

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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Another democratic convention has turned down Bryan and Bryanism. Nebraska figures prominently among the states whose crop prospects are most favorable.

There will be no streets in Baltimore named after Dave Mercer. In this respect Baltimore resembles Omaha. Nothing is more essential to a continuance of prosperity than a large corn crop this year and the promise is good for an abundant yield.

Nebraska is just now getting all the rain needed and will return thanks for the timely soaking in the form of an immense harvest of all sorts of grain. Whether it was lumbago or a plot to kill him, the fact remains that King Edward did not attend the Aldershot review, and thereby escaped an unpleasant afternoon.

Manipulators of the corn market are getting their profits in season, for the promise is that the growing crop will be entirely too big for even the Chicago Board of Trade to corner. Coal baron and coal miner are still at loggerheads and each is threatening to do more than has been done. No matter how the strike terminates the public will pay the bill or shiver next winter.

Again the local democracy will be asked to settle the question of supremacy between the Jacksonians and the Douglas Countyites. This is one scrap the republicans can enjoy, but it's tough on the democratic mule. Tax Commissioner Fleming's determination to list all property for taxation at its cash value will be commended if he will only list it all. The railroad joker in the city charter will then be of more value to the railroads than ever.

Competition for republican nominations for congress in Nebraska is in marked distinction to the efforts of the demopops to evade being put on the ticket. What is worth having is worth striving for, and a republican nomination is worth having in Nebraska nowadays. It appears that the Boers had a larger force in the field at the outset of the war than was commonly estimated, the number being authoritatively stated at 50,000. There is no comfort in this for the British, however, since their army still numbered six times that of the intrepid burghers.

The republicans in every congressional district in the state except the Second have made their nominations, but Mercer does not propose to submit his prospectus for a sixth term renomination until he gets good and ready, which may be in July, August, September or possibly not until the middle of October. If the Pennsylvania democrats nominate Robert E. Pattison for governor the campaign in that state will be exceedingly interesting. Mr. Pattison has made a good record in public life and is very popular. He would give Judge Pennypacker, the republican candidate, a strong race.

The Shriners are coming back from their pilgrimage to San Francisco, Omaha is a much more important oasis on the return trip than it was on the outgoing, for it is here the tent of the imperial potentate is now pitched. The local weavers of the fez and claws will be busy for a few days fondly felicitating and entertaining the pilgrims. They will endeavor to live up to the motto, "If you meet a Shriner, ask him."

ASSESSMENT OF IOWA RAILROADS.

The paramount issue upon which Governor Cummins secured his nomination by the republicans of Iowa last year was tax reform, and especially an increase in the assessed valuation of railroads. While Nebraska railroad attorneys and tax agents point to Iowa as a model of fair railroad assessment, the people of Iowa have for years complained of the partiality shown to the railroads and the discrimination against all other classes of taxpayers in the assessment of railroad property.

In Iowa, as in Nebraska, the railroads protest against paying additional taxes. They insist that the railroads are now paying one-thirteenth of the total tax collected in the state of Iowa, which in round figures amounts to a million and a half dollars, but one-thirteenth does not by any means represent the true ratio of value that railroad property in Iowa bears to all other classes of taxable property.

In the state of Minnesota, where the railroads are assessed 3 per cent on gross earnings, they were required to pay \$1,058,770 into the treasury last year and a proposition is to be voted on at the election next November to raise the railroad tax from 3 to 4 per cent on gross earnings, which would be an increase of 25 per cent, or an aggregate of over \$2,000,000 a year. That this proposition will carry is a foregone conclusion.

With a railroad mileage of 9,180 miles for Iowa and against 9,942 miles in Minnesota, it goes without saying that the railroads of Iowa are worth a great deal more money and are earning a great deal more money than the railroads in Minnesota. The railroads of Iowa were assessed in 1901 for \$47,071,258, and it is currently reported that Governor Cummins will insist on an increase of 30 per cent, or about \$15,000,000, in the assessment for 1902. For the next thirty days the state executive council, which acts as a board of equalization, will devote itself to an exhaustive study and discussion of the railroad assessment problem, and the outcome will be watched by the people of Iowa with intense interest.

The people of Iowa, like the people of Nebraska, doubtless realize that the railroads have been a great factor in the upbuilding of their state, but inasmuch as the railroads are in position to levy an almost arbitrary tribute upon the products of the state and make their patrons pay not only interest upon bonds and dividends upon stocks, but also the cost of maintenance and improvement of the road, as well as the money expended for taxes, they see no reason why they should not bear their due proportion of the burden of taxation.

BANKRUPTCY LAW SUSTAINED.

The opposition to the bankruptcy law in the house of representatives was overwhelmingly defeated in its effort to have the act repealed, the majority against repeal being 72. Public sentiment regarding the law is shown in the fact that the 20,000 associations, lawyers, business men, etc., who are represented by resolutions and communications before the house committee on this subject, only 10 per cent are opposed to the law and even that percentage bases opposition on the defects in the law which the house bill remedies. These expressions of opinion were brought out by the judiciary committee, which sent something like 15,000 inquiries, indiscriminately, throughout the United States asking for opinions about the law.

The house amendments to the bankruptcy act are such as experience has shown to be necessary and they were carefully considered by the judiciary committee, aided by experienced outside opinion. These amendments will undoubtedly very greatly improve the law and render its operation more generally satisfactory. The vote in the house gives assurance that the law will stand, but it is not likely that the amendments will receive consideration in the senate at this session.

THE ALASKA BOUNDARY ISSUE.

The Canadian premier, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, said in a recent interview that the most important question just now, as affecting the relations and friendly feeling existing between Canada and the United States, is the Alaska boundary question. He spoke of the situation as full of danger and all that is required to precipitate a disgraceful conflict is the discovery of gold in the disputed territory. He thought it not creditable to either government that so extremely important an issue should have been left open so long and added: "We are most desirous that it should be settled on its merits, to insure continued friendship, to avoid local and sectional conflict, to remove the cause of serious international irritation. We are perfectly willing to submit the question to arbitration, but so long, of course, as the United States maintains that there is nothing to arbitrate, the menace of open conflict on the disputed ground must continue to exist."

The responsibility for this dispute and the dangerous situation growing out of it rests wholly with Canada. It was raised by politicians of that country who put forth claims to territory to which the title of the United States had long been established and for at least thirty years after the purchase of Alaska had not been questioned. It is territory clearly defined in the treaty with Russia conveying to the United States title to Alaska and which was recognized on all maps of that country as being American territory. As the New York Sun correctly states, the Canadian claim was never heard of until the development of the Klondike suggested the desirability of a boundary treaty which should give the Canadian Yukon region a seaport by cutting through the American panhandle.

This preposterous claim the United States government has declined to arbitrate and doubtless will continue to do so, because it involves a surrender of territory which the American people

would not permit. The Canadian premier said that nothing has been accomplished looking toward a settlement of the dispute since the adjournment of the joint high commission. The reason for this is to be found in the obstinate persistence of Canada in its utterly indefensible claim. But for that there is every reason to believe the British government and our government would have reached a settlement. It was due to this that the joint high commission failed to accomplish anything and left unsettled all the issues between the United States and Canada which it was created to consider and adjust, the Dominion government having made the settlement of all other questions contingent upon the concession of its claim in Alaska.

It is possible that sooner or later there will be a serious conflict over this boundary question, but if so the United States will not be the loser and meanwhile it can be confidently predicted that there will be no surrender of American territory in Alaska.

GROWTH OF RURAL FREE DELIVERY.

Former Postmaster General Charles Emory Smith was presented last Saturday, by many of his former subordinates, with a massive silver punch bowl in recognition of his work in installing the rural free postal delivery system. The facts regarding the growth of the system under the administration of the Postoffice department by Mr. Smith are interesting. When he took charge there were but 130 routes in operation and the number established or provided for when he retired was 7,000. In 1898 the appropriation for this service was \$50,000, while for the current year it is \$4,000,000 and the amount to be disbursed during the next fiscal year is \$8,000,000. At the time Mr. Smith became postmaster general, in April, 1898, rural free delivery was an experiment. It had become a permanent part of the postal service when he retired from the cabinet in January last. The very great progress made in developing the system during this period of four years was largely due to the earnest and energetic efforts of Hon. Charles Emory Smith and it is something of which any man might feel proud.

Speaking of the work Mr. Smith said its value cannot well be over-estimated. "The conception which plans the actual delivery of the mail every day at every door throughout the entire eligible portion of the country, covering over a million square miles of territory, and thus puts every home in touch with the world activities, is one of the striking illustrations of the prodigious energies and wonderful achievements of the American people. No other country in the world undertakes such colossal service. The only countries where universal house delivery is tried are countries of limited area and compact population. In only two years of our advance we covered a territory greater than the area of all England." Mr. Smith expressed the opinion that at the estimated rate of progress the whole available portion of the country will be embraced in this service in three or four more years.

PUBLICITY OF CORPORATIONS.

A bill has been introduced in the house of representatives providing for publicity of corporations engaged in interstate business. The outlines of the measure as reported indicate that the measure has been framed along the line suggested by President Roosevelt and is comprehensive in its requirements. It provides for annual statements to the secretary of the treasury by the corporations showing full particulars of business and requires the secretary of the treasury to classify the stock of corporations into such as has been paid for in cash or its equivalent and such as is usually called inflated or watered stock, the latter to be assessed by the government at 2 per cent per annum. There is also a provision in the bill relating to railroad discrimination.

While it is improbable that there will be any legislation of this kind at the present session of congress, it is well to have the matter brought forward so that preparation can at least be made for its consideration at the next session. There is practically universal concurrence in the opinion expressed by the president in his first message to congress that all corporations doing an interstate business should be required at reasonable intervals to give public information as to their financial condition and operations. The government should have the right, in the interest of the public, to inspect and examine the workings of such corporations. There are other means of remedying the abuses and impositions of the great corporations, but none is more important or would prove more effective than publicity, and there appears to be no doubt as to the power of congress to apply this remedy.

DEMOCRATS PROCLAIM NO PHILIPPINE PLAN AMERICANS CAN APPROVE.

The policy approved by the Oregon democrats is in substance the policy of the republican administration. Under that policy the Philippines are being trained for self-government as rapidly as possible. President Roosevelt has not proclaimed that when preparation of self-government they must be made independent. He has no authority to make such a declaration, and to make it would be a reckless act. But he has said that when they give evidence of fitness to govern themselves, then, and not till then, the question of their independence should be determined. The Kansas declaration is unintelligible except as a dodging of the question. Short of reading a hundred speeches, many of them ignorant, some of them violent and none of them that we now recall embodying any matured and reasonable plan, no one could say what position the democratic members of the national congress have taken with respect to the Philippines. All the democratic senators voted against the civil government bill, which provides a civil administration for the islands and district and municipal governments, with popular representation—the very thing demanded by the Oregon democrats.

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All the other democratic platforms adopted so far this year, that is to say, the platforms of the democrats of Tennessee, South Carolina and Indiana, offer alternatives to the republican policy such as no sane man of any party clothed not only with the power, but with the responsibility of the presidential office, would ever adopt and that no civilized people of any nation would ever permit to be followed. The declarations of purpose approved by the democrats of South Carolina, Tennessee and Indiana would make any other government but military government impossible in the Philippines. We should be compelled either to maintain order there by a permanent military authority or to withdraw and leave the Philippines to their fate. The one would involve governing without the consent of the governed in perpetuity, the other a disgraceful and dangerous repudiation of national and international duty. It is perfectly plain that the democrats have no feasible plan. They have formed no plan, proclaimed no principles, indicated no method that the American people in any conceivable circumstances would approve. If the state democratic conventions yet to come have no wiser or safer plan to propose, the leaders who affect the leaders will be forced to confess they have failed miserably in the effort to create a Philippine issue.

WHERE WORK AWAITS THE WILLING.

Kansas and Nebraska are appealing for harvest hands and cannot get enough. For the unemployed the cry is still "Go west!"

MIGHTY HANDY ASSISTANT.

If the democratic party deliberately courts another national defeat Mr. Bryan will be its logical candidate for 1904 and nobody knows this any better than the audience which has visited the party for the lecturing and publishing business.

ENOUGH, AND TO SPARE.

President Schwab of the steel trust is a smart man, but when he said that "the worst thing a young man can start in life with is influence" he was away off. Influence is a good starter, but it cannot be depended on to carry to success a young man who will not help himself.

WHERE JUSTICE HAILS.

It looks as if it were pretty nearly an axiom that a special appeal procedure can not be pushed. If the judicial proceedings do not slip a cog and by chance the courts sentence him, something else intervenes to prevent punishment. The last illustration is the Cuban amnesty that frees Neely and Hathbone. It would be surprising if it were not to know what influences brought this about.

SCIENCE OF PETTY SWINDLING.

We are now in the fullness of the season when the swindling berry box is to be seen in its highest development and activity. If there is no way by which the vendor of false measure can be reached the legislature should devise one. The man who professes to sell a quart when he really gives less than a pint is fine material for the bride-well, along with the rascal who covers green peaches with red netting.

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Miser Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot. Oddities of personal adornment are so common in Washington that it is a task of genius to create a sensation in that way, but the charming widow of Cushman K. Davis of Minnesota has achieved that distinction. Recently she appeared on the streets of the capital city carrying on her arm a deep band of black crepe, to which was attached a fine miniature of her late husband.

Stress of business and the dearth of time will lead to a change in the president's signature. He has always been accustomed to write out his first name in full, but he finds that it will save him about 50 per cent of time and trouble to make it simply T. Roosevelt.

Where a man has to sign his name about 1,000 times a day it does make a difference. There is a man in the office of the auditor for the Postoffice department who, it is said, whenever his appointment largely to the fact that his signature contains but five letters. He is Second Deputy Auditor N. Chew. He does little but sign his name, and he does that for about eight hours a day steady.

"It took the late Senator Plumb of Kansas nearly two years to get these water coolers placed in the corridors of the capital," said a gentleman quoted by the Washington Post. "The senator was a fighter when he went into a fight and it is said that some of his constituents who were visiting Washington for the first time called his attention to the fact that it was impossible for a stranger to get a drink of water in the building. Of course, people who know the ropes can dodge into one of the numerous committee rooms and get a drink of water, and frequently something stronger, but before the coolers were placed in the main corridors the stranger stood little show. When the complaint was made to Senator Plumb he at once determined that there should be water for all who wished it. The senator went to work, introduced a bill, but this was lost in committee, and after repeated efforts, lasting nearly two years, he managed to get it in as an amendment to an appropriation bill, with himself as one of the conferees. He was appealed to give up the effort, but he announced that he would defeat the whole bill unless the amendment for coolers stuck. That settled it, and during the next recess the coolers were placed in the walls. The water is kept through a coil of pipes through and around the steroom in the basement of the building, where the ice for use in the building is stored. I never take a drink here but that I think of Senator Plumb, one of the best men who ever came to the senate and who killed himself by overwork."

"Before reaching his majority he was married to Miss Peter Mercer, and to her influence is due whatever of success he has attained." Thus does Congressman Robert W. Davis of Florida pay a loving tribute to his wife, who died last week in Maryland, a few weeks ago. The above sentence is culled from Judge Davis' modest autobiography, printed in the last issue of the congressional directory.

