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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 31st day of July, A. D. 1902. M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

A peaceable strike is the one that brings best and most permanent results.

Buffalo Bill is the one eminent Nebraskan who continued hold on the people no one will question.

It ought not to be necessary for Ak-Sar-Ben knights to go all the way to Deadwood to break into jail.

Another pertinent question: What does Governor Savage owe to Congressman Mercer? Did Mercer ever do for Savage?

The republicans of Iowa appear to be well satisfied with the work of their state convention and they alone have the votes to back it up at the polls.

Governor Savage finds that to pick out four suitable business men out of politics for members of his new Omaha police board is much easier said than done.

Jim Dahlman is out already for Bryan for president in 1904. Dahlman is said to have put up money in 1900 that New York would give its electoral vote to Bryan.

Another Arctic explorer has come back from the frozen north "baffled, but not beaten." The consolation consists in the knowledge that no one else has reached the pole ahead of him.

If our Deadwood friends will return the visit during the week of Ak-Sar-Ben's carnival, his royal highness will see to it that they are treated to something at least as good as a ride in the patrol wagon.

General Jacob H. Smith has arrived in this country from the Philippines, but discreetly declines to talk for publication. General Smith seems finally to have realized that he has done too much talking already.

It is worthy of note that the warning that Superintendent of Schools Pease was about to be stolen away from us by an irresistible bid from Cleveland for Omaha's renowned educator was evidently a false alarm.

Rock Island reorganization may run up against a snag in Iowa. The privilege of paying perpetual tolls on oceans of watered stock and inflated bonds is not appreciated by the people who have to patronize the road.

Those California earthquakes are now ascribed to disturbances created by gases in the interior of the earth. This fortunately lets out several eminent windbags who might be blamed for emitting gases on the exterior of the earth's surface.

The only wonder is that some of our enterprising yellow journal contemporaries have not discovered that in the recent incorporation of a group of trained nurses in this city for mutual benefits is not the seed of an odious trained nurse trust.

Colonel Arthur Lynch of the British army, accused of treason, explains that he was in the Boer lines only as a correspondent of French and American publications. If representing an American magazine on the field constitutes treason, the price of war correspondents may be expected to go up.

Nebraska is not so insistent, that all the experimental reservoirs provided for under the new irrigation law, be located within its borders, but wants to get the benefits of the stored water. If a reservoir is built across the Wyoming line it should be near enough to furnish water for Nebraska farms too, but Nebraska ought to have one or more of the experimental reservoirs for itself too.

BEFORE AND AFTER TAKING.

The railroad tax bureau has issued another bulletin to convince the people of Nebraska that railroad assessments in Lancaster county are way up above the level of the assessments of other property, and it has succeeded in making itself believe that the railroads are over-taxed, although, possibly, it may not be able to convert other taxpayers of Lancaster county to that belief.

For the purposes of the tax bureau, comparisons are instituted between the census bureau figures of 1900 and the assessed valuations of 1893. A comparison between the assessed valuations of railroads in 1891 and 1901 would be much more effective.

In 1891 the Missouri Pacific Lincoln branch was assessed at \$70,000; in 1902 it was assessed at \$100,000. In 1891 the Fremont & Elkhorn was assessed at \$54,250; in 1901 it was assessed at \$60,000. In 1891 the Omaha & Republican Valley railroad was assessed for \$173,055; in 1901 it was assessed for \$135,005.

In 1891 the Nebraska railroad was assessed for \$173,840; in 1901 it was assessed for \$150,880. In 1891 the Lincoln & Northwestern was assessed for \$51,250; in 1901 it was assessed for \$41,000. The Atchison & Nebraska was assessed in 1891 for \$97,000, and in 1901 it was assessed for \$80,240. The Burlington & Missouri River road was assessed in 1891 for \$383,972, and in 1901 it was assessed for \$344,273. The assessment for 1902 is substantially the same as for 1901.

The distribution for the improvements made by the railroads, and for the enormous increase in their value and earning capacity within ten years is not visible to the naked eye, but the contrast before taking and after taking is more decidedly in evidence by the comparison of railway assessments in the city of Lincoln. The amount of bonds voted by the city of Lincoln as donations to the various railroads aggregate \$194,500. The total interest paid by the city of Lincoln on these bonds for the year ending June 30, 1902, was \$9,380. For the year 1901 the total taxes paid into the city treasury of Lincoln by all the railroads was \$987,55, a difference of \$8,392.45 in the interest paid for the railroads and taxes collected from them.

