THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

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 March, 1902, was as follows:

1	29,970	17	29,530
2	29,760	18	29,430
3	29,420	19	29,530
4	29,770	20	29,590
5	29,680	21	29,510
6	29,590	22	29,560
7	29,520	23	29,650
8	29,450	24	29,610
9	29,700	25	29,590
10	29,450	26	29,560
11	29,500	27	29,580
12	29,370	28	29,540
13	29,640	29	29,540
14	29,620	30	29,900
15	29,670	31	29,640
16	29,600		

Total 917,420
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GEO. B. TZSCHUCK.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 31st day of March, A. D. 1902.
GEORGE RASMUSSEN,
(Seal.) Notary Public.

Another chapter of Iowa legislative history is concluded.

The base ball season is about to break loose for fear we might forget that spring is due.

If a funeral procession five miles long proves greatness, Cecil Rhodes' place in the Hall of Fame is secure.

It looks as if the real Christmas would come before the proofs to support Christmas in his sensational bribery charges.

Kansas will be allowed to furnish the new pension commissioner. As the original Roosevelt state, Kansas deserves recognition.

If he is a man on horseback, South Carolina's reception to President Roosevelt indicates that the Palmetto state prefers statesmen who ride.

The democratic members of the county board have been officiously admonished by the official organ to stop squabbling in front of the pie counter.

Having failed to hold themselves in line with various traffic agreements, the railroads are trying to discipline several steamship companies for committing the same offenses. This is probably on the theory of trying it first on the dog.

Nebraska is at top notch on the scale of states growing winter wheat. With anything like a continuance of present favorable conditions Nebraska's wheat yield will open the eyes of the world to its possibilities in that direction.

Nebraska's delegation in congress is said to have at last gotten together for solid support of the pending irrigation bill with accepted modifications. With the representatives of the semi-arid states all pulling together, the opposition is sure to be overcome.

Lincolnites apparently do not relish having the State university affiliate with any professional college at Omaha, but they are quite willing to welcome all the Omaha students who can be induced to attend the university at Lincoln. It all depends on the point of view.

The referee in the tax mandamus case recommends a decision against the plaintiffs, with the costs taxed up to the defendants. Does this mean that the costs must be paid out of the city funds? Why not let the franchised corporations, who are the real beneficiaries, pay the addler?

The local popocratic organ devotes a whole column of editorial space to reading a curtain lecture to the three democratic members of the county board. It doubtless thinks this method is cheaper and safer than calling them into a private room and having it out at wordy warfare.

The announcement that the Board of County Commissioners has turned its face against the county fair for 1902 will be gratefully appreciated by Douglas county taxpayers. Three thousand dollars a year for an exhibition of overgrown squashes and cabbages and undergrown crab apples is altogether too much of a luxury.

New York's legislature just adjourned appropriated $100,000 to defray the expenses of participation of the Empire state in the Louisiana Purchase exposition at St. Louis. It will be well to remember the size of this contribution by the wealthiest state in the union, when we come to pass on the proposition for an appropriation for Nebraska.

LEST WE FORGET.

The preliminary skirmish of the campaign of 1902 recalls to the republicans of Omaha the unmitigated outrage perpetrated under whip and spur by the last county convention in the interest of Congressman Mercer. Reference is made to the deliberate attempt to disfranchise the rank and file of Omaha republicans in all future conventions and upon the county committee. For the first time in the republican party in this county and state the convention went so far as to make an apportionment for the conventions to be called hereafter on an arbitrary basis that ignores altogether the relative voting strength and seeks to perpetuate minority rule for all time to come.

While the representation of the country precincts in the county committee and in conventions had for years been extremely liberal—in fact out of all proportion to relative voting strength—the Mercer machine, which obtained control of the last convention by trickery and downright fraud, undertook to fasten minority domination by still further decreasing the relative representation accorded to Omaha. The infamy of the new apportionment must impress itself on every fair-minded republican who will glance at the figures:

In the presidential year of 1900 the aggregate vote for McKinley in Douglas county was 14,284, of which Omaha cast 11,134, South Omaha 1,783 and the country precincts 1,367. But the Mercer apportionment limits Omaha to ninety delegates in future conventions, South Omaha to eighteen, while the country precincts are given seventy delegates. In other words, based on the vote cast for William McKinley, every nineteen republicans in the country are entitled to one delegate, while in South Omaha it takes ninety-nine republicans for one delegate, and in Omaha it takes 123 republicans for one delegate.

Figured on the vote cast for Judge Sedgwick in 1901, every fourteen republicans in the country precincts will be entitled to one delegate, while in South Omaha it takes sixty-two republicans for one delegate and in Omaha eighty republicans for one delegate.

Still more flagrant is the disproportion of representation in the county committee, where more than 11,000 republicans of Omaha have twenty-seven members, while the 1,367 republican voters in the country precincts have twenty-eight members in the committee and South Omaha, with 1,783 republican voters, has six members.

West Omaha precinct, which cast 191 votes for McKinley, has four members in the county committee, while the Sixth ward, which cast 1,849 votes for McKinley, has only three members in the committee, and West Omaha will send just as many delegates to the next convention as the Sixth ward.

The disastrous effects of this high-handed disfranchisement manifested itself at last fall's election and must seriously imperil the future of the party until the wrong is righted.

NEW RECIPROCITY MOVEMENT.

The meeting at Chicago to form a league for the promotion of trade reciprocity was not impressive as to numbers, there being in attendance representatives of only sixty manufacturing and other industrial establishments, but it must be regarded as the expression of a sentiment which is quite general and is perhaps growing. While what was said by President McKinley, in his last public utterance, regarding reciprocity, seems to have made little impression upon congress, it has exerted a great deal of influence upon public opinion and particularly upon those industrial interests that are seeking foreign markets for their products. The manufacturing industries, with few exceptions, have arrayed themselves on the side of reciprocity. They have accepted the McKinley view that that policy is necessary to the maintenance and expansion of our foreign trade. They believe, with the late president, that "reciprocity is the natural outgrowth of our wonderful industrial development under the domestic policy now firmly established" and that "reciprocity treaties are in harmony with the spirit of the times."

It is therefore not improbable that the movement for a national league to promote reciprocity will grow. The declaration of its promoters is for "broad, liberal commercial regulations beneficial to the people of the whole country" and while there are features of the resolutions adopted that will not be approved by the more radical supporters of the protective policy, the chief purpose will find numerous supporters among moderate protectionists. There are, by the way, some very significant indications that that class is increasing in number. Note, for example, the speech on Thursday in the house of Representative Grosvenor of Ohio, who has always been one of the most earnest champions of protection. He declared that tariff schedules are not sacred and predicted that the time would come when there would be an inexorable demand for revision of the present rates. He further said that the republican party must not chain itself to the tariff schedules. Nothing more significant could have come from any republican in congress or the country.

The advocates of reciprocity do not propose to abandon protection. They regard the one as the handmaiden of the other. They believe, with President Roosevelt, that "our first duty is to see that the protection granted by the tariff in every case where it is needed is maintained and that reciprocity be sought for so far as it can safely be done without injury to our home industries." This was the idea of McKinley when he said: "By sensible trade arrangements which will not interrupt our home production we shall extend the outlets for our increasing surplus. If perchance some of our tariffs are no longer needed for revenue or to encourage and protect our industries at home, why should they not be employed to extend and promote our markets abroad?" The reciprocity idea, as clearly presented by McKinley, contemplates retaining the foreign trade we have got and securing more, which is necessary to our continued industrial progress and prosperity. The foremost protectionist of his time saw in this nothing inimical to that policy.

THE NEW COMMISSIONER.

The selection by the president of Mr. E. F. Ware of Kansas to succeed Pension Commissioner Evans will undoubtedly cause general surprise and probably nowhere more than in Kansas, where there were two aspirants for the position, backed by political influence. When it was announced some days ago that neither of these would receive the appointment it was assumed that the state would be passed over by the president in making a selection, but he has recognized the claims of Kansas and chosen a man for pension commissioner who will doubtless be acceptable to the politicians of the state and to the old soldiers everywhere, when they shall have learned more of him. One thing can be safely assumed and that is that the president is thoroughly satisfied as to the qualifications of Mr. Ware, who is said to be a good lawyer and in all respects an estimable citizen.