"All that I have in life, I owe to my wife," said Mr. Davis. "We were married when both of us were very young—neither being of lawful age. Poor as the old church mouse, we battled together against the waves of adversity, my wife constantly lending her aid to assist and cheer me when the clouds seemed darkest. As the years rolled on and on she was ever my assistant, spurring me to greater efforts and broader achievements. The modest little that I have accomplished in life is due to her untiring energy, her constant devotion and supreme optimism. She could penetrate into the darkest and despair and see good in everything. "Acknowledgment of her material assistance to me in my career comes a little late, it seems to me now—it should have been publicly made during her lifetime. My only object in mentioning my wife's aid to me in the revision of the directory was to pay a modest tribute to her sweet memory."

Judge Davis is serving his third term in congress and is assured of a unanimous renomination for a fourth. He is an ex-confederate soldier and surrendered with the army of General "Joe" Johnston at the close of the civil war, was admitted to the bar before he became of age, has been a member and speaker of the Florida legislature. He was at one time general attorney for the Florida Southern railway.

Wives of the cabinet ministers, who already are preparing for next season's social season, report that there is a remarkable scarcity of young women in Washington who are competent to serve as social secretaries. In fact, there are not enough to go half way around, and the cabinet ladies are in despair because they know that the shortage means a repetition of the anguish and humiliation which is resolutely all during last season.

The social secretary is an important personage in Washington society. To be sure, she is not much in evidence herself, but her handiwork is seen everywhere. The making out of the invitation lists, the mailing of acceptances or declinations and the other routine work connected with the social season is the small and unimportant part of the social secretary's duties. She is expected to be a walking encyclopedia of information on the ins and outs of Washington society. This information she deals out to her employer as necessity requires.

SENATOR JONES OF NEVADA WILL RETIRE FROM PUBLIC LIFE.

Senator Jones of Nevada will retire from public life when his present term in the senate expires on March 4, 1903. He has been in the senate for thirty years and could remain thirty years longer if his life were spared for that length of time. "But I am now 72 years of age," said Senator Jones to a Washington Post reporter, "and while I am still in the full possession of all my faculties and my health I do not want to linger superfluous here. I think I had better step down before I get to be too old."

When Don Cameron was in the senate he and Jones became close personal friends and their intimacy has never been clouded. When Mr. Cameron recently celebrated "Farmers' day" at Donnell Mr. Jones was one of the guests. This calls to mind the fact that the poem which Mr. Cameron thinks is the best poem ever written and which he quotes to every friend was given him by Senator Jones. It is a story in rhyme of "Silver Jack," who was working in a mining camp when a man of the name of Robert Walte, "who was kind o' cute and slick and tonguey," undertook to ridicule the bible and to say that the Savior was "just a common man." "But I am now 72 years of age," said Senator Jones to a Washington Post reporter, "and while I am still in the full possession of all my faculties and my health I do not want to linger superfluous here. I think I had better step down before I get to be too old."

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FREE PASSES IN VIRGINIA.

The new Virginia constitution has been subjected to much adverse criticism not alone because the people of the state will have no voice in its adoption, but because of some provisions which are unjust and discriminating. There is one section, however, which is worthy of all praise and which would add greatly to the public virtue if it were in every other state constitution. The section referred to absolutely prohibits free passes in the future. No county, district, municipal or state officer hereafter will have free transportation on railroads, steamboats or electric lines. No mileage appropriations will be made for members' trips while the legislature is in session. Two exceptions only are made. Firemen and policemen while on duty may accept free transportation from street railroads. All others, from the governor down to the lowest municipal underling, must step up to the captain's office and settlement. This is as it should be. The prohibition of these exceptions, however, and the penalty is severe. Any corporation which shall give a pass will be subjected to heavy fines. Any official who forgets himself and takes a pass will forfeit his office.

Of course, the officeholders are furious at the summary cutting off of this ancient, reliable and demoralizing privilege. Their fury is harmless. If the constitution had to have the approval of the people undoubtedly the officeholders would combine and they might defeat it, but as it has been adopted by the convention, that ends it. Hereafter they must pay or stay at home, and whenever they ride they will ride as plain people do. It will seem hard for a time, but in the end the feeling of independence will be a solace to them and they will have the compensation of knowing that the corporations will not have so much occasion to tempt them, and that both the state and the corporations will be likely to be better public servants.

