

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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GEO. B. TSCHUCK, Notary Public.

King Corn doesn't have to ask if his crown is as straight this year.

Sir Thomas Lipton still has his eye on that America's cup. That is all he has got on it so far.

Illinois grain dealers in convention have been discussing plans to prevent corners. Round them off.

Omaha society has discovered that Italian music is not all embodied on the barrel of the Italian hand organ.

The session of the plumbers in this city seems to have made no noticeable difference in the outflow of the water-spouts.

Germany's meat inspection fees are evidently levied on the Donnybrook fair theory of hitting a head whenever you see it.

When our navies are transformed into fleets of submarine boats, the spectacular part of a naval demonstration will completely disappear.

If the Real Estate exchange intends to swap the compliments of the season with the head of the Union Pacific railroad, the sooner they get at it the better.

Our nonresident congressman must be in hard lines when he has to import outside routers to work up enthusiasm for him in what he professes to call his home ward.

The well-defined rumor that President Burt is getting good and ready to confer with the Union Pacific strikers has yet to be verified. We will believe it when we see Mr. Burt spit on his hands.

It is safe to say that neither Governor Savage, Congressman Mercer nor Pompadour Baldwin will receive invitations to act as the guest of honor at the coming Labor day demonstration in this city.

Those Texas whitecaps whose hospitality for an alleged diving heater took the form of cutting his hair off short should be called down with a thud. How can a divine healer do business without the regulation long hair?

The state luncheon given by the shah of Persia is said to have cost his royal highness \$15,000—at least that is the figure at which the bill was made out. Beef trust prices evidently prevail in London as well as on this side of the water.

Every candidate on the prohibition state ticket in Nebraska swears that his nomination came to him without the expenditure of a single five-cent piece. No one will question the faithful veracity of these self-sacrificing prohibition martyrs.

The democratic nominee for congress would like nothing better than to have the republicans renominate Nonresident Mercer for a sixth term. But do the republicans of this district want to make their nomination for the benefit of his democratic opponent?

If the attack of an invading foreign navy would really create no more common out here than the mimic warfare of the naval maneuvers off the New England coast, we may rest undisturbed that Nebraska is at safe distance from danger in the event of a naval war.

A sharp reminder by the American minister has stirred the Turkish sultan to return a package of insurance policies, the property of an American citizen, that had been seized by the Turkish authorities. Needless to add that the sultan could not realize on the insurance policies, anyway.

TAX BUREAU QUACKERS.

Whenever a man "gives up the ghost" nowadays the doctors charge it up to heart failure. On the same theory the railroad tax bureau quacks have figured it out that delinquent taxes have caused the state debt.

The state debt at this day aggregates over \$2,000,000 and has for the past ten years been growing at the rate of from \$100,000 to \$150,000 a year. The railroad tax agents place the amount of delinquent taxes at \$1,096,873 for the whole state, of which amount they say \$157,747 has been delinquent for thirty years or longer. In other words, more than one-sixth of the delinquent tax asset consists of cats and dogs that cannot be galvanized into life by any known process. That would leave \$939,126 of live delinquent taxes, which would be about \$1,100,000 short of paying the state debt if all delinquent taxