

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: Daily Bee (without Sunday) for Year, \$5.00; Daily Bee and Sunday, One Year, \$8.00; Illustrated Bee, One Year, \$10.00; Sunday Bee, One Year, \$5.00; Saturday Bee, One Year, \$5.00; Twentieth Century Farmer, One Year, \$1.00.

Advertisements: The Bee Building, South Omaha, City Hall Building, Twelfth and M Streets, Council Bluffs, Iowa, First Street, Chicago, 10th Union Building, New York, Temple Court, Washington, 90 Fourteenth Street.

CORRESPONDENCE: Communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed to Omaha, Bee, Editorial Department.

BUSINESS LETTERS: Business letters and remittances should be addressed to The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha.

REMITTANCES: Remit by draft, express or postal order, payable to The Bee Publishing Company. Only 2-cent stamps accepted in payment of mail accounts. Personal checks, except on Omaha or certain exchanges, not accepted.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION: State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss. George B. Trechok, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, deposes and says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily, M-F, published during the month of July, 1901, was as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Number, Date, and Circulation. Rows include dates from 1 to 31, with circulation figures ranging from 25,100 to 25,200.

Less unsold and returned copies, 9,002. Total, 162,013. Net total sales, 153,011. Net daily average, 47,000.

GEO. B. TRECHOK, Notary Public.

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. The address will be changed as often as desired.

It takes a mighty smart tax-jumper to keep out of the way of City Treasurer Hennings when he arms himself with a delinquent personal tax bill.

Governor Savage sharply draws the limit of the pardoning power at bigamists, even where the second wife is willing to condone the offense of the erring husband.

Denmark is the latest European country to look to the United States for a loan. If this thing keeps up foreign bonds will become as common in this country as "shipplaster" money in war times.

Kansas farmers have swamped the terminal facilities of the railroads leading into Kansas City and St. Joseph. The Kansas farmer is not likely to suffer when he has grain enough to sell to swamp the railroads.

King Edward has honored General von Waldersee by decorating him with the Order of the Bath. People who remember the parapet which the general took with him to China might think this decoration suggestive.

Omaha extends its cordial welcome to General Bates, the new commander-in-chief of the Department of the Missouri, whose conspicuous gallantry in the late war is a source of pride to the citizens of this community and state.

A new Cracker trust is about to be organized to fight the old Cracker trust. The battle will eventually end, like all others of this character, in the amalgamation of the two trusts into one gigantic trust, which will inject two barrels of water into the dough where but one barrel was emptied in before.

The agents of both the Colombian government and of the rebels insist to assure the United States that no interference with traffic over the Isthmus of Panama will be tolerated. American naval vessels have been there before and the news that others were coming has had a salutary effect.

Our amiable popocratic contemporary calls for reform in state fairs, but it says not a word about reform in the county fair that takes \$3,000 out of the pockets of Douglas county taxpayers to supply the graft of a few political farmers who have a stand-in. Why not commence this reform at home?

Just to remind people that they are doing business at the old stand, robbers held up a train in Indian Territory and allowed no one with valuables to escape. If the land speculators down there do not get your money the train robbers will, the only advantage being the boomers' methods are not so trying on the nerves.

The fire insurance companies doing business in Iowa have already organized a bureau to fight any attempt by the next legislature to pass a "valued policy" law, and this committee announces it is ready to furnish literature to any newspaper which will publish it. Such laws have never been entirely satisfactory to insurance companies, but Nebraska policy holders have never entered any serious complaint against them.

The reason given by Charles H. Morrill, one of the outgoing regents of the State university, for declining to be a candidate again is that, having served in that capacity twelve years, the younger men should be given a chance. The position is one of responsibility that should command both business experience and broad general culture, and a young man possessing these qualities can certainly be found within republican ranks for the place if Mr. Morrill is determined on retirement.

FOR INDUSTRIAL PEACE.

The steel strike again invites attention to the subject of arbitration as a means of settling differences between capital and labor and maintaining industrial peace. Last December there was held in Chicago, under the auspices of the National Civic federation, a conference for the discussion of industrial arbitration. It was attended by men prominent in the religious, educational, professional, commercial and industrial worlds. It resulted in a declaration that peace in the industrial world could be best maintained by the representatives of labor and the representatives of capital meeting in joint conference on common ground and entering into trade agreements fixing the rate of wages and regulating the conditions of employment, such agreements to remain in force for one year or more.

A committee was formed, embracing employers of labor and the official heads of a number of trade organizations, together with representative men engaged in professional, educational and religious work. The duty of this committee, when its organization is perfected, will be to endeavor to secure and maintain industrial peace by promoting agreements between employers and wage-earners. It is the opinion of President Mitchell of the United Mine Workers that this will prove to be a potent factor in the solution of the labor problem. He thinks that the intervention of some strong, intelligent, conciliating force would tend to allay the passions which labor conflicts generally arouse and to induce the contending parties to apply reason and conservatism, instead of resorting to the most extreme measures to determine the question at issue.

In a communication to the New York Evening Post, Mr. Charles Francis Adams proposes that public boards be created, empowered to investigate the causes of industrial disputes and set the facts before the public. His idea is that these boards should have power to compel obedience to their recommendations, but simply to inquire into all the facts and lay them before the public, which he believes would in most cases be sufficient to bring about a settlement of the controversy by the parties concerned. Compulsory arbitration, it is the opinion of Mr. Adams, is not practicable, for the reason that "no practical method of causing the award of any tribunal to be respected and obeyed has yet been devised and it is difficult to see how one can be devised. It is obviously impossible," argues Mr. Adams, "by any provision of law or decree of equity to compel a man to carry on a business which he is not willing to carry on; and, on the other hand, it is equally impossible to force an employer to labor if he prefers to be idle." In a word, Mr. Adams would rely largely upon public opinion, when all the facts in connection with a labor controversy were given publicly to enforce a settlement. Prof. Richard T. Ely is another who attaches considerable importance to the influence of public opinion in this matter, but he would give the boards charged with the duty of informing and educating public opinion sufficient power so that they would not be contemptible.

No question is of greater interest to the American people, none more urgently demands their thoughtful and most serious consideration, than that of devising a plan for promoting industrial peace. The labor problem continues to be of paramount importance. The Kennard swamp land claim agency was linked in with the prolific claim agencies of the late Patrick O. Hawes, but while Hawes managed to logroll a periodic appropriation through the legislature by his persuasive eloquence and percentages, Kennard's commissions failed to materialize because they were regarded as altogether too rank. As a matter of courtesy the legislature referred the Kennard claims to the state courts, where they could be considered dispassionately on their merit, but finding no merit in them they were referred back to the claimant. But Tom Kennard is not a man to be rebuffed so easily. Having failed in the state courts, he now seeks to recover in the federal courts, and the attorney general will be called on to defend the state against this irrepressible swamp land claimant. Incidentally, the revival of this claim forcibly recalls an interesting chapter of Nebraska history. Back in the early '70s congress enacted the so-called swamp land laws that conveyed to such states as Arkansas and Florida all public lands that were covered by swamps. In 1873 Thomas P. Kennard logrolled a bill through the legislature of Nebraska authorizing the governor to appoint a land claim agent on such conditions as might be deemed just and equitable. Within a few months after the passage of the bill Kennard secured a commission under this act by the terms of which he was to receive 50 per cent of the claims collected. The extravagant terms of this contract were denounced by the press and the legality of the entire transaction was called in question.

With this fact commission in his possession Kennard proceeded to organize the now famous swamp land ring, which had for its object the conversion of millions of acres of unsold public lands in Nebraska into swamp lands and the division of the 50 per cent commission on the sale of the lands among the members of the ring, which included not only legislative lobbyists and crooked members of the legislature, but also members of congress and United States senators.

The plan passed out by the ring was to secure the passage of an act by congress donating to the state of Nebraska

all the swamp land within its boundaries. These swamp lands were to be selected and designated by an agent of the general land office, who was expected to co-operate with the ring and share in its profits. There were to be millions in this deal, as the agent was expected to designate as swamp lands every unsold piece of land in the state which exhibited the least sign of dampness on the surface and have it set apart as such under the swamp land act.

Bills proposing to donate to the state of Nebraska all the swamp lands within its boundaries were introduced in both houses of congress and the ingenious scheme would doubtless have succeeded but for the refusal of congress to enact the swamp land bills. The failure of the conspiracy left the swamp land schemers high and dry and the area of the Nebraska swamp lands suddenly contracted to insignificant proportions.

THE CHINESE TARIFF.