When it is borne in mind that the taxpayers of Lincoln have paid over \$90,000 in interest within the past fifteen years on the bonds donated to the railroads, these figures are decidedly suggestive of what you expect before taking and what you get after taking.

REPUBLICAN CONFIDENCE.

The republican congressional committee is preparing for a vigorous campaign, with a feeling of entire confidence in the result. Chairman Beckcock of the committee says that complete harmony prevails, whereas dissonance and discord among the democrats continues and has perhaps been aggravated by the eastern visit of Mr. Bryan. Having practically dropped the Philippine issue and miserably failed in their attack on the army, the democrats are now pushing to the front the trusts and the tariff. On these questions the republican party is ready to meet them, said the chairman of the congressional committee. "The only anti-trust legislation on the statute books was enacted by the republican party in congress. The democrats have no record. The tariff is an issue we gladly espouse. With everybody at work, everybody with money and clothes and food, with prosperity on every hand, the result of republican policies, we are not afraid to ask the country to continue the republican party in power in order that those policies may be continued in effect."

This is the feeling that pervades the congressional committee and is entertained generally by republican leaders. All the conditions are favorable to the republicans winning the next house of representatives. The republican majority in the present house is forty-six. There will be 380 members in the next house, which is twenty-nine more than the present enrollment. To overcome the republican majority in this congress and gain any portion of the new membership seems to careful students of the situation practically impossible. Unless some great convulsion should occur in the political situation, of which there is no expectation or indication, it is quite probable that there will be a larger republican majority in the house of the Fifty-eighth congress than there is in the present congress.

An eastern democratic paper recently remarked that "an impartial survey of the situation does not justify the democratic party's hope that it will control the next house of representatives." The more sagacious party leaders do not expect it. They realize that the party has no winning issue, while the lack of unity and harmony causes it to be distrusted quite as much now as at any time during the last six years. The great majority of the intelligent and thoughtful voters in all relations—farmers, merchants, manufacturers, wage earners—are averse to jeopardizing the favorable conditions that exist by supporting a party split up as the democracy is and which has no definite and settled conviction or policy, unless it be to break down the policy of protection to our industries and labor. Republican confidence in carrying the next house of representatives is well founded, but it must not be allowed to interfere with a vigorous prosecution of the congressional campaign.

WHAT DOES RUSSIA MEAN?

This question in connection with the Russian note relative to trusts, seems to be giving some concern to certain officials at Washington as well as to those of foreign governments. The most recent conjecture reported is that Russia is either preparing to recede from her position on the bounty-fed sugar question, or preparing to negotiate a new trade treaty with the United States for the purpose of offsetting the proposed discrimination of foreign governments against Russian sugar. It is intimated, states a Washington dispatch, that Rus-

ASIA MAY BE SERVING NOTICE.

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MERCER STILL HAS THE FLOOR.

DAVID H. MERCER IS TRYING TO POSE before this community as a much maligned man because The Bee has insisted that he must square himself with his constituents before he can justify his demand for another term in congress. Mr. Mercer is certainly not oblivious to the fact that on May 17, 1902, William F. Gurley issued a challenge to the editor of The Bee to discuss his candidacy in the following terms:

"Having announced yourself as opposed to the renomination of David H. Mercer in congress, both by public speech and in the columns of your paper, and as the congressional campaign is now at hand, the question of Mr. Mercer's candidacy is one of no little interest to the people of this community. Believing in free and full discussion of all public questions, I hereby extend to you an invitation to meet with me in joint debate before the republicans of this district in such time and place and under such arrangements as may be agreed upon with us, or our representatives, to discuss the situation. An immediate reply will oblige."

The challenge was promptly accepted and the debate took place more than a month ago. During the progress of the debate certain questions were propounded to Mr. Gurley, which he either ignored or declined to answer. Although Mr. Mercer has been a visitor in Omaha for more than ten days and has repeatedly been urged to answer these questions, he still maintains a discreet silence.

In order that Mr. Mercer may have another opportunity to square himself with the people of the district of which he is the non-resident representative The Bee, at the risk of being charged with malice aforethought, again propounds the questions in the exact language in which they were propounded the last time:

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 needed 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.

It is said that many of the Americans who participated in the reception to Prince Henry and who were selected to receive decorations in recognition of their hospitality, have declined the decorations. This must be a new experience for Emperor William. He is not accus-

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

The result of the election at North Leeds a few days ago is a severe reverse to the British conservatives and liberal unionists, more so even than that of the Bury election. According to reports, free trade and the education bill were the issues. Such a change as the conversion of a government majority of 2,500 into a minority of 700 has not often been witnessed in Great Britain, and is an ominous indication of unpopularity which even the London Times warns the government to notice. It is uncertain whether the recent imposition of the grain taxes had as much to do with the conservative defeat as the education question. The latter has excited an extraordinary bitterness among the nonconformists, and if opposition to the grain duties went far against the government as it did in Bury it is evident that two very strong weapons have been found by the liberal opposition.