Nothing is said as to when Commissioner Evans will retire, but in all probability it will be soon, this being indicated by the announcement of the selection of his successor. As the president intends to appoint Mr. Evans to another position, it is not improbable that he will be the first diplomatic representative of the United States to the Cuban republic.

UP TO THE COUNTY BOARD.

The report of the referee in the appeal for the reassessment of the public utility corporations leaves little hope for redress to Omaha taxpayers from the inequitable valuation of the Board of Review and the arbitrary course of the majority of the council. The only advantage that may accrue from the movement instituted by the Real Estate exchange must come from an awakened public sentiment in favor of assessment reform that will make each class of property bear its just share of the burden of local government.

While the work of assessment for county and state taxation by the precinct assessors is not yet complete, it is safe to anticipate that the same problem will have to be met by the county board when it comes to sit as a board of equalization. Last year's county assessment was if anything more rank and unjust than the appraisement made by the Board of Review for the city tax list.

Nobody expects or asks either the assessors or the county commissioners to discriminate in favor of any property owner, but it is only fair and reasonable to demand that in the valuation of corporate property the same ratio to actual value shall be applied that governs the assessment of all other classes of property. The franchised corporations are certainly in position to bear their due share of tax burdens as easily as any other class of property owners. It goes without saying that no perfect system of taxation has yet been devised, but there is no good reason why millions of property values should be exempt by special favor or misconstruction of the revenue laws.

In the case of the city assessment the corporations were allowed to steal a march on the other taxpayers before the latter were awake to the situation. When the question comes up to the county board the men interested in fair assessments and a reduced tax rate will be in position to assert themselves before action is taken.

The execution of a colored boy at St. Louis after his reprieve had been ordered by the governor is a disgraceful example of over-eager zeal to perform official duty. The sentence of the court called for the execution of the prisoner between 6 a. m. and 6 p. m., and before ten minutes of the period had elapsed the work of the hangman had been completed. It is morally certain that had the boy been white instead of black he would not have been the victim of this uncalled-for haste. With such object lessons repeated from time to time, it is little wonder that race antagonism in the south refuses to die out.

Two bodies cannot occupy the same space at the same time, but sometimes one body occupies two spaces at one time. This is the case of Frank Koutsky, who will be compelled to exercise the functions of mayor and city treasurer of South Omaha at the same time until the deadlocked city council of that town is unlocked. The South Omaha charter expressly prohibits any city officer from holding two positions on the city muster roll, but the framers of that instrument could not have foreseen the game in which two three spots would wrestle for the jackpot.

State Superintendent Fowler advises in favor of three-year contracts with school superintendents in order to avoid the disadvantages of too frequent change. Long-time engagements may be all right where the man employed as superintendent is qualified for the position, but an incompetent man is dear on any terms and no school board should allow itself to be tied up for three years with any superintendent until he has proved his capacity by work rather than words.

London which for years has been behindhand in its facilities for rapid transit now finds itself on the eve of acquiring a modern system at the hands of a syndicate organized by Americans. The first tramway in England was that built by an American, George Francis Train, and it is specially appropriate for America to come to the rescue once more with up-to-date methods for relieving the congested streets of the British metropolis.

After two months' jangling the referee in the corporation tax controversy has discovered that there are several flaws in the revenue laws that compel him to recommend the dismissal of the complaint, which recalls very forcibly the story of the mountain that labored and brought forth a mouse.

Live Nebraska Towns

Beatrice—Queen City of the Blue

As I view it, there are three general standpoints from which we may consider the desirability of any town or city as a place of investment: First, its location; second, its resources, and third, its future possibilities. These are essentials recognized by all home seekers and investors and if these essentials are such as to commend any particular locality every wise and thoughtful man will be at once convinced and the problem will be solved.