It is announced that an agreement has at last been reached on the Chinese tariff and according to the reported arrangement it is rather more favorable to the United States than to some other countries. Flour and corn are on the free list, which promises an increase of our exports of flour to China and perhaps also a larger market there for corn. Pacific coast shippers of flour had feared that a higher duty would be placed on it, but they may now go on with increased enterprise in putting American flour on the Chinese market. There is every reason to expect that in making flour free a great stimulus will be given to our trade in that commodity.

The new tariff is to be 5 per cent gold, which is double the present tariff, and it is impossible to foresee what the effect of this will be upon Chinese trade. It will necessarily somewhat increase the price of articles imported into China and the tendency may be to reduce consumption, the general condition of the people of China being such as to compel economy. However, there is no other means by which the Chinese government can provide for the indemnity. Meanwhile the tariff agreement contemplates the maintenance of the "open door," with perhaps the exception of Manchuria, that it may be made to apply to that province also and should do so if the assurances given the other powers by Russia are adhered to.

THE CUBAN PRESIDENCY.

Undoubtedly there are many men in Cuba who would like to be the first president of the new republic, but the number qualified to start the republic on his career is small and of these the best equipped show an unwillingness to accept the office. The national party wants General Maximo Gomez, but the veteran soldier appears to be firm in his decision not to be a candidate. He announced some time ago that he did not aspire to the office and he has since shown that he meant what he said. There appears to be no reason to doubt the entire sincerity of his late letter to the Havana committee of the national party.

Estrada Palma, whom Gomez favors, is well qualified for the position and he is particularly friendly to the United States. But Palma seems to apprehend that the task before the first president of Cuba will be of such great difficulty that he is unwilling to undertake it. He finds in the present disjointed state of public opinion a promise of much trouble. In his recently published letter he said: "An important matter will have to be dealt with by the first government of Cuba, such as treaties, the relations with the United States and the payment of the army, there is likely to be a great deal of trouble and disagreement. If the president does not have congress behind him he will fall utterly." In his view the chances are that a majority in the congress will not be with the executive and therefore he thinks "it is not likely that any honest patriot will care to undertake the presidential office."

It therefore appears probable that someone of the smaller and less scrupulous politicians will be chosen as the first head of the new government, in which event the Cuban republic may not only get an unsatisfactory start, but conditions be created that may produce grave trouble. The fears expressed by Palma go far to justify the policy of the United States toward Cuba.

The republican committee for South Omaha have taken it upon themselves to disregard the plain provisions of the resolution under which the delegates to the state convention are to be chosen. The county committee ordered caucuses to be held in each of the old four wards of South Omaha. The South Omaha committee have seen fit to consolidate all the ward caucuses into one. This irregular proceeding may not make any material difference in the delegates selected to fill the quota allocated to South Omaha on the delegation, but it invalidates their right to certificates if objection is made. If South Omaha can ignore the conditions imposed in the call, so can every ward in Omaha and precinct in the county. Should five or six county precincts see fit to hold but one caucus, such action would open the way for the general disfranchisement of the voters when the purpose of the caucuses is to give the republicans of every ward and precinct the right to make their own choice of delegates.

Before the concessions are let the managers of the coming Ak-Sar-Ben carnival should have it duly impressed upon them that Omaha has passed the stage where it will longer tolerate the so-called confetti-throwing practice. Not only is the confetti tournament abused by boisterous and uncontrollable spirits who indulge their rudeness, but it is positively dangerous to health and conducive to serious accidents. Carnival shovellers can have a good time without shoveling one another with paper dust and filth. The loss of a single eye would never be compensated by all the profits and royalties of the confetti counter.

If Ak-Sar-Ben does not call the confetti business off, the mayor and police will be asked to stop it with an effective interdiction.

In reckoning up the great wheat producing states Nebraska is not generally enumerated by the majority of people, while Oregon and Washington would not be omitted from any list. The figures, however, tell a different story and were it not for the fact that corn and live stock overshadow the smaller grain in Nebraska the wheat output would attract more attention. This year Oregon and Washington are boasting of enormous crops and yet Washington is credited with only 25,000,000 bushels, while Oregon is considerably less. The Nebraska crop will put these figures far in the shade, in fact will likely aggregate more than both these western wheat states.

