances, in glorying over the still enormously increasing amount of our riches and in comparing our commerce with that of other nations whose former prestige we have taken to ourselves, that there is a nobler supremacy than that which fills the exultant air of our marts and exchanges today and that such a nobler supremacy has been ours for more than a century. With the very first organization of our government our country was set forward as supreme among the nations of the earth in the liberty it allowed the individual citizen, in the recognition of the brotherhood and equality of man, in the obligation of civility and courtesy, in the opening of every door of opportunity on equal terms to all. It was this that gave to the American republic the proud distinction among nations. It was this that made our country the beacon light to the world. It was this that has made us the material and which has made us the nations of the world. Under old world systems this material development could never have been attained. It was because our souls were free that minds expanded, hands were free that enterprise everywhere found vigor to keep it company. American commercial supremacy today is the child of American liberty.

Let no American, then, forget the greater things for which his country stands, in glorifying in the advances which are simply material and which fade to nothingness in the presence of institutions founded by a Washington and which made possible a Lincoln. Our worship of material success is already carried too far. We exult our plutocrats in the possession of their money, but the best fruits of our social system—the best representatives of Americanism. Let us learn rather to put forward, as most worthy of honor, the men who are doing most to hold our people to the faith of our fathers, to purify our politics, to open new paths of opportunity for the workers whose only capital is brain and brawn, to make our homes still more the abodes of virtue and to banish from the temple of liberty the worship of the golden calf.

HAZEN S. PINGREE.

Minneapolis Times: Ex-Governor Pingree was not always politic in his methods and the antagonism he aroused sometimes defeated his cherished plans, but he was a man of wonderful force and to him Michigan is in great measure indebted for such tax reforms as have been instituted there in recent years.

Chicago Tribune: It is easy to forget the faults of a man of such positive and creative character as Mr. Pingree exhibited—to forget his domineering proclivities, his intolerance of opposition, his too ready resort to abuse, and sometimes his considered opinions. Viewed as a whole, his public career stands out above these incidents as that of a man of that resolute attitude toward corporate aggression, that constructive capacity in municipal administration, that earnest and ardent sympathy of which the great social centers of today stand in conspicuous need.

Kansas City Star: The altruism displayed by Governor Pingree was not superficial or unimply in an age and time when the selfish instincts of humanity are rampant. The sponsor of such principles and doctrines as he advocated is likely to become the object of misunderstanding, and to be judged as a seeker for notoriety. In the case of Governor Pingree this impression was discredited by the actual performances of the man. The work of creation and activity in this world is achievement. Judged by this standard, Governor Pingree attained an honorable and worthy position in the history of his state and country.

Detroit Free Press: Mr. Pingree was a paradox. He had the aggressiveness of a Roosevelt, yet, with a blind confidence that has no place in our modern political school, he could be talked over to those who were his enemies at heart, and assist in furthering the very schemes he was determined to thwart. He rejected his wisest friends for every national or state census has been taken and officially published.

St. Paul Pioneer Press: In spite of his aggressiveness, of the narrowness of his judgment and his impetuous temper, Governor Pingree was a man of great force of character, who was animated by a desire to reform whatever he regarded as abuses, and was courageous enough to undertake to smash whatever stood in the way of the ends he sought to accomplish. He accomplished a great deal of good while mayor of Detroit by his aggressive policy in matters of municipal reform. Transferred to the executive headship of the state he did not prove equal to the broader field of state administration. If his energy and courage had been guided by a broader intelligence and a cooler judgment he would have been a successful political leader. But his tendency to radical and violent extremes was associated with an ignorance and an egotism which rendered him a more mischievous agitator than a safe leader. He himself had come to the conclusion that his vocation was not politics, and was preparing, we believe, to abandon public life when death put an end to his career.

PERSONAL NOTES.

The British veteran gets his service medal without the intervention of a pension attorney.

Admiral Schley, who is an enthusiastic Knight Templar, has promised to attend the annual convocation in Louisville next August.

Viscount Wolsey has just celebrated his sixtieth birthday, being eight months younger than Lord Roberts, who, however, has not been in the service so long as Wolsey.

