THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.:
George B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of June, 1902, was as follows:

1	29,410	16	29,460
2	29,490	17	29,540
3	29,630	18	29,760
4	29,570	19	29,740
5	29,560	20	29,500
6	29,510	21	29,570
7	29,570	22	29,560
8	29,600	23	29,580
9	29,540	24	31,330
10	29,610	25	29,600
11	29,550	26	29,580
12	29,510	27	29,680
13	29,580	28	29,540
14	29,600	29	29,560
15	29,580	30	29,610

Total	889,220
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Net total sales	879,568
Net daily average	29,318

GEO. B. TZSCHUCK.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 30th day of June, A. D. 1902.
(Seal.) M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

Judging by the scramble for places on the police commission, one would imagine they pay out better than a gold mine.

A legal nut to crack: How long does the rule of res judicata hold good in any case before the Nebraska supreme court?

Invading the enemy's country is Colonel Bryan's strong role, but somehow the same country has to be invaded every year.

As usual, both the big bruisers express confidence that they will win out. They are both sure to be winners at the expense of the public.

Oats this week is playing the top line parts on the Board of Trade vaudeville stage. Its antics are making the traders feel their oats.

Having gotten his portrait into the picture papers, the new sultan of Zanzibar may rest satisfied that he has reached the pinnacle of glory.

Of course, the train robbery in Mexico that resulted in a haul of $50,000 was perpetrated by Americans. A job like that requires American foresight and ingenuity.

When the Filipino insurgents stoop to the murder of school teachers sent over to assist them to better education they show how much need they have for the instruction they refuse.

Dates for the congressional races in the Second Nebraska district have not yet been fixed, but entries are already registered that insure a fair start and an exciting finish on the track.

Resolved, that none but business men out of politics are fit to manage the Omaha fire and police. Resolved, further, that we are business men out of politics who want to get in p. d. q.

That military officer who is being court-martialed for immersing Filipino natives in a pond must have been reading up on the ancient history of the Omaha Claim club in palmy pioneer days.

If the line is to be drawn at politicians in the appointment of a governor's police board for Omaha, it can be easily proved that lots of people who count themselves in that class are no politicians at all.

When we had municipal home rule the local cuttlefish organ was vehemently against it. Now that the right of municipal home rule has been declared a shadowy myth, the cuttlefish organ is frantic for it.

If the governor will only sublet his board appointments so that one is named by the Real Estate exchange, one by the Commercial club, one by the Builders' exchange and one by Tom Blackburn, he will be sure to keep the fire and police departments out of politics.

The democratic campaign in Mississippi has just been opened with a speech by Senator D. H. Money, arraigning the republican party and appealing for democratic unity. Nothing in the dispatches indicates, however, that Senator Money said anything about suppressing importunate street car conductors.

Sir Charles Dilke wants to encourage American capital in embarking enterprises in Great Britain and in other British dominions, satisfied to rely on government supervision to keep in check any evil disposition of these combines. As soon as the American promoters show them how the British capitalists will be adopting American plans.

ANOTHER PROPHET OF EVIL.

Mr. Vilas of Wisconsin, who was in President Cleveland's cabinet and at that time prominent in the councils of the democratic party, is another prophet of evil. To him the outlook for the country is gloomy and the only hope of the people is in the democratic party. The great peril, in the opinion of Mr. Vilas, is in protection of course. That policy, he urges, is responsible for the combinations and the people must strike it down. That was the advice of his party in 1892 and the people heeded it and elected a democratic president and congress. The result is not forgotten. Industrial and commercial disaster came. During the ensuing three years it has been estimated that more than 3,000,000 people were unemployed and nearly an equal number were employed only part of the time, while wages in every department of industry were reduced. Never before in our history was there such a period of financial and business demoralization.