I call attention to Beatrice as one of the live, progressive cities of Nebraska, with the assurance that an investigation of its location, resources and possibilities will convince any right-minded man of its superior advantages and attractiveness, not only as a place to establish a home, but as a place whose commercial and industrial advantages offer rare and permanent business inducements. A notable feature of this "Queen City of the Blue" is its commanding site upon the banks of the Big Blue river, thus insuring good drainage and an inexhaustible supply of wholesome water, which is now distributed throughout the city by means of the Holly system of water works. This location is not only pleasing to the view, but is also most healthful, as a glance at the mortuary record of the city will verify. I am warranted in saying that this location on this beautiful river is in itself a strong attraction and one which causes other pretentious cities of the state to look upon Beatrice with envious eyes. This river affords water power possibilities as yet undeveloped and unthought of. This water has a fall now of three and a half feet from a point five miles above the city and while this power is used to some extent, it it capable of being expanded a thousand-fold. A canal constructed from this point has been discussed more or less and such a canal could afford power to turn every wheel in the city and will certainly be built in the coming years.

Of the resources I have only space to make the briefest mention. The population is upon a conservative estimate placed at 10,000. We have paved streets, beautiful church edifices, fine business blocks, a gas plant, electric plant, a courthouse costing $100,000, a beautiful government building and ornate private residences which reflect the taste and intelligence of the people. Every line of business is well represented and the rich agricultural country surrounding insures a safe and profitable business to all our merchants.

We have a goodly number of small factories, but the factory to which we point with especial pride is that of the Dempster Mill Manufacturing company, an institution sprung from small beginnings, but which has grown to be one of the leading manufactories of the west, employing from 300 to 400 men the year round. Our railroads deserve especial mention, of which we have four centering here, thus giving us ample means of ingress and egress and affording excellent market facilities. We have coal, stone and cement deposits in close proximity to the city, all of which as they are developed will prove of immense value. WILLIAM H. EDGAR.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

In Mongolia, as well as in southern China, the extraordinary taxes imposed by the Chinese government for the purpose of obtaining money to meet the terms of the war indemnity exacted by the powers which united in the expedition for the relief of the foreign legations in Pekin are driving the people of large districts into revolt. They prefer the desperate chances of rebellion to the exactions of the imperial authorities, increased, as they doubtless are, by the corrupt local officials through whom the taxes are collected. It is not strange that such outbreaks should take place. The Chinese are always poor and never able to pay their taxes easily as a nation. Extraordinary government burdens mean simple confiscation of scanty belongings in many instances. As a rule the addition of war taxes calls for painful pinching of food, clothing and other necessaries of life by the masses. The hard experiences the Chinese are now passing through will not be forgotten, nor will they be thought of without bitterness toward the foreign powers which forced such burdens upon a people already heavy laden. Anti-foreign feeling will be greatly increased and prolonged by the collection of exorbitant war indemnities.

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Within the last two or three weeks a number of Russian and Polish students, most of whom attended the lectures in the technical college at Charlottenberg, have been expelled from Prussia on the charge of political agitation. There are some discrepancies in the accounts of the affair, the local German papers asserting that only those students were expelled who had been caught in the act of attending secret meetings, while the Polish papers maintain that all non-Prussian Polish students, whether actively engaged in political agitation or not, have been sent summarily across the frontier. The temper of the Berlin press is indicated by the Neueste Nachrichten, which, quoting the Polish version of the affair, remarks: "We do not know whether this statement is correct in all its details, but we have no reason to doubt its general accuracy, since it is within our knowledge that Count von Buelow on his own initiative issued instructions for the expulsion of all foreign Polish agitators. In all truly patriotic circles this measure will be welcomed with unmixed satisfaction. If foreign Poles feel constrained to devote themselves to Pan-Polish agitation they are at liberty to do so in Galicia or under the tender supervision of the Russian police officials." The Polish question evidently is becoming more acute.