Does anyone imagine that if any member of the school board had any knowledge of illegal collections by anyone connected with the city administration the democratic county attorney would hesitate to file informations against the guilty parties? The county attorney has been looking for just such a chance ever since he connected with his office and he would require less evidence to ground a complaint against a republican manufacturer than any grand jury would for an indictment. The fact that the county attorney has not made a move is the best proof that the school board gossip-mongers have nothing except gossip of their own manufacture.

The American representative has been named to look after the interests of Columbians in Venezuela during the war, if one should occur between the two countries. During recent years the representatives of this country have been chosen more often than all others to act in similar cases. This is at once a testimonial of the fairness of our foreign representatives and an acknowledgment of the disinterestedness of the United States, which has always held aloof from the quarrels of other countries. It is a good thing for the world to have one power strong enough to be respected in position to tender its good offices in times of trouble.

While American manufacturers are planning themselves on the progress they are making in securing the world's markets they sometimes get a jolt which serves to keep them awake for awhile. The award to a Swiss firm of a large contract for electrical machinery for use at Niagara Falls is in point. While Switzerland is not a large country and does not make much fuss, it is in proportion to population the greatest manufacturing country in the world and will bear watching.

Malloy as a Stayer. Baltimore American. Histories Malloy has not yet turned in cutoff flight from his \$2.24 per job.

Fun for Fusionists. Cincinnati Commercial-Tribune. Good motto for the demo-Britannic-populist-republicans of Nebraska: "United we're licked and divided we're dumped."

Consoling for Cummins. Chicago News. Mr. Cummins of Iowa may think all is plain sailing, but let him wait until Fred White invests himself with the customary nomination and takes the stump.

Time to Tell Us. Minneapolis Tribune. The government's weather bureau claims that only one in five out of its weather predictions is incorrect. Now if the bureau could only warn us when it is going to predict wrong we might be comparatively happy.

Virginia's Vagary. Buffalo Express. The Virginia constitutional convention is proposing to ordain the adoption of its new constitution without submitting it to vote of the people. As the negro vote already is suppressed this betokens distrust of the white voters.

Waiting for Warriors. St. Louis Globe-Democrat. A valiant and honored admiral in the United States navy has been officially reprimanded for criticisms of his associated officers in print. The fault of the admirals, captains and such is losing their temper and talking too much.

Not a Question of Names. Milwaukee Wisconsin. One of the questions in the official inquiry to discover why girls shirk employment as house servants is, "Do you dislike to be called by your first name?" It is to be noted that men who go into politics are subjected to the risk of being called by their first names, but that doesn't seem to restrain anybody from entering politics.

Good's Broodkenned Commended. Chicago Tribune. A chauffeur for General Hawes. He speaks as well as physical courage. He speaks right out in meeting about his attempt to get 16,000 acres and ninety-six acres of land for the benefit of a corporation of missionaries in China, as a "squeeze." That's just what it is, and dishonesty and rapacity and oppression are no prettier when practiced by American Christians than when they are practiced by the heathen Chinese.

Labor Unions and Liberty. Indianapolis News. If labor unions have lost in popularity and public estimation it is simply because they have not been willing to accord to every man the right to work. They have tried to institute a new maxim for that personal liberty and declare that all men are entitled to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness except those outside the labor organizations. The idea of personal liberty must be recognized by everybody or we revert to tyranny and progress ends.

Crowding the Professions. New York Tribune. Medical journals are puzzling over the problem of finding patients for the thousands of fledgling doctors who are now graduated year after year and are beginning practice. The professions of law and of medicine are already overcrowded. Of course, there is room at the top, but the lower rungs of the ladder are beset by a throng of young men who are tramping upon each other in their eagerness to get a foothold. In American towns and villages the office signs of physicians are overlaid already, and attorneys are so multitudinous that the prospect of their securing clients enough to keep them occupied is anything but encouraging.

STEEL STRIKE SUGGESTIONS.

New York Sun: A thousand Shafers cannot overthrow the constitution of the United States, but it is infamous that the American workman should be robbed of millions of his earnings and savings that Shaffer may try to overthrow it.

Brooklyn Eagle: Now that the association has burned its bridges Shaffer can set his face against violence. He can make some sort of a bid for public sympathy by declaring that the man who strikes the first blow is an enemy of labor. And in doing this he will be telling the truth and not the lie. Blood should not supplement blunder.

Springfield Republican: The machinery does not exist even for a determination on the part of an impartial and duly constituted board of the points and merits of the controversy. Industrially the nation has not advanced beyond the stage of feudalism when the peace and order and progress of society were at the mercy of warring barons.