There were trusts then, the real thing, but the democratic party did not attempt to interfere with them. On the contrary it favored in its tariff bill of 1894 one of the most obnoxious of them, the Sugar trust. It enacted no legislation against the trusts and it made no effort to enforce the law enacted by a republican congress. The administration of which Mr. Vilas was a member declared that law to be defective and inadequate and treated it as a dead letter. It is true that there has since been a great growth of combinations, but the Wisconsin statesman is perhaps aware of the fact that there are also combinations in England, where there is no protection. Mr. Vilas should also know that while the combinations have been multiplying here there has at the same time been a steady growth of individual enterprises and that these are more numerous today than eight years ago. The attempt to suppress industrial competition has thus far failed and it is the judgment of some of the most astute political economists that it can never be entirely successful. Mr. Vilas fears that all agriculture will be helplessly ensnared, "as it already is to no small extent." How ensnared? Has there ever been a time when the agricultural producers of the United States were as a whole better off than they are at present? All the products of the farm command good prices and a ready market. Farm lands throughout the west have materially advanced in value in the last few years and there is today an active demand for them. Tens of thousands of western farmers are out of debt and have money on hand who five or six years ago were paying interest on mortgages and found it difficult to do that.

Striking down protection in order to destroy the trusts would be much harder on individual industrial enterprises than upon the combinations. Indeed it is doubtful if it would have any serious effect upon the latter, but there is no question that it would be damaging to the former. The republican plan is not to destroy, but to regulate. It proposes governmental supervision of the great combinations, not a policy of extermination that would be disastrous to all industries and immeasurably harmful to labor. One would raze the industrial structure, which has cost so much to build up. The other would preserve it under regulations that will insure its sound and healthy expansion.

MR. MERCER HAS THE FLOOR.

In the recent public discussion of the candidacy of David H. Mercer for a sixth term in congress his champion, William F. Gurley, failed to answer certain specific questions put to him in the course of the debate. Mr. Mercer has now fully recovered from the fatigue incident to his journey from Atlantic City to Omaha and, doubtless, will cheerfully enlighten us on the points that baffled Mr. Gurley's ingenuity and fertile resources.

Calling Mr. Mercer's attention to the questions propounded to Mr. Gurley and his evasive answers, it may not be out of order to ask him to give us something more definite.

Question—Will Mr. Mercer live in Omaha if he is not re-elected, or will he locate permanently in Washington and resume his old business as professional lobbyist?

This question Mr. Gurley parried by declaring that he is not a mind reader.

Question—Will Mr. Mercer be satisfied with a sixth term in congress, or will he want a seventh term, an eighth term and as many more terms as he can fill during the balance of his life?

This question Mr. Gurley met by the bold declaration that the people of this district needed Mercer more than Mercer needed them. In other words, Mercer needs them only two months out of the year and they ought to be satisfied.

Question—Is it true that Congressman Mercer pockets the allowance of $100 per month for clerk hire instead of giving some Nebraska boy or girl a chance to earn the salary?

About this subject Mr. Mercer's champion seemed to be dazed and the people still remain absolutely in the dark.

Question—Why does Mr. Mercer make political deals for West Point and Annapolis cadetships while other congressmen leave these appointments open for competitive examination so that every boy who aspires to such an education can have an equal chance?

This also staggered Mr. Gurley and failed to elicit a response.

Question—Why did Mercer displace two Nebraska grand army veterans who were employed in the capitol building and substitute for them men who are not old soldiers and moreover are reputed to hail from Minnesota?

This inquiry stirred Mr. Gurley to most profound indignation and in response he wanted to know why the editor of The Bee does not wear wooden shoes, dress in rags and go forth into the woods to make penance for the rest of his life.

When Mr. Mercer condescends to enlighten the voters of the Second district on all of these points a few more questions equally pertinent will be propounded even at the risk of creating a corner in wooden shoes and bulling the rag market.

PLUNGING INTO THE POLITICAL PUDDLE

Success, even in a moderate way, has a tendency to swell some people's heads and make them long for new worlds to conquer. This is again forcibly illustrated by the ill-advised effort of the Omaha Real Estate exchange to project itself into the political arena by a plunge into the police commission puddle.