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Although a conference held in Madrid last summer by delegates of the South American republics, promoted for the express purpose of extending the Spanish market and influence in South America, ended in fiasco, it appears that the Spanish government has been more successful in dealing with the delegates who attended last winter's Pan-American congress in the City of Mexico. Just before the Easter recess of the Cortes the duke of Almodovar, minister of foreign affairs, announced that the government had, through its representative in Mexico, concluded treaties between Spain and Argentine, Bolivia, Colombia, Guatemala, Mexico, Paraguay, Salvador, San Domingo and Uruguay. By these conventions it is agreed that all differences which may arise between Spain and these countries should be submitted to arbitration, and that the arbitrator should be either the chief of a Spanish-American state or a tribunal composed of Spaniards or Spanish-Americans, "in order to give greater emphasis (dar mayor relieve) to the solidarity of interests which exists between all branches of the Spanish race." Only in cases of failure to agree upon such an arbitrator are questions to be submitted to the tribunal of The Hague. The minister added that similar conventions will shortly be signed by the republics of Peru, Honduras, Costa Rica and Venezuela, in their respective capitals.

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On the heels of the published program of President Loubet's prospective visit to St. Petersburg is the announcement made in La Voix Nationale of Paris that negotiations are pending between Berlin and Paris on the subject of a possible visit of the president of the French republic to Germany. The German emperor would, it appears, be gratified if a break in the return journey from Russia were made, so that he could meet the president of the republic at a German port. It is recalled by La Voix how the emperor received the French at Kiel, how that was followed by his graciousness toward the officers and crews of the Iphigenie at Bergen and the Ibis at Geestemunde, how also his majesty received General Bounsi at Berlin. The moment would, therefore, be opportune in the interests of good feeling between the two nations to bring about a meeting between their respective chiefs. La Voix, however, which is a nationalist organ, looks with an unfavorable eye at the news given in its own columns. It warns public opinion in France that the aim of the Germanophiles is to force on a period of appeasement on the Bismarckian theory of accomplished facts.

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Nearly every recent by-election for the German Reichstag has resulted in a victory for a social-democratic candidate, and most of these have been of very high character and influence, not only as German socialists, but as authors, lecturers and students of sociology and political economy, frequently of European repute. The recent election of Eduard Bernstein as a socialist member for Breslau has, for these reasons, attracted wide attention. His majority over his radical opponent was over 8,000. His return brings the number of socialists in the Reichstag up to fifty-eight. Herr Bernstein for many years has stood in the front of party warfare in Germany. Among socialists he occupies a high position, for his services to his party have been immense. He is probably their ablest dialectician; but he has never been able to free himself entirely from the taint of heterodoxy. His dramatic defense and his conduct at the recent socialist conference at Lubeck will be remembered. Herr Bernstein is well known in London. His sympathies for England are genuine, and have been often expressed in his numerous writings.

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According to advices from Berlin, the German emperor is taking deep interest in a movement which has arisen in Germany for transferring the control of the drink traffic from the hands of private individuals to corporations and companies, which will derive no pecuniary advantage from the sale of intoxicating liquor. Through his civil chancery he has sent an interesting letter to the leader of this movement, Baron von Diergardt, stating that all efforts having for their object the diminution of the use of alcohol and the education of the public in the moral and economic evils attendant on its use have his entire approval. He follows with attention the example set in this respect in Scandinavia and England, and hopes, when the project has assumed a firmer footing, to hear more of it.

TWO LEADERS WANT PEACE.

Conciliating the Warring Interests of Capital and Labor.

Cleveland Leader.

It means much when two men like Senator Hanna and Samuel Gompers speak from the same platform, as they did in Philadelphia last Saturday night, and both declare themselves in opposition to strikes and compulsory arbitration, and in favor of conciliation as a means of bringing capital and labor together.

The leading representatives of both capital and labor are learning valuable lessons. It seems to be admitted on one side that big combinations of capital are a necessary outgrowth of present industrial conditions, while on the other it is conceded that labor has the same right that capital possesses to combine its forces.

These being admitted conditions, it is generally conceded that nothing can be gained by arraying these great forces against each other. Peace between capital and labor is desired, because neither can enjoy a full measure of prosperity unless there is harmony in their relations.

Thus it is that capital is anxious to prevent strikes, and thus it is that labor is putting to the front as its leaders men who are fit to meet the great "captains of industry" and discuss questions of wages and hours in a businesslike way. That is why the National Civic Federation's efforts are meeting with success.