Indianapolis Journal: What is true of the so-called steel trust is true of the labor trust of which Mr. Shaffer is president. Conservative people will conclude that the power of one or a dozen men to order 200,000 men to leave their employment, to break their contracts and lose their wages is too much to take. A system of Russia is to be tolerated in a free country. Consequently the legislation which restricts combinations of capital will, in some way, curtail the dictatorial power of labor magnates.

Chicago Post: As against President Shaffer's extraordinary claims the South Chicago Lodge cite an admirable letter written in 1897 by his predecessor, M. M. Garland, in which a breach of contract was regretted and condemned and which contained this sentence: "Our practice is that the stockholders, to use \$2,500,000 of the property of the bank, should be held in trust for the benefit of the stockholders." Shaffer's arbitrary policy would wreck the association and discredit the cause of legitimate unionism.

Chicago News: President Shaffer, it would seem, has reckoned without his host. He has not taken into account the interests that he ever has, but the workmen of South Chicago, Milwaukee and elsewhere apparently feel that this is neither the time nor the occasion to strike a united blow for an abstract principle. They prefer to wage the war on that issue at some time when it can be plainly seen that they are waging it in defense of tangible interests or in redress of actual wrongs and when public sympathy must be with them.

New York Evening Post: It is war which the Amalgamated Association declared and the signs of war it is already experiencing. The wife of the steel corporation, in the assaults upon its property at McKeesport is an order to dismantle the works. Then men may have that field to themselves and the wonderful mayor who had announced that he would not protect mill property is now to enter the field and his municipality without any mill property. Strikes and labor organizations have caused the grass to grow in the streets of more than one New England town, and why should they not do it in McKeesport?

Cincinnati Commercial Tribune: A serious condition confronts the members of the Amalgamated Association. They have the right to refuse to work; the steel combine has the right to close or to dismantle its mills; the Amalgamated association asked and secured a scale of wages, and, having secured it, refused to abide by it and refused to enter the market and operate them. Is the association standing on tenable ground? Can it hope to succeed while admitting the lead of a president who, admitting the contract, advises his followers in the association to disregard and break it? Is its cause sufficiently just and are its stewards of war sufficiently strong to enable it to win out? The question has now become much more serious for the association than it is for the general public.

New York Times: That the fact of his previous employment of this man gives the man a vested right in the job he threw up when he thought it in his interest and to the injury of his employer to do so is clearly an unwarranted assumption on the part of labor. If after a strike or a shutdown the owner of a plant should demand the return of his old workmen and seek to compel by unlawful proceedings those who were unwilling to do so he would be laughed out of court. The rule would seem to work as well one way as the other, but we have rather fallen into the habit of looking at matters of interest to labor through the lenses of sentiment and of reasoning very loosely concerning them. Perhaps the last thing the average workman wants is to have applied to himself the rules which he insists apply to his employer.

New York Tribune: Mr. Shaffer, the president of the Amalgamated association, advises and instructs his constituents that the contract into which they have entered with the companies are voidable at will because of their prior and superior obligations to the Amalgamated association. "Before you agreed to any contracts," he tells them, "you took an obligation to the Amalgamated association." And so, at the demand of the association, they must repudiate those contracts. According to that principle the contract made by a member of that association would not be worth the paper it was written upon. For what is a man's oath worth if he is free to break it at the will of some other? The steel combine, in that in other affairs of state or those of private business any such code of treachery and perjury can permanently prevail.

LOW STANDARD OF MORALS. An Exhibit of that Prevalent in Railroad Circles. Chicago Tribune. The officers of certain western roads have agreed to report to the commissioners of their association all cut rate contracts with shippers of freight to and from Colorado and Utah. But one railway official refused to do so, saying that the roads never will reveal a majority of their secret agreements with the largest shippers. The reason assigned for this is that "while it is true that these contracts are illegal, being made in violation of the interstate commerce law, the railroad has assumed a moral obligation which they will not disavow. This 'moral obligation' grows out of the fact that in many cases shippers have made contracts for the delivery of goods at a price based on the illegal concessions the roads had agreed to make."