DEFICIT ROCK AHEAD.

Necessity for Going Slow with Federal Appropriations. Representative Cannon, chairman of the house committee on appropriations, had very small attention paid to his warning to the chamber on the possible prospect of a deficit, but all he said was true and the greater half of the danger was not said by him. This year's surplus, instead of being \$100,000,000, will fall some \$100,000,000 short of that. The repeal of the war taxes cut away more than this from next year's receipts. The revenue may run to \$250,000,000 next year. It is more likely to be \$200,000,000.

The various appropriations in sight today run \$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000 over this. The regular appropriations are \$50,000,000. They alone need all next year's revenue. There are left the permanent appropriations and the miscellaneous outlays, public buildings, irrigation, rivers and harbors and the rest. In all, these foot up \$100,000,000, or allowing for the appropriations which will not be expended next year there are here some \$50,000,000 of expenditures.

The deficit next fiscal year therefore may be \$100,000,000 and cannot be less than \$50,000,000, without counting payments to the sinking fund. The working balance may stand this for one year, but not for two. The year after appropriations must be sharply reduced or new taxes imposed, and the year after that a presidential year. This is not a wise or prudent prospect at the opening of a presidential campaign.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Henry H. Callen of Newark, N. J., has returned home after spending fifty years in South America, bringing with him one of the finest collections of tropical butterflies ever collected by an individual. When Senator Spooner is in an exciting state his hair seems to bristle up a little more than usual and he frequently runs his hands through it, catching it in bunches and twisting it into varied fantastic figures. The widow of the late ex-Governor John P. Altgeld has taken title to their home in Chicago, in which he lived and where he died, some of his friends having contributed to cancel a mortgage of \$4,600 upon the property.

A curious resemblance exists between ex-Speaker Reed and Pat Sheedy, the noted gambler—especially odd from the fact that, though the big lawyer is often mistaken for the sporting man, the latter is very seldom honored by the reverse error. Baltimore is considering a plan of changing the name of its North avenue to Schley avenue, in honor of the rear admiral. The present name is no longer appropriate, the northern boundary of the city having extended far beyond the avenue.

Game Commissioner C. K. Sober of Lawrence, Penn., known as the "Chestnut King," on account of his extensive and successful venture in the new field of raising an improved variety of chestnuts, has been engaged by the national authorities at Washington to prepare for gratuitous distribution a report to be issued on chestnut culture.

While Colonel J. H. Keith was making his unsuccessful race for nomination as governor of Georgia he fell into conversation with a citizen from the northern section of the state. "I couldn't vote for you," said the voter. "I couldn't vote for no man that lives in Savannah. Why you ain't got but one Baptist church there and your city must be in bad shape. No, stree, I don't vote for no man that comes from such a lost place as Savannah."

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SHRINKAGE IN STAPLE EXPORTS.

Notwithstanding the recent rise of manufactures to a large place in the export trade, products of agriculture still constitute some 65 per cent of the total shipments of merchandise out of the country. The current shrinkage in this branch of the export trade is therefore telling heavily against our exterior commerce in general, and this is a fact of immediate bearing on the course of international exchange and of importance in relation to the business outlook of the country.

The May returns just at hand reveal a very sharp backward tendency in this particular. Shipments of corn, owing to the failure of last year's crop, have declined to 453,948 bushels for the month, against 10,585,868 bushels in May of last year. Exports of oats have fallen from 4,931,000 bushels to 144,117; of oatmeal there is a decline of one-half and of wheat a decline from 16,857,000 bushels to 1,076,367. Cotton, provisions and cattle also show material decrease in the outward movement and all exports of staples by value during May compare as follows with the month last year:

Table comparing May exports of staples by value with the month last year. Includes items like 'Cotton', 'Provisions', 'Cattle and hogs', 'Mineral oils', 'Total'.