Public sentiment, created by an undivided press, enabled the Real Estate exchange to launch a successful movement for municipal tax reform in Omaha. The campaign for tax reduction through more equitable assessments was perfectly legitimate and in line with the aims and purposes of the Real Estate exchange. The depreciation in the price of Omaha realty was largely due to excessive taxation and the lowering of the tax rate would cause a corresponding rise in realty values and tend to stimulate capitalists to invest in Omaha property.

Meddling with police commission appointments is neither the function nor the province of a real estate exchange any more than it would be the province of the Auditorium association or the Elks lodge. Ostensibly police commissions are presumed to be non-partisan; in reality they are strictly political. Upon that rock other overambitious organizations have been stranded. If the Real Estate exchange foolishly confirms the well-defined rumor that its most active leaders have political axes to grind its influence and usefulness is sure to be destroyed within a very short time.

To be sure, every good citizen is interested in good government. Every citizen has an inalienable right individually to bombard the governor with advice or remonstrance in connection with the impending appointment of a new police board, but the Real Estate exchange as a commercial body would scarcely be justified in making frantic appeals to the governor to make his choice from its own list of membership or from the membership of any other commercial organization.

AMERICAN EMIGRATION TO CANADA.

The recent large emigration from the United States to Canada has attracted a good deal of attention. It is noted that in 1898 fewer than 10,000 Americans crossed the border, while this year it is estimated that out of a total immigration into western Canada of 50,000, the United States contributes 30,000. A correspondent of the New York Evening Post says it has been predicted that we shall soon be pouring Americans into Canada at the rate of 200,000 a year, as we have so long been pouring them into our own northwest under a similar economic stimulation—the agricultural possibilities of western Canada. It is pointed out that last year Manitoba raised as much wheat as North Dakota and with the three territories of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Assiniboia, produced 62,000,000 bushels. The same section will produce this year 75,000,000 bushels, or about the yield of Minnesota. The railroads to this portion of the Dominion are active in promoting its development and it has within the past year made notable progress.

There is some speculation as to the ultimate effect which this emigration may have upon the question of reciprocity with Canada. It is thought to be highly probable that the Americans who are settling in the western part of the Dominion will in time become active agitators in behalf of reciprocity, and it is certainly reasonable to expect this, as they will naturally want the American market for their products. It is also believed that there may be developed in our own northwest a much stronger sentiment than at present in favor of closer trade relations with our northern neighbor. There is not likely, however, to be any marked movement in this direction in the very near future, unless the question of reciprocity with Canada should become a subject of negotiation between the governments sooner than there is now any indication of. The people who are going from the northwest to Canada are of a class that will push the development of the country and exert a good influence both industrially and socially.

The Philadelphia Public Ledger has been sold by the Drexel estate to Adolph S. Ochs, chief owner of the New York Times, Philadelphia Times and Chattanooga Times. The Public Ledger has long enjoyed a national reputation as an able, clean, trustworthy newspaper. Since the death of George W. Childs, who gave the paper its high character, it has been under the editorial management of George W. Childs Drexel, who fully maintained its reputation and augmented its value as a property. The new owner, Mr. Ochs, who has shown a high order of ability as a newspaper publisher, announces that there will be no change in the character or policy of the Public Ledger, so that those who have long known and esteemed this valuable journal will still find it worthy of confidence and support.

According to the Lincoln Journal, Congressman Mercer has been undergoing the fatigue of a continuous ovation ever since he arrived in Omaha. Why the Omaha organ of the non-resident defendant failed to take note of the fatiguing ovation is a mystery nobody in Omaha has been able to discover.

Senator Bailey thoughtfully sent a letter to be read at the banquet of the New England Democratic league instead of attending in person to give an exhibition of forcible language. It is to be presumed that the letter was at least equally welcome.