"Coin" Harvey, who has become a citizen of Benton county, Arkansas, is going to make the race for congressman in the Third Arkansas district. Harvey has come to the front as a promoter of an old-time fiddlers' contest to be given at Monteha, Ark.

Paul W. Lineberger of Chicago, who has been appointed judge of the Philippines, is a native of Warren, Ill., where he was born in 1859. He graduated from the Lake Forest and Northwestern universities and afterward studied in Paris and Heidelberg.

An American "gentleman," according to an advertisement which has just appeared in the London Times, "desires the services of an English lady of title as chaperon for his daughter during a three months' visit to England." Of course he is on the scent for some semi-idiotic noble.

John Morley, who is writing a "Life of Gladstone," gets on slowly with the work. It took him a long time to sort out the vast accumulation of papers left by Mr. Gladstone in his study, and he is now largely occupied in explaining the slow progress he is making. Mr. Morley says: "Imagine a life of nearly ninety years filled to the utmost capacity."

NO MENACE TO AMERICAN LABOR.

Pacific Coast View of Trade with the Philippines. San Francisco Chronicle. We are convinced that the interest of American labor, and especially of Pacific coast labor, demands absolutely free trade between the mainland and the Philippines under the protection of our navigation and revenue laws. The result of such a course would be the consequence of the greater part of an increasing trade, now aggregating from \$35,000,000 to \$40,000,000 annually, to United States ships plying between United States ports. American labor would produce the majority of what the Philippines would buy, the establishment of a genuine coastwise trade with the islands would increase our facilities for trade with other parts of Asia, which would also be beneficial to American labor.

The only objection which it is attempted to urge against this is the danger of excluding American labor in our own country to the competition of the degraded labor of Asia. It is best to discuss this purely economic problem with entire frankness. If the Chronicle believed that free intercourse with the Philippines would be injurious to American labor we would exert all our mental activities to devise some means by which we could honorably cut loose from the Philippines. Our present connection is an unquestionable damage to everybody.

Labor in the Philippines is of two kinds—that of the natives, whose competition nobody fears, and that of the Chinese and Japanese domiciled there, which is doubtless to be considered. It has been claimed that the exports from the Philippines are mainly the products of Chinese labor. That is not true, and has no approach to truth. Out of a population of 8,000,000 to 10,000,000 in the archipelago there are only about 70,000 Chinese, of whom the large majority are believed to be engaged in small trade among which they are crowding out the Filipinos, who dislike them as much as they are disliked here. The extension and enforcement of our exclusion and registration laws would put a stop to their increase and their habit of returning to China, and their days would soon diminish their numbers as they are diminishing here. It is far easier to enforce such laws in those islands than in this country, with the thousands of miles of boundary between us and Mexico and Canada.

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Men and Events Observed at the National Capital. This government of ours runs to big figures in most things. We have expanded in population as well as in territorial area. The "billion-dollar" congress of ten years ago now crowds the two billion mark, and the nation's income maintains a comfortable lead over the outgo. In the matter of figures, however, the Postoffice department leads the procession. Estimates for postage stamps—stickers that move the mail—say the coming fiscal year present an array of ornate round figures calculated to bewilder. Here is the official order: One-cent stamps, 1,300,000,000; 2-cent stamps, 3,500,000,000; 3-cent stamps (in books), 85,375,000; 4-cent stamps, 40,000,000; 5-cent stamps, 40,000,000; 6-cent stamps, 16,000,000; 8-cent stamps, 20,000,000; 10-cent stamps, 30,000,000; 15-cent stamps, 4,000,000; 50-cent stamps, 200,000; \$1 stamps, 50,000; \$2 stamps, 5,000; \$5 stamps, 3,000; 10-cent special delivery, 9,000,000; total, \$1,115,256,000.

Stamp books, twelve stamps each, 3,400,000; twenty-four stamps each, 1,920,000; forty-eight stamps each, 452,000; total, 4,872,000.