In his heart of hearts the kaiser is probably most grateful to the nobles of Poland who have given him so splendid a chance to be theatrically medieval. They beg him not to visit Posen at the present time because of the possible danger to his person. In reply he puts himself at the head of 90,000 men-at-arms (let us call them so for the moment) and advances on the disconcerted city to overwhelm and stun it by the concrete exhibition of his irresistible power. Thus would Cour de Lion have done, and thus Barbarossa, and the emperor of the type. It will be a great day for Posen—the barred doors and windows, the expectant hush, the distant fanfare of trumpets, then a mist of Uhlands, a surge of heavy cavalry, a cataract of splendid soldiers of all arms and arms, glittering in them the war lord himself, glittering in steel and polished silver under his eagle-crowned helmet, and saluted by cannon and a crash of martial music.

The name of Swakpund is probably unfamiliar to the average reader, and that of Windhoek is little better known. If these were just Jakkalsvlei, Abbahs, Karahib and Okahandja, we have a list calculated to send one in despair—and perhaps in vain—to the gatekeeper. Yet the names indicate a station on a new railroad nearly 240 miles long, running from the coast inland in one of the least known parts of Africa. The country in question is Damaraland, commonly called German Southwest Africa. Windhoek is one of the chief towns in the interior, and Swakpund is a port on the Atlantic coast just north of Walvisch bay. The 238 miles of country lying between them is rugged and wild in an exceptional degree. But the railroad has been completed—it was begun less than five years ago—at a cost of something more than \$3,000,000, and \$500,000 more will be spent on harbor improvements at Swakpund. Passenger and freight trains are now running daily and a great development of industry and commerce is reasonably expected. Now a railroad 238 miles long is scarcely comparable with the great "Gape to Cairo" scheme, or with the Siberian railroad. Yet it is long enough to reach across the island of Madagascar, or from Delagoa bay almost to Pretoria, or clear across Cape Colony to the Orange River colony. Such a line, opened up in one of the least known parts of Africa, must be regarded as another important avenue of access to the Dark Continent, and as a significant token of the march of civilization under the German flag.

The economic conditions of the empire give advantage to the agitators against the government. In his recent report on the budget of the empire for 1902 the Russian finance minister pointed out that the chief evil of the empire is its lack of transportation facilities. The empire as a whole produces every year far more food than is needed to supply its population, and yet in some provinces grain rots in the fields because of local overproduction, while in other provinces there is famine. The empire is rich in iron, coal, oil, stone and wood, but these varied resources are undeveloped by reason of a lack of means to get the products to market. In the course of his report the finance minister said that the value of railway for every million of inhabitants in Russia, while Austria has 1,933, Britain 796, Germany 584, France 1,076 and the United States 5,622. He urged a liberal expenditure of money in the construction of additional railways and canals, and asserted that while the railway mileage of the empire had been doubled in the last ten years, it is still far short of the immediate needs of industry and commerce. That increased transportation facilities will largely improve the conditions of the empire seems indubitably true.

Italy, which has long had an eye on Tripoli, as a rival to the French colony of Algeria, has disturbed the equilibrium of the empire in recent years by threatening to take possession of it. Hence, it is little wonder that the appearance of an Italian squadron in port there has started Turkey, the nominal owner of the province. It is now that the Sultan feels the value of having the German emperor as his friend. He can exert a restraining influence on Italy, which will doubtless prove effectual, and in the present state of European politics there is every reason to suppose that he will do so.

In the great University of Berlin there are now more than 1,700 students in the law department, and in the medical department the total exceeds 1,900. Prussia is not likely to suffer from a scant supply of lawyers or of doctors. But with philosophers it may be even more generously provided, because in the so-called philosophical department the university rejoices over the presence and the assiduous devotion of a party of 2,700 acolytes of learning. Thrice fortunate Prussia.

AN INTERNATIONAL STOCK SHOW.

Great Benefits It Would Bring to Breeders of High Grade Animals. Kansas City Journal.