According to Quartermaster General Test, "the sun, moon and stars were set in the heavens for signs and for seasons and for days and years; the sun and moon also to give light upon the earth and to divide the day from the night." This information may not be strictly original with General Test, but would be scientists who have not yet been able to prognosticate and diagnose the cause and consequences of the eruption of Mont Pelee and other unearthly noises and noxious vapors will do well to take note of this and govern themselves accordingly, always bearing in mind that there is nothing new under the sun.

Senator Hill declares that the party of Jefferson, Jackson and Tilden does not need to be reorganized. Of course not. It is the party of Bryan that Hill, Cleveland and their associates are trying to reorganize.

Politics cut no figure in the membership of the Omaha and Winnebago Indian land grab combine. Democrats with a pull are just as eligible as republicans with a pull.

Still Not the Championship Belt.
Milwaukee Sentinel.

The most expensive belt of the season is Iowa's rain belt, which has cost the state $6,000,000.

Look Out for the Omelette Trust.
Washington Star.

An Indiana man has invested $18,000 in eggs and intends to hatch 2,000,000 chickens by means of incubators. The omelette trust is evidently at hand.

What's the Matter with Tracy.
Chicago Record-Herald.

Owing to the fact that he is tired out and can't run as fast as he could at the start, Bandit Tracy isn't getting many shots at the deputy sheriff now.

Revolution Industry Up-to-Date.
Chicago Chronicle.

Recognizing the progressive spirit of the age, the Haytians have brought their revolution industry up to date. It is now a continuous performance instead of semi-annual.

God Save the Corpse.
New York World.

The silverites are threatening all sorts of disaster to the democratic party unless it follows their bidding. It was bad enough for populism to steal the democratic organization; it is ungrateful of them to treat it so cruelly. After leading it to two overwhelming defeats they should at least have mercy enough not to jump on the remains.

Kitchener's Rare Qualities.
New York Times.

Lord Kitchener passes next to the command of the army in India, and his path would seem to be clear to the post of commander-in-chief. The office has never been, not even in the time of Wellington, a man who, so far as his career discloses, combines in such degree the qualities of a commander, an organizer and a statesman.

An Interesting Situation.
Indianapolis Journal.

The statement issued by the participants in the New York conference shows that we are to have two reorganized democratic parties—one a reorganized democratic party from which populists and Bryanites will be excluded, and the other a reorganized democratic-populist party from which Grover Cleveland, David B. Hill and all former sound money democrats who do not publicly recant are to be excluded. This will make an interesting situation.

What Texas is Raising This Year.
Chicago Chronicle.

Texas has a traditional reputation for wildness and woolliness, but it must be said to the credit of its fruit growers that they are above the contemptible small rascality which characterizes the horticulturists of some supposedly more enlightened neighborhoods. The Texas peaches which are coming into this market are good, honest fruit and they have no pink mosquito netting over them. The same thing cannot be said for the Michigan product, which is about due.

Returning Immigrants.
Philadelphia Record.

Those who profess so much concern about immigration do not reflect that twenty years ago, when the volume was as great as it is now, there were few immigrants who returned to their homes. Now nearly every steamship returning to Europe carries back considerable numbers of these immigrants going home, some of them for a permanent stay. Through cheap steamship transportation the world's intercourse is increasing, to the great advancement of civilization.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

John Willis Baer, for many years secretary of the United Society of Christian Endeavor, has resigned to accept the post of associate secretary of the Presbyterian Board of Home Missions.

Alejandro Garland, who has just been elected by Peru as its representative at the St. Louis World's fair, represented that country in the first congress of the Philadelphia Commercial museum.

There are 139 Methodist Episcopal churches in Chicago; ninety-eight congregations are English-speaking, eighteen Swedish, thirteen German, eight Norwegian and Danish and two Bohemian.

The report that comes from Washington of the resuscitation of a boy who had been under water at Anglesea, N. J., nearly half an hour, shows the importance of not giving up in attempting to restore life to a person apparently drowned.