The total loss from a year ago is \$20,208,072, or about 30 per cent. This is the lowest May export of staple products reported since 1897, and compares with \$25,556,900 in the month of 1896, \$50,419,000 in 1899 and \$73,122,570 in 1898.

Such has been the tendency in our foreign trade for some months, and it is likely to continue at least up to the harvesting of another year's crops. No increase in shipments of manufactures and other agricultural products is taking place sufficient materially to offset this heavy shrinkage in the movement of staples; and since imports are being well maintained our favorable trade balances, the wonder of Europe for three or four years past, must suffer considerable reduction. As they have not been large enough in some time to compel gold shipments this way, they are now likely to prove not large enough to prevent an outward movement of gold, particularly in view of the heavy borrowings of capital abroad recently to finance various manufacturing enterprises. The fact brought out in these trade figures is that the ground is already being cut from under the feet of the syndicate so-called, and speculative enterprise, insofar as it has calculated on an unbroken continuance of the recent enormous trade expansions, is already in danger of missing its calculations.

SMILING LINES.

Washington Star: "Casually," said Uncle Eben, "you find a man that 'ud create a better impression wif de neighbors if he'd let de wheels of government take er ride 'er se's wif he pushes de lawn mower."

New York Sun: Rev. Fourthly—My good boy, how often have I told you it is wrong to go fishing on Sabbath. The important fact brought out in these trade figures is that the ground is already being cut from under the feet of the syndicate so-called, and speculative enterprise, insofar as it has calculated on an unbroken continuance of the recent enormous trade expansions, is already in danger of missing its calculations.

Philadelphia Press: "Say!" she cried suddenly, as the bashful young man backed into the nearest chair. "You must think you're a bird." "Beg pardon," he stammered, "I don't understand what—" "You're on my hat!" she shrieked.

Chicago Tribune: "I notice your preacher sometimes stops abruptly, when apparently in the midst of his discourse, and gives out the closing hymn." "Yes," he makes it an inflexible rule to quit when he has as many as six persons nodding at once."

Philadelphia Press: "This hack," objected the hungry boarder, "is pretty thin." "Well," the proprietor of the boarding house, "you see, it is all the fault of the rubber trust." "The rubber trust?" asked the hungry boarder. "For he had paid his bill and was a privileged person."

Philadelphia Catholic Standard: "I never see you stop at Jenkins' house any more," said the busybody. "No," exclaimed the church member, "you know, I've become a church member. You know," replied the busy man, "I'm indeed in the middle of a beer, eh?" "Oh, no, but I deliver it at the back gate now."

Pittsburgh Chronicle Telegraph: The shirt waist girl, who sets awfully right, the hearts of all beholders. Again is here no charm and cheer, and there's no room for scolders. In salient light, and color bright, she forms a picture pleasing; she is the life and interest of the evening. When either gay, or serious or teasing, she's here and there, she's everywhere, in the directions going; amid the hues of black and blue, her shirt waist girdle is glowing. When days are hot, they worry not, this girl attired so lightly, she's in and out, she's in and out, and always smiling brightly. Long will she reign—Till summer's waning, 'Ere the heat is gone, And she'll be queen On far-away vacation.

So careful be, whenever you see, the shirt waist girl so charming; for she's the life and interest of the evening, and conquest makes, in manner that's alarming.

Advertisement for clothing. Text: 'From now till July 1. We shall have a variety of bargains to offer you. On July 1st we shall begin to take stock and meantime there are lots of odds and ends in men's and boys' suits that we would like to sell—when lines of goods are broken, some else missing and sometimes when garments don't go off as they are expected to do—we find, as every other trustworthy house finds, that it pays to cut off all profit and trust to a cost price to sell them quickly. For the remaining days of this month, therefore, you may find just what you want—for less than the usual price. No Clothing Fits Like Ours. Browning, King & Co. Exclusive Clothiers and Furnishers. R. S. Wilcox, Manager.'