The railway officials say that if a road were to violate one of these illegal agreements, then it never would get any more freight from the shippers with whom these agreements had been made. Therefore, the officials say, the roads never will reveal a majority of their secret agreements with the largest shippers. The reason assigned for this is that "while it is true that these contracts are illegal, being made in violation of the interstate commerce law, the railroad has assumed a moral obligation which they will not disavow. This 'moral obligation' grows out of the fact that in many cases shippers have made contracts for the delivery of goods at a price based on the illegal concessions the roads had agreed to make."

Chicago Tribune. The officers of certain western roads have agreed to report to the commissioners of their association all cut rate contracts with shippers of freight to and from Colorado and Utah. But one railway official refused to do so, saying that the roads never will reveal a majority of their secret agreements with the largest shippers. The reason assigned for this is that "while it is true that these contracts are illegal, being made in violation of the interstate commerce law, the railroad has assumed a moral obligation which they will not disavow. This 'moral obligation' grows out of the fact that in many cases shippers have made contracts for the delivery of goods at a price based on the illegal concessions the roads had agreed to make."

Chicago Tribune. The officers of certain western roads have agreed to report to the commissioners of their association all cut rate contracts with shippers of freight to and from Colorado and Utah. But one railway official refused to do so, saying that the roads never will reveal a majority of their secret agreements with the largest shippers. The reason assigned for this is that "while it is true that these contracts are illegal, being made in violation of the interstate commerce law, the railroad has assumed a moral obligation which they will not disavow. This 'moral obligation' grows out of the fact that in many cases shippers have made contracts for the delivery of goods at a price based on the illegal concessions the roads had agreed to make."

Chicago Tribune. The officers of certain western roads have agreed to report to the commissioners of their association all cut rate contracts with shippers of freight to and from Colorado and Utah. But one railway official refused to do so, saying that the roads never will reveal a majority of their secret agreements with the largest shippers. The reason assigned for this is that "while it is true that these contracts are illegal, being made in violation of the interstate commerce law, the railroad has assumed a moral obligation which they will not disavow. This 'moral obligation' grows out of the fact that in many cases shippers have made contracts for the delivery of goods at a price based on the illegal concessions the roads had agreed to make."

Chicago Tribune. The officers of certain western roads have agreed to report to the commissioners of their association all cut rate contracts with shippers of freight to and from Colorado and Utah. But one railway official refused to do so, saying that the roads never will reveal a majority of their secret agreements with the largest shippers. The reason assigned for this is that "while it is true that these contracts are illegal, being made in violation of the interstate commerce law, the railroad has assumed a moral obligation which they will not disavow. This 'moral obligation' grows out of the fact that in many cases shippers have made contracts for the delivery of goods at a price based on the illegal concessions the roads had agreed to make."

EXPANSION IN BANKING BUSINESS.

How the Capital Stock Waxes Big on Its Own Capital Dividends.

New York Independent. The enlargement of the capital of the First National bank furnishes fresh evidence of the recent remarkable growth of the bank of New York in resources and power. By voting to increase the bank's capital stock from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 the stockholders of the First National made that institution the largest bank in the United States and on the continent, upon a basis of capital and surplus combined. For the surplus is \$1,000,000 and will be maintained at that sum. There are two other banks whose capital stock is \$1,000,000—the National City and the National Bank of Commerce—but the surplus of either of these banks does not exceed \$2,000,000. This increase of capital was followed by the purchase of the National Bank of the Republic (capital \$1,500,000, with \$1,300,000 in surplus and undivided profits), the price offered and accepted having been \$250 per share in cash, or one-third of the par value of the Republic stock. The two banks have been joint owners of the building at the corner of Wall street and Broadway, in which the offices of both are situated. The stockholders of the First National practically own the Liberty National bank and also control the Astor National bank.

The increase of capital from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000 was accomplished by the payment of a dividend of 1,000 per cent. This enormous and unprecedented dividend has been the subject of much comment, mainly because of direct attention to the great profits of the bank's business. It will be observed that the sum divided was just enough, \$9,500,000, to provide for the increase of capital. It was really used for that purpose, the stockholders thus obtaining the additional share without any other expenditure of cash. There are only eight other stockholders and a controlling interest is held by five of these. Although the annual dividends for ten years past have been 100 per cent (on \$500,000) the profits have accumulated in the bank. No shares were issued, the record showing that the bank had been \$6,000 (par value \$100), with no offerings.