Albert W. Payne of Bangor, Me., is possibly the oldest practicing lawyer in the country. He is 90, still writes a legible hand and does his own office work. Besides his regular law practice he is connected in an official capacity with many corporations.

Prof. J. H. Beale of the Harvard law school has been granted a leave of absence sufficiently long to undertake the work of organizing a new law school founded at the Chicago university by John D. Rockefeller. It will be on lines similar to those of Harvard.

Ralph Voorhees, the blind philanthropist of Clinton, N. J., has informed Coe college, a Presbyterian institution at Cedar Rapids, Mich., that he has $25,000 for them. He has also just closed a deal for 300 acres of land in South Carolina, on which he will establish an industrial school for boys.

Trephining the skull is known as a probable treatment used by prehistoric surgeons. The ancient practice still survives in Melanesia, and Rev. J. A. Crump reports that natives of New Britain treat fractures from slingstones by trephining with a piece of shell or a flake of obsidian. In 80 per cent of the cases recovery follows in two or three weeks.

Secretary Shaw was one of the pioneers in the development of the rice-growing industry in western Louisiana and eastern Texas. The governor and his associates purchased large tracts of land in the vicinity of Beaumont (where he still owns a half interest in a rice plantation of 3,000 acres) and when the oil boom came a year ago the land values increased by leaps and bounds. It is said that the boom has already brought Governor Shaw a fortune of more than $500,000.

Prosperity of the Farmer

Brooklyn Eagle.

We hear a great deal about the enormous prosperity of the trusts and we hear it especially from orators who tell the farmers that the trusts are absorbing all the money in the country. The census report tells another story, however. It shows that there are $20,000,000,000 of capital invested in farms and farm equipment, and that the income upon this investment averages 18.3 per cent. There is just one $1,000,000,000 trust in the country, the much discussed steel trust, and it would take fifty of the biggest combinations in existence to equal this capital of the farmers, while the trusts whose dividends equal those made from the farms, are denounced from one end of the country to the other as octopi and various other indigestible and noxious contraptions. This prosperity is shown to be a steady and rapid growth on a bedrock foundation which all but a few of the trusts must envy. There are four times as many farms in the country as there were half a century ago, and there were a quarter more in 1900 than in 1890, while for the last twenty years the average size as well as the number of farms has steadily increased. The value of farm products has grown even faster than the number of farms. The value is five times now what it was in 1850, while the increase during the last dozen years has been considerably more than a quarter. The value of farm products for 1899 was almost $5,000,000,000 and the increase over that reported for 1889 was over $2,000,000,000, although a good part of that is accounted for by the more careful enumeration required under the latest census. A detail which shows the extent to which the American people are meat eaters is the statement that nearly $2,000,000,000 of this output was of animal products, while a little over $3,000,000,000 was of crops; the percentage being 36 of animal products to 64 of vegetable.

These are mighty figures. This piling up of capital and product in billions would open the eyes of farmers in amazement if it were mouthed forth in sounding periods by a grange orator about the trusts. The design of the demagogues to convince the farmers that the trusts are crushing the lives out of plain citizens, ought to be made difficult by this census report. There are indications, indeed, that the facts which these figures tell have made agitation unpopular. Free silver is dead, the populists are no longer prosperous enough to divide into hostile camps, and agitation against the rich is now more largely confined to large cities and to regions where many men are employed by corporations than it was in either the campaigns of 1896 or 1900. This is because the farmers have felt this prosperity which the census now records. When dollars were jingling in the farmers' pockets they did not want them of the Mexican variety. That good crops killed free silver has been apparent for some time, but the extent of the prosperity of the farmers has not been known in detail before. This census showing only comes down to the year 1900, and includes the dull years in the early part of the last decade. Other reports indicate that the growth since the census was taken was even more rapid than in the years just preceding. The country is passing through an era of unexampled prosperity and these figures show that the farmers are getting fully their share of good things. That is as it should be, and the effect of it upon coining political campaigns must be great. Change for the sake of change is not popular in times like these, and the calamity howls of 1896 would be laughable in the face of such figures. An anti-trust campaign is foreshadowed for two years hence, but these figures indicate that to be successful it should be a campaign for mending rather than ending these combinations; a demand for regulation rather than abolition.