Postage Due Stamps—One-cent stamps, 6,000,000; 2-cent stamps, 15,000,000; 3-cent stamps, 500,000; 4-cent stamps, 1,500,000; 5-cent stamps, 2,500,000; 6-cent stamps, 10,000; 8-cent stamps, 9,500; total, 25,521,900.

Panama Exposition Stamps—One-cent stamps, 75,000,000; 2-cent stamps, 165,000,000; 4-cent stamps, 4,500,000; 5-cent stamps, 6,000,000; 8-cent stamps, 4,000,000; 10-cent stamps, 4,500,000; total, 259,500,000.

No comparison can be made of the stamps in books, as their printing and sale in that form is a recent innovation. The following shows the increase of next year over last year: About 250,000,000 more 1-cent stamps than last year, 400,000,000 more 2-cent, 8,000,000 more 3-cent, 2,000,000 more 4-cent, 6,000,000 more 5-cent, 4,000,000 more 6-cent, 100,000 more 8-cent, 120,000 more 10-cent, 10,000 more \$1, 2,000 more \$2, 1,000 more \$5, 2,000,000 more special delivery.

Attorney General Knox is the most youthful looking man that has occupied a cabinet portfolio in recent years. In reality Mr. Knox is target for many a young man—only 42 years—but he looks more like a boy of 18 or 20 than he does like a man of middle age. The other day he was taken for a boy by an old gentleman who was at the Department of Justice and who was the attorney general on business.

Mr. Knox's office is the finest in the building. The waiting room is on the opposite side of the hall. The old gentleman had been sitting there for an hour or more to see the attorney general. At last Mr. Knox emerged from his office to go to some part of the building. The old gentleman mistook him for the office boy and, stepping up to him, said:

"Say, sonny, what kind of a fellow is your boss? I see you coming out of his office and presume you know all about him. I have a little business to transact with the attorney general and would like to get a line on Mr. Knox before tackling him."

Mr. Knox's cherubic face brightened and, with a merry twinkle in his eye, said:

"Oh, he's all right. Walk right in and sit down until I return. I will then bear with you what you have to say."

The old gentleman would have then and there sold himself for 30 cents.

The decision of the United States supreme court, rendered some weeks ago, in the case of Captain Schufeldt, holding that he must pay the attorney general, had been awarded his divorced wife, in having an effect on an element of the army officers which, though small, has brought the general establishment under occasional discredit by the possible avoidance of small debts.

The court held in a general way that officers could not hope to avoid paying honorable debts by taking advantage of the bankruptcy act, while still enjoying liberal compensation from the government for their services. Further effect will be given by the decision of the department last week in rigidly disciplining an officer on the Pacific coast who sought to have a bill for services rendered to him personally reduced by conveying the impression that it was to be paid by the government and the auditing officials would consider it exorbitant.

"The department realizes," says the St. Louis Globe-Democrat correspondent, "that such an element in the army is exceedingly small. The occasional operations of officers of this caliber and disposition has an effect upon the entire establishment. This is the duty of the department, and it is the duty of the officers of the army to live under existing conditions free trade men or others who have just accounts against officers will experience difficulty in their collections in future."

The new fire chief of Washington, a former newspaper reporter, Mr. R. W. Dutton, has decided to use automobiles instead of horses for himself and his aides to run to the city. The cost of an equipment using horses is for each official about \$1,000. Two wagons are necessary, one being used in reserve and two horses are assigned to each assistant and to the chief. An automobile can be bought for this sum and it is estimated that the expense of operation and maintenance will not come anywhere near the cost of horses and the attendance necessary for them.

A careful report was made to the district commissioner on the subject, and it looks as if the change would lead to the proposal to substitute automobiles for horses in every branch of the fire department. The fact that the price of good horses has gone up considerably of late is having its influence on the matter.

Senator Joe Bailey of Texas has discarded the conventional clothes, long frock coat, white necktie, plated shirt, white black sombrero hat and patent leather shoes which he insisted upon wearing upon all occasions since he entered public life ten years ago. He was in Washington the other day, togged out in the height of the fashion—light gray coat and trousers to match; white vest, russet shoes, straw hat, lurid shirtwaist and a swaggar necktie. Last winter he abandoned the white necktie for a purple four-in-hand. This was the first occasion he made to the Washington society. Mr. Bailey has never worn evening clothes in his life, and when he attended receptions and dinners he appeared in his long-tailed frock.