The mission to Europe of Senator W. A. Harris, as a special representative of the Louisiana Purchase exposition, is of particular interest to the great stock growing region of the country. It is the purpose of the exposition managers to get up a great international stock show, and the mission of Senator Harris is to interest the stock breeders of Europe in making a display of their animals at a newspaper correspondent at Washington the senator says he is confident that he can induce the best breeders of Europe to send over exhibits, and he is particularly sure that King Edward of England will consent to the exhibition of one or more of his herds of thoroughbreds, than which there is nothing better.

It is particularly appropriate that England should be largely interested in a show of cattle in America. The most of our American cattle are of British origin, and we still look to England for the finest bred of our leading strains. The cattle which we lump together as Shorthorns are nearly all of British origin. We owe to England, as the names indicate, our Durhams, Herefords, Devon, Ayrshires and Alderneys. From the rest of Europe we have taken but few strains save the Holstein-Friesian and the Belted Dutch, which are little known here and which

CHANCE FOR NEW MEN.

Brains and Ability Will Find Plenty of Room in Congress. Boston Herald.

There are peculiar opportunities open to a man of talent in the house of representatives at Washington at this juncture. Questions of the first importance are being brought up for consideration in that body. Among them is the vindication of the place of the house itself in the government against the encroachments being made upon it in this respect by the senate. The action of the government as regards the spreading of its territories and the taking into its association of distant peoples with diverse interests is of the utmost moment. The condition of its domestic affairs, with the growth of the immense business interests of the people, is scarcely less so. We look back in history to the days when Webster and Clay and Calhoun and Benton made their reputations in statesmanship, and often regard the opportunities they found there as never to return. The fact is that if they do not return in the form in which they then appeared they may come in another equally momentous, equally a test for talent in statesmanship, equally affording the opportunities to achieve a reputation in statesmanship.

The truth of the case is that if parties themselves are not to be dissolved the time is apparently at hand for a new alignment under party names. Neither party has the cohesion of principle in which its members are fully agreed to hold it together. This has been true of the democrats for years, and it is fast becoming true of the republicans in almost an equal degree. There is a further signal that the time has come for men to achieve usefulness and win distinction in the public service and for the new beginners in it there is no field like that of the national house of representatives. No man who has genuine ability need shrink from it under the belief that he is to be a cipher there. It all depends upon himself. He may sink into comparative nonentity if he is lacking in mental resources or yields to indolence, but if he has the power within him and is true to himself in its exercise there has been no era in our national existence when the field for distinction in public life was better open to him than it now is.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

One of the fire department horses in Baltimore is extremely fond of hamburger cheese and eats it with avidity.

Sweden's last census records the lowest death rate yet attained by a civilized nation. During the last ten years it only averaged 16.49 per 1,000.

Nelson's walking cane, which was picked up on the deck of the Victory after he was shot at Trafalgar, is now in the possession of a resident of Newport, Mo.

Signor Schiaparelli, Milan astronomer, has been elected an associate of the French Academy of Science in the room of the late Baron Nordenflock.

Sir A. L. Jones of the Elder-Dempster line announces that he will give free passages to and from England once a year to a resident of Newport, Mo.

Charles Dickens' office table, chair and looking glass and another high-back chair he used in the office of All the Year Round, were sold at auction in London lately for \$435. They were given at Dickens' death to his housekeeper and sold by her to a collector.

A baby carriage which is a miniature of "the deacon's one-horse shay," and was presented to Henry L. Dawes while in congress in the 60's, when it was announced that he was the father of a bouncing boy, is now being repaired to do service for Henry L. Dawes III.

Citizens of Charleston, S. C., are urging that the name of Meeting street, one of the widest and most important streets in their city, be changed to Hampton avenue, in memory of the late General Wade Hampton. In Columbia, too, there is talk of having a Hampton street or avenue.

The London academy is authority for the news that Rudyard Kipling might have been knighted along with Gilbert Parker and Conan Doyle, but that he declined the offer. The academy further states that Mr. Lecky refused a peerage, contenting himself with membership in the new Order of Merit.

The late Dr. Talmage once called on his lawyer and found two of his parishioners there on legal business of a private nature. "Ab, doctor!" called the lawyer in greeting. "Good morning! Here are two of your flock. May I ask without impudence if you regard them as black sheep or white?" "I don't know as yet," replied Talmage dryly, "whether they're black or white, but I'm very certain that if they remain here long they'll be fleeced."

HIGHER PRICES FULLY OFFSET.

American Wage Earners Not Disposed to Return to 1890 Distress. Philadelphia Press.