IN SEARCH OF A PLATFORM.

Distressing Dilemma in Which the Democratic Party Finds Itself.
Milwaukee Wisconsin.

David Bennett Hill's celebrated declaration, "I am a democrat," is a definition that needs defining. Almost any half-dozen of democrats of national reputation, selected at random, and asked to say what a democrat is, would give half a dozen radically different replies.

William Jennings Bryan is now on his way to Boston, where he will speak at a banquet to be given next Thursday night by the New England Democratic league. His subject will be "The Basis of Harmony" and it is an open secret that he will sail into the speech which ex-President Cleveland addressed to the democrats of the Tilden club at New York a few weeks ago. Meanwhile another well known democrat, Henry W. Watterson, is freely uttering his mind from time to time in the columns of the Louisville Courier-Journal. From his standpoint, neither Cleveland nor Bryan can be relied upon to truly state the facts as to what democracy is, or to frame a policy for the party in the next national campaign.

The democrats are split on the money question and on the question of imperialism, so-called. In regard to the trust issue, the administration of President Roosevelt, using the weapon of the Sherman law, long ago supplied for such emergencies by republican statesmanship, is challenging the meat trust and the railroad trust to show cause why they should not be punished when they disregard the law's plain mandate of "Thus far shalt thou go and no further." What chance will the democratic party have to make an issue against the republican party on the subject of trusts?

There is only one thing which the democratic party if restored to power could be depended upon to do and that is to play hob with the tariff, thereby playing hob with American industrial prosperity. Its blundering, mischief-making propensities are so well known that the people will give it no chance to exercise them. The discussion of "What is a democrat?" is likely to "hold the boards" for some time.

The most recent contribution to the subject is a letter of learned length and thundering sound addressed by ex-Senator William F. Vilas to A. F. Warden, chairman of the democratic state central committee. In four newspaper columns of fine type the ponderous ex-senator gives a passing glance to other topics, but concentrates his powers for an attack upon the tariff. It was by an assault upon the protective tariff, in which Senator Vilas led, that the democratic party succeeded in carrying Wisconsin for Grover Cleveland in 1892, and now, ten years later, remembering his former success, but forgetting what followed it, the ex-senator comes confidently forward to repeat his old play. But the people have a very keen recollection of the consequences that they brought upon the country and themselves by accepting the political leadership of William F. Vilas in 1892. Like a nightmare there rises before them a vision of smokeless chimneys and closed factories and broken banks, of unemployed workmen and starving women and children, of free soup houses, where such as had previously been too prosperous and too proud to think of accepting alms, were glad to take from the hand of charity what was required to stay the gnawing of hunger. That is the grewsome picture which rises before the mind's eye when an intelligent workingman listens to the voice of ex-Senator Vilas assailing the American protective tariff. The policy for which Vilas and Cleveland stand has been tried and found wanting. If the democratic party wants to attract votes it must put into its platform something more alluring than that.

RECALLS OVERLAND TRAIL.

Passing of Fort Laramie, Which Figured So Famously in Earlier Days.
St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The opening of the Fort Laramie reservation, which was dealt with by an act of congress at the recent session of congress, will recall to the memory a landmark which hundreds still living saw and which tens of thousands still alive knew in the Indian stories of a third or a half a century ago. Fort Laramie, situated in the eastern part of the present Wyoming, on Laramie river, close to its entrance into the North Platte, was built in 1834 by William L. Sublette of St. Louis and Robert Campbell, well-known fur dealers of their day, had several names and several successive owners, was bought by the government in 1849, was garrisoned many years as a protection to immigrants passing through that region, but was abandoned when the appearance of the railroads and the disappearance of the Indians in their savage state abolished its occupation. It was the best known frontier post, fur trading or army, of the old days of the Santa Fe, Oregon, California and Salt Lake trails, except Fort Leavenworth or Bent's Fort, on the Arkansas.