Mr. Bailey is the surprise of his friends here. He is the first congressman to have winter in the regulation evening clothes. They marveled and wondered what the next move would be. When Senator Bailey walked down Pennsylvania avenue the other day he looked like a man who had been suit, the people gazed at the Texan in great wonderment and pronounced him the "real thing."

Wonders of the New Century.

Detroit Free Press. The lunatic asylum twenty-five years ago would have yawned for the man who would suggest a railroad combination covering 55,825 miles, with a capital of \$2,000,000,000 and an earning capacity of 10 per cent on that. But this is Mr. Morgan's latest accomplishment, and while the figures are so large as to be hardly within the grasp of an average man, no great surprise is felt or expressed over his achievement. The mileage represents about two-sevenths of the entire railroad mileage of the United States.

PAYING THE STAGGERING PRICE.

New York World: The British secretary of war's statement that in the month of May 416 deaths had occurred among the 40,229 Boers in the "concentration camps" is a shocking one. This is a death rate of about 125 per 1,000 per annum, which is six times as high as the normal death rate of London. Mr. Broderick's admission is in itself an awful arraignment of British humanity.

Kansas City Star: Great Britain has fought a long and costly war in South Africa. There is much reason for popular dissatisfaction over the miscalculations and mismanagement of this war, but it is to be assumed that the time will never come when public sentiment will approve an inglorious withdrawal of the troops. In the meantime it ought to be exceedingly dangerous for such unpatriotic demonstrations as that proposed for Fox hall, London.

Philadelphia Record: With Pretoria strongly fortified against assault, there is no fear that that quarter of any superior force of Boers like that which the other day practically wiped out 250 Australian mounted riflemen scarcely 100 miles from the Transvaal capital. The war in South Africa has become, on the one hand, a matter of elaborate garrisons and on the other a series of guerrilla raids. The British forces can only hold the chief towns and important military posts, without seeking to hunt down the elusive raiders. Under such conditions the anticipations of an early peace seem entirely illusory.

Boston Globe: In spite of so many and unmistakable warnings England still persists in squandering lives and money in maintaining the assumed pride and prestige and in the pursuit of a shadowy dominion over barren territory in far-off, sparsely-populated lands, ostensibly to secure new markets for British products. While thus expending money on unprofitable ventures, whose commerce amounts to but little, England's industries are suffering at home. Worse than all, the war charges in Africa threaten to engulf the nation in debt, while 17,000 fighting Boers are still in the field and the war that was soon to end threatened to be but just beginning. Even on the score of cruelty to animals alone the situation looks ghastly. Over 100 transports have first and last left New Orleans with 120,000 horses and mules and upward of \$25,000,000 have been spent in the United States for dumb animals.

New York Times: The results of the small fighting of the last few weeks seem to be fairly even. And this must be intolerable to the British. It shows that the war is not over. That is the sting of it. It does not give any prospect of an end to the drain of men and money which the war has caused. It is still necessary to keep a garrison in the two ex-republics some ten times as large as the total number of their fighting men, still necessary to go on spending \$2,000,000 a week in conquering a country, the conquest of which is so far from being visibly achieved. In two years more English money has been sunk in South Africa than can possibly be got back, directly or indirectly. In the end, the only thing that is made to appear that Great Britain has not enterprises on hand excepting the establishment of British supremacy in South Africa. At least she has left herself without the military means of prosecuting any other for an indefinite time to come.

AMONG THE MIRTHMAKERS.

Smart Set: Bibbs—No man knows himself as well as I do. Gibbs—That's so. He would lose his best friend if he did.

Chicago Post: "He'll never amount to anything as a golf player." "Why?" "He calls himself 'William' instead of 'Willie'."

Catholic Standard: Hi—Josh says that city feller got him a hundred and some