Those democrats who are seeking to bring the tariff issue prominently into the front are now trying to make the workmen believe that, owing to increased prices, they are worse off than they were under the Wilson tariff act. If the American workmen were fools this argument would still be fruitless, because so many hundreds of thousands of these workmen had no employment whatever under the Wilson tariff act. But the workmen are not misled by such silly talk. They were never better off than they are today.

There is probably not a man in the United States today out of work who could not find employment if he sought it. The enormous increase in savings banks deposits and in the annual premiums on life insurance and other things of that kind demonstrate the prosperity of the people in general, including the workmen. The price of the greatest and most expensive commodity in the land, American labor, has increased since the Dingley law went into operation fully 50 per cent. The railroad employes of the country are getting 50 per cent more pay now than they received in 1890-94.

The statistics of Massachusetts, which are admittedly fair, show that the workmen of all classes in that state are now earning from 40 to 50 per cent more than in 1896. The farmers of the country are even better off. They were never so prosperous as they are today. Prices of commodities have increased, but not in proportion to the earnings of labor. There is not only steady work for all, but higher wages. Both of those count immensely to the interest of the wage-earner. They can afford to pay better prices, which are not general, however, and are willing to do it.

When democrats and editors appeal to the workman against the tariff on the ground of alleged higher prices the workman has only to recall to mind the distressed condition of things under the Wilson tariff bill to answer satisfactorily to his own mind all appeals of that kind.

SATURDAY SMILES.

New York Sun: Knicker—What became of your resolution not to eat Welsh rabbit? Doctor—It was on the table.

Detroit Free Press: Willis—Say, pop, give me a nickel for a poor, lame man. His Papa—who he he? Willis—You run the lemonade stand on the corner.

Town Topics: Cobwigger—If he's going to spend his vacation there again this summer, they must be something nice about the place. Megrit—There is, but he wouldn't tell me.

Chicago Record-Herald: "There must be a good many automobile enthusiasts in this town," said the stranger. "There aren't any," replied the hotel keeper. "But what made you think there were?" "As I came in on the train I saw your country." It seems to be full of new graves.

Chicago Tribune: "Guten Morgen," said the man with the bones, in as good German as he could command. "The Man That Broke the Bank at Monte Carlo." "Judge," I tell you what, when this bunk man didn't get none of my money this morning, he was in the style in which he is accustomed.

Chicago News: Her Father—Have you any prospects of being able to support my daughter in the style in which she is accustomed? Suitor—Sure. I may say in all confidence that I will do it. The direction is altogether in the prospective.

HONI SOIT QUI MAL Y PENSE.

E. S. Martin in Kansas City Star. It was my happy lot to meet upon a boat the stylish and agreeable. While seeking of the summer's heat Agreeable evasion. Of fashion—where, no matter—A maid whom there was none to court, And very few to flatter.

Her head had not the graceful poise Of Aphrodite's statue. Her hair reminded you of boys; Her eyes were pointed, but you. A derby hat, the softest sort. The fashionable male owes Money for, she used for sport 'em ter git."

She seldom walked in silk attire, But commonly in flannel; Not yet in oils did she aspire Because she could not help but see She was not tall nor slender; Nor did she deem her curves to be Superlatively tender.

Some prudish dames did her abuse With censure fierce and scathing. Because she was not a model. Her stockings while in bathing, Deemed such a loss of little note, And simply thought her dress to be Stocking round her little throat And reappeared barelegged.

I do not think that for the peif of eligible bookies, Or for the pleasure of deck herself With diamonds and rubies, Or for her attitude in the books Of prim and proper ladies, Or for her disapproving looks She cared a hoop from hades.

Though competent to hold her tongue When circumstances demanded. Speech, she was, for one so young, Astonishingly candid. She sang the tunes of songs, Which sung by her were funny, And never brooded o'er her wrongs—Nor hoarded up her money.

'Tis true this careless dame's fame At last grew somewhat shady. But if the man disposed to name Her feet or nose or lady, Will in the present writer's way Considerately toddle. This writer thinks that person may Get punched upon his nose.

Advertisement for 'What's the Use' clothing store. Text: 'sweating these torrid days, when it's so easy to keep cool—if you know how. Our store, in the first place, is the coolest in town, as there are a dozen or more big fans to stand under while you are selecting a thin coat, a light pair of trousers, a homespun, a flannel suit, a soft shirt or two, or perhaps a straw hat. We have all the cool, comfortable things for men and boys—and the majority of them are reduced in price for various reasons. And no clothing fits like ours. Store closes at 9 p. m., Saturday. Growing King & Co. Exclusive Clothiers and Furnishers. R. S. Wilcox, Manager.'