Fort Laramie was familiar to everybody who in the 40s, 50s or 60s of the recent century traversed the Oregon or Salt Lake trails. Over in the western end of the present Wyoming Jim Bridger built a fur trading post in 1842, on Black's fork of the Green river. On the Oregon trail between these two points, but a little nearer to Bridger than to Laramie, at an opening separating the Sweet Water from the Wind river mountains, sections of the great Rocky mountain chain, stood the South pass, the gateway to the Pacific slope. Through that portal—made known popularly to the world through Fremont's report of his exploration of 1842, which had been visited by many other white persons long before Fremont's time, including Dr. Marcus Whitman and Rev. H. H. Spalding and their wives in 1836, and which was probably traversed for the first time by white men when some of Andrew Henry's trappers went through it in 1824—passed most of the human tide which surged from the east and the Mississippi valley into the present states of Oregon, Washington and California by the overland route in the early days. Most persons who went over the Oregon, Salt Lake and California trails knew Fort Laramie. Beyond it on the western course the mountainous region began. It was the last fitting-out place of importance until the continental divide was passed.

Fremont, who visited it in his exploration of 1842, gives a good description of Fort Laramie in his report. One of the other things which Fremont did in that report was to destroy that myth of a great American desert, which was based on the reports of Pike, Long and one or two of Irving's books. Fremont made a careful record of distances between fording places in rivers, pointed out good places in which to camp, showed that cattle could thrive on the alleged American desert, and mentioned the physical advantages of the location of Laramie as a fur trading post on the route of immigration toward the Pacific slope. The most vivid pictures in Parkman's "Oregon Trail" are those of Fort Laramie as he saw it in 1846. Writers of Indian tales from Fremont's and Parkman's time often made this post a prominent rallying point in their stories. It was the center of many romantic and tragic events in the history of the frontier, some of them more remarkable even than the story writers of its day located in and around it. It was the site of a reservation for many years, and this, too, is soon to disappear. Fort Laramie has dropped out with the buffalo and the Indian, but the passing of the reservation at that point will recall to the memory of the few survivors of those who saw it in its great days and to the memory of many thousands of those who read of it when it was the center of the wild life of the plains, one of the most interesting of all the landmarks of the vanished frontier.

Fun Ahead in Nebraska.
Washington Star.

Mr. Bryan is to take the stump in Nebraska. He will add materially to the spirit of the campaign. He did right in declining to make the race for governor, but he owes to his friend who was nominated the full assistance of his name and eloquence. Bryanism, in fact, is the issue. Through Mr. Bryan's influence the populists have again cast their fortunes with the democrats, and now if fusion has left in it the power of control the sage of Lincoln must bring it out. Mr. Bryan was not able to hold his state in 1900, but he contends that the situation is more favorable now. We shall see. If he fails again at home he will necessarily suffer in prestige. His greatest remaining strength is where democracy is mixed with populism. If he carries Nebraska this year he will take full credit for the victory and may be expected to lunge at the Clevelandites with more vigor than ever. Meanwhile he is to tour New England, and probably he will sound in the enemy's country the note we shall hear with variations later in the region of the Platte.

MORE CROPS THAN POLITICS.

Why the Western Farmers Favor Letting Well Enough Alone.
Baltimore American.

The director of the United States mint, Mr. George Roberts, having just returned from a western trip and from a visit to Iowa, declares that, while there is a fair supply of politics in that region this summer, there is much more interest in the crops. It is difficult to realize the wonderful change that has taken place in agricultural conditions through the greater part of the west within the past few years. Bank accounts have taken the place of farm mortgages, better houses and barns have been erected, better stock purchased, and the farmers have become buyers as well as sellers. Many of them have added new acres to their large farms, and even a season that does not come up to expectations fails to cause those heavy losses which were certain in the days when the same farmers had hard work to keep their property away from the hands of the sheriff.