From now on there are likely to be fewer great strikes than formerly. Capital has discovered that it does not pay to fight, and labor realizes that strikes are unprofitable. In the meantime the labor question is being taken out of politics and everybody will be glad of that.

ASSESSMENT OF FRANCHISE.

California's Experience Duplicated in Other States.

San Francisco Chronicle.

Nearly a quarter of a century ago California provided by her constitution that "franchises" should be assessed as other property. This at the time was assailed as "revolutionary" and "rank socialism," and as generally indicating a plundering and lawless spirit. It was not, however, ever claimed that franchises could not be sold for money, according to their income producing power, as readily as land or cattle. This principle was established in California and has long since been confirmed by the courts. We do not, it is true, as yet actually get franchises assessed at their real value in proportion to other property, but we are gradually approaching it, and the principle is settled and no longer questioned in this state. Within the last few years this principle, established by the constitution of California, is coming to be generally accepted elsewhere, and franchises are now regularly assessed in New York, Illinois and other states, and all sorts of people are now claiming the "credit" of first seeing that any right which could be sold for money should be taxed as money. The credit of first enacting this obvious principle into law belongs to the people of California of a quarter of a century ago.

Such a law, after having been sustained by the Illinois courts, has recently been affirmed by the United States courts in Chicago, to which the litigation was transferred, on the ground that taxation of franchises was confiscation of property in violation of doctrines of the United States constitution in such case made and provided. This contention was promptly brushed away, and the decision is of interest only as indicating the proper rule for valuing franchises. It has been a very general practice to value them according to their market price. The United States court did not approve of this as a controlling method by reason of the fictitious changes in price constantly taking place, as the result of stock jobbing. The court held that franchises should be assessed in each year by capitalizing the net earnings of the previous year at current rates of interest, and assimilating the real value thus found to the values of other property as returned for taxation. A franchise yielding $1,000 profit would be capitalized at 5 per cent at $20,000. If property generally was assessed at one-half its real value that franchise would be assessed at $10,000. There is a good deal of sense in this reasoning and the method laid down may come to be generally adopted.

POINTED REMARKS.

Washington Star: "It's easy enough foh a race hoss to git beat," said Uncle Eben. "But dar ain't any beatin' de men dat's runnin' 'em."

Philadelphia Press: "I'd likd to see Miss Passay," said the man at the door.
"You can't," replied the maid, "she's got the toothache."
"Impossible, for I'm from her dentist's and I've got her teeth here in this package."

Chicago Post: "Yes," said the orator, "I'm a self-made man."
"In that case," was the reply, "you are a very serious reflection on your own workmanship."

Detroit Free Press: Collector—Can't you give me any encouragement at all about this old account?
Mr. Go-Easy—Why, yes, of course; I will pay you as soon as I pay anybody.

Philadelphia Press: Rube—I reckon you kin yank this tooth fur me.
Dentist—Certainly. Have you ever taken gas?
Rube—Don't git fresh, young feller. That gabby hotel clerk's been tellin' you somethin', ain't he?

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "Yes, I smoke at least a dozen cigars a day. This is a good one."
"Somebody must have given it to you."

Somerville Journal: Jones—The office should seek the man.
Smith—Well, if it did, I know what office would be seeking Brown.
Jones—Which?
Smith—The police office.

Somerville Journal: She—What is the longest day in the year?
He—Any day when I don't see you.

Youth's Companion: The youthful author pocketed his rejected verses, but he could not swallow the editor's criticism.
"Sir," said he, not without dignity, "a poet is born, not made."
"Young man," said the editor blandly, "it won't help your case to try to shift the blame onto your parents."

YOU ARE NOT SO MANY.

William J. Lampton in New York World.

Say, when you think you own the earth,
And by some right of royal birth
You think you are of nobler blood
Than those of us who're made of mud,
And by that are the best of any,
Go count yourself—you're not so many.

Say, when you feel that you are what
The vast majority of men are not,
And cannot be, because your make
Is far superior to theirs, please take
A little tumble, if there's any,
And count yourself—you're not so many.

Say, if you have an idea that
You of us all know where you're at,
And while mankind remains in doubt
You know just where you're coming out;
Collect your wits, if you have any,
And count yourself—you're not so many.