The bank's business was profitable years ago, when it was sometimes called "Fort Sherman," because of its prominence in connection with the refunding operations when John Sherman was secretary of the treasury. Its more recent investments in securities have been highly successful. There was a large profit in its sale of the Central Railroad of New Jersey some months ago to J. P. Morgan & Co., who transferred the property to the Reading Railroad company. In the last two years there has been a great increase in the value of stocks which it owned and which may have appeared in public statements at the prices that were paid for them. It was an easy matter for the few stockholders to use \$9,500,000 of their undivided profits for this huge dividend and the increase of capital. The First National's president is George F. Baker and its vice presidents are H. C. Fahnestock and Francis L. Hine. Owning its large interest in the Liberty National bank, like the Bank of Commerce, is associated with banking circles with the name of J. Pierpont Morgan, just as another great bank, the National City, is associated with the name of the Standard Oil capitalists.

INFLUENCE OF IOWA. Platform Pronouncement of Republicans is Warmly Commended. Boston Transcript. The Iowa republican convention not only differentiated itself from the general republican apathy on the negro problem, but also took decisive and interesting action in favor of action by congress, providing for the relinquishment of our authority in Cuba, thus giving emphasis of a great party in a great commonwealth to "the fact that our authority in that island is the result of a war not waged for aggrandizement but in the name of humanity and must forever govern and inspire our relations" to it. The voice of Iowa always commands respect in national councils and it is not impossible that a son of that state may receive large consideration in the next national convention, so the declaration of the Iowa delegates is an attempt to voice public sentiment as it was interpreted in the state. The ground taken was positive ground. There was not merely an absence of jingoism, but a direct affirmation of the principles opposed to jingoism and all that it stands for. Moreover, there was more of a flavor of sincerity in all this than we see in many platforms, for the convention went out of its way to declare itself upon points which have been long known and which are causing comment had it fully met what it said. It did a good piece of work, and as we have before remarked, it means leadership and influence beyond the state's borders.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE. Chancellor James R. Day of Syracuse university has declined the presidency of Northwestern at Evanston, Ill. Prof. Edmund B. Briggs of the Catholic University of America has been appointed a division superintendent of schools in the Philippines. J. Pierpont Morgan has given the American School for the Deaf in Hartford, Conn., \$2,500. The gift was one-quarter of the amount needed to complete the payments due on the building recently erected by the school. Surgeon Kinyoun, recently of San Francisco and now in charge of the Marine hospital at Detroit, has been detailed to visit Japan and China to inspect the work of the marine hospital service with special reference to the plague. Mrs. Edward Plisco of Denver, who started last October on a trip through the east, south and north to obtain funds for the National Jewish hospital for Consumptives, has reached her home with \$20,000 as the fruits of her work. Thomas Johnson, 78 years old and worth \$100,000, who died in Vincennes, Ind., the other day, was a curious character. He had already spent large sums for his life in entering a church, was one of the most profane swearers and hardest drinkers in the city, was married four times and always voted the democratic ticket. Among the present-day Highland chiefs few are able to speak Gaelic, one notable exception being the duke of Atholl who, in addition to being able to converse in the classic language, is doing his best to encourage its extensive use. Gaelic classes were, under his influence, held all last winter at Blair Athol, his ancestral home, and the examination of the pupils showed good results. The millionaire Gavril Saalodnikov, who recently died at Moscow, left all his possessions, valued at 25,000,000 rubles, for the founding of high schools for girls, training schools for workmen and cheap lodging houses for the poor. During his life he had already spent large sums for a model school and a hospital, yet he was not esteemed, because in private life he was known as a miser and an inexorable creditor.

Mrs. Moore, of "Zenke," is one of the oldest dealers on the Pacific coast, she is a Mahak Indian woman of Washington, born and reared at Neah Bay agency, and is without doubt more than 100 years old. The first thing she will ask a stranger for is tobacco, which she eats with a great relish, and she will eat it and can just tell daylight from night. Her husband has been dead for over thirty years and she has no relatives living, being supported by rations furnished by the government.

ROOSEVELT AND IRRIGATION. Vice President Promises Assistance in a Western Project. Denver Republican. Vice President Roosevelt's friendliness to his west was never better evidenced than in the speech at Victor, in the course of which he referred to the irrigation which is desired at the hands of the national government. Colonel Roosevelt's outspoken declaration in favor of national irrigation is the result of long study of the many conditions and demands, unlike many of the eastern statesmen, who oppose irrigation on the mistaken ground that it will be class legislation, Colonel Roosevelt has recognized that the question is too broad to admit such a narrow, penny-wise view. He has spent much of his time in the west, living among its people and studying its developed and undeveloped resources. He realizes that a utilization of waste land through irrigation will not only benefit the interests of the west alone, but will add to the riches and prosperity of the entire country.