Last season, owing to the corn shortage, was not up to the average of the past four years, but as prices were high the farmers who had any corn at all made money and wound up the year with their finances in good condition. Last year at this time the whole west was suffering from a long-continued drouth, while this year there has been too much rain and storms that have swept over a large extent of territory and caused some severe losses. At the same time, unless the unexpected happens, a corn and wheat yield above the average can be looked for, and, with steady demand, an assurance of good prices, the farmer feels sure of a fair reward for his year's work.

In view of this, it is no wonder that politics is a secondary consideration in the immense agricultural districts of the west. The sentiment of a vast majority of the people is with the present administration, and there is no desire for any revolution in the national government. Bryan is well nigh forgotten, as these farmers, with rich crops all about them, decline to believe that, as Bryan would tell them, they are the shackled slaves of some great money power that is ruling this government and all connected with it. There are a number of state elections to be held in the west the coming fall, in addition to the election of congressmen; so long before November things political will become much livelier than they are at present. Just now the farmer is thinking more about the harvest than he is about politics, and it is far better for him that this should be so.

JEST IN FUN.

Life: Sport—Automobiling is not likely to endure as a sport.

"No; people are already so shy that it's more a matter of luck than skill when anybody is run down.

Tit Bits: "Well, Fritz, you got birched in school today?"

"Yes, but it didn't hurt."

"But you certainly have been crying?"

"Oh, I wanted to let the teacher have a little pleasure out of it."

Chicago News: Deacon Johnsing—No, Bredder Smif, we cain't all be powahful. You must be containted to be a "hewer ob wood an' a drawah ob watah."

Misto Smif—Laws sabe you, honey, 'tain't so bad as dat. De ole woman does all dem little chores.

Town Topics: "What does Bunting use when he goes trout fishing?" asked Cumso.

"Hook and lyin'," replied Cawker.

Yonkers Statesman: Foot Light—She has been playing the part of Little Eva ever since she was a little girl.

Sue Brette—Gracious! I didn't know "Uncle Tom's Cabin" was as old as that!

Philadelphia Press: Tommy—I want some chocolate drops.

Shopman—How much do you want, my son?

Tommy—I want enough; how much'll that come to?

Catholic Standard: Borroughs—Say, lend me a fiver, will you?

Lenders—Look here! If you'd only save your own money you wouldn't have to borrow from your friends.

Borroughs—Huh! It's because I want to save my own money that I do borrow from my friends.

"KEEP-A-TRYIN'" SIGNBOARDS.

Roy Farrell Greene in Success.

"My boy," said Uncle Hiram, "you'll soon be starting out,
To drive o'er life's long roadway, and oft a bit of doubt
Will puzzle you completely, as to which you'd best pursue
Of branching ways, when roads fork out, as they're inclined to do.
Each bears the equal marks of well-worn travel, like as not,
And so, one's undecided which he'd better choose to trot;
But I have learned the route, my boy, and thus much I'll confess—
The 'Keep a-tryin'' signboards mark the highway to Success.

"Success is such a pretty town—to reach it, all men strive;
You'll find the crowd, though, growing less the farther on you drive—
For many, seeking shorter cuts through Dilly-dally lane,
Get so far off the highway that they find it ne'er again!
You'll be allured, as you go on, by finger posts that say—
'Take Chance's road, past Waltingville, it's far the better way;'
But I this safer route would fain upon your mind impress—
The 'Keep a-tryin'' signboards mark the highway to Success.

"The road that runs through Waltingville has prospects bright and fair,
When first your start, but farther on, it leads through swamps of Care,
And, after that, you'll have to climb the weary hill of Debt;
Then, still beyond, there looms in view the toll gate of Regret.
And so, my boy, when starting on the road of Life alone,
The route your Uncle Hiram chose I trust you'll make your own,
And heed his plain directions, if you'd quite avoid distress;
The 'Keep a-tryin'' signboards mark the highway to Success."

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