Say, brother, if you have the gall
To think you really know it all;
To feel that you are better than
The ordinary, average man,
And that hereafter you will rise
To higher glory in the skies
Than those who do not have a penny,
Go count yourself—you're not so many.

Stretched to the Breaking Point.

Philadelphia Ledger.

The impression is growing that Captain Christmas has an imagination which is too much for his veracity.

Hearty and Wholesome.

Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

South Carolina's welcome to the president is exactly in line with the best traditions of southern hospitality.

Significance of a Raise.

Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Iowa has increased the salary of her governor. Perhaps she hopes in this way to offer an attraction that may in some cases prevent her sons from accepting the first cabinet position that is offered them.

An Overworked Graft.

New York Tribune.

The pugilists who fight with their tongues are even noisier and more voluble now than they ever were before. And they are more generally distrusted and despised now than in any earlier time. They have been found out. They deserved to be exposed long ago.

Weathery, but Cheering.

San Francisco Call.

Senator Frye stated recently that never since he has been in congress has the business of the long term been so well advanced as at this session, and he predicts congress will be ready to adjourn by the end of June. Such a prediction, of course, is not worth much more than one from the weather bureau, but all the same it is cheering.

Menace of Indifference.

Philadelphia Ledger.

Almost uniformly, the reports of spring elections in western towns and cities say that a very light vote was polled. The same thing is so common in eastern towns and cities as to be an item of political calculation; comparatively few of the voters care to attend any but a state or national election, and politicians base their plans for municipal manipulation largely on this fact. Thoughtful people will perceive in this tendency to shirk an easy but important public duty one of the gravest perils to the American plan of self-government.

Uncle Sam's Growing Roll.

Philadelphia Record.

From the latest official report of the treasury, it is evident that the sources of government surplus revenue will not be entirely closed by the repeal of the war taxes. The customs receipts for the nine months of this fiscal year amount to $190,182,000, which is $10,000,000 more than the receipts for the same period of last year, and $40,000,000 more than for the nine months of the fiscal year 1898-9. With the increase of the revenues from customs there is at the same time a considerable reduction of expenditures for the army in the Philippines and Cuba.

POLITICAL DRIFT.

The legislature of Massachusetts is wrestling with a bill to license cats in that state.

During an uncommonly short session the New York legislature managed to grind out 500 bills.

If republics are not wholly ungrateful, some counties surely are. Yell county, Arkansas, went back on James K. Jones.

Colonel Watterson declares that Senator Jones of Arkansas "was too honest to succeed in politics." The Star-Eyed Goddess is working a rich vein of humor.

Nine thousand voters of Kansas City declared by their votes that five months of school is a plenty in one year. It should be remembered that Kansas City is in Missouri.

It is evident from the primary returns that Governor Jeff Davis is more successful in gunning for obnoxious senators than in chasing editors with his mouth.

Several republican clubs are booming General Shafter for the republican nomination for governor of California. It is generally conceded his candidacy would give considerable weight to the ticket.

The practice of throwing rocks at the municipal governments of Philadelphia and New York, heretofore a popular pastime in St. Louis, has been indefinitely suspended. The town by the bridge has troubles of its own.

They are talking of running Rev. Charles M. Sheldon for mayor of Topeka, Kan. Rev. Sheldon is the man who gave the world a sample of a daily newspaper run on pious lines, at the same time mixing several "raw" "ads" with prayerful editorials. As mayor his supporters believe he would be "a corker."

Kansas City played a star engagement in the recent run for municipal spoils, hoping to break the Reed upon whom the town leaned for two years past. But the "better classes," so-called, failed to respond to the appeal at the ballot box, and the Reed, bent by the wind, regained the perpendicular by several hundred majority.

Governor James P. Clarke, who defeated Senator James K. Jones in the fight for the Arkansas senatorial nomination, occupied the gubernatorial chair of Arkansas from 1895 to 1897. His political career began in 1886, when he was elected to the state legislature. He was elected attorney general on the democratic ticket in 1892. He was born in Yazoo City, Miss., in 1854. Governor Clarke has been practicing law at Little Rock since his retirement as governor.