In consequence of his study of the subject at first hand Colonel Roosevelt has not hesitated to express himself freely in favor of a policy of irrigation at government expense while many of his fellow statesmen, who lack his practical experience, have blocked the progress of the movement to reclaim the arid lands. There is no doubt that Vice President Roosevelt's espousal of the cause of national irrigation will result in a movement of new importance at Washington and will materially strengthen the chances of securing favorable action at the hands of congress.

EVILS OF EATING ALONE.

Company Not Only Conductive, but Necessary to Digestion. Kansas City Star. Boarding at a restaurant, as most men will agree, is an unsatisfactory way of living, at least for any length of time the meals grow distasteful. The meats served without flavor, the vegetables, the woolen, the pastry dry. The gastronomic side of existence becomes flat, stale and unprofitable. The restaurant habit usually tries to find an acquaintance to go with him, if he fails a newspaper or a book must serve in the friend's stead. To sit down alone and eat a silent meal without diversion of any kind three times a day is beyond the power of most men. Alexander Selkirk's opinion of a solitary meal is confirmed by the experience of countless generations of eaters in restaurants. The London Lancet gives the medical explanation of this distastefulness of men to eat alone. The average man, it says, sits down to his paper or novel, determined to prolong the meal to the proper length. He becomes absorbed in his reading until he finds his chop is cold and demolishes it in a few mouthfuls. Or, he neglects his paper and plunges into the meal, anxious to get done and have his reading, and the result is a stomach which is unsatisfied craving of the stomach induces dyspepsia just as surely as overloading does. Few housewives, of course, are compelled to take more than one meal a day alone. The cook does not fare so well. The work of preparing a meal tends to disgust one with the dishes which he eats. The man who is left alone during all his meals is apt to be moody and depressed. Loneliness may affect him in any other emotion due to the lack of the action of the digestive organs. When he is talking with some one he is inclined to be cheerful, or his gloom is at least more of the intellect than of the feelings. Under the influence of the pleasant mood the functions of digestion are performed easily. Evidently man is a gregarious animal and it is not good for him to be alone.

LOOTED LEVITY.

Boston Transcript. The Visitor—you seem to be much interested in my little girl. What is it? The little girl—I don't see how your face can be so smooth and clean. You have traveled all over the country on your own feet. Pittsburgh Chronicle-Telegraph: "Patterson, N. J., has been the victim of the analysts and king killers," said Squibb to McSwiggen. "I've added the latter," I suppose they are getting ready to organize under the laws of New Jersey." Cleveland Plain Dealer: "They ought to have at least one dancing master on the Schley inquiry board." "Why?" "Why?" "To decide whether the Brooklyn's waltz movement was well timed or not."

Catholic Standard: "My experience on the Illinois," said Poole, "is that you can never judge a man by his looks. I know lots of people who wear golf togs, but who play the most common sense to ever play the game." Judge Deacon Pookchop—I'll remember dad sermon on you's Sunday to my dying day. "Ferson Odshick—you'll? Now—er, what wuz do speshul pill about it to fix it so strong your memory?" Deacon Pookchop—Right in de middle ob it someone swiped mah umbrella!

Baltimore American: Richard of Westminster asks: "Can a person get anything for writing a book?" "Right in de middle ob it. Not yet, but there is a movement on foot to give him ninety days for the first offense." FROM THE "AMEN CORNER." Josh Wink in Baltimore American. ("Prof. Briggs of the Chicago university has been making considerable discussion by claiming that most of the hymns are 'doggerel'") They say the hymns are doggerel—that they ain't worth nothing. That all the time we're sung 'em they're been nothing else but stuff. "On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand" is 'em more poetry. "On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand" is 'em more poetry. But, just the same, professor, you had better tell 'em the Lord—uh, understand 'em—so they're good enough for me.

I suppose there's nothing finer than that good old "Benedicite Land." And when our Lizzie sings it you can see had already spent large sums for his life in entering a church, was one of the most profane swearers and hardest drinkers in the city, was married four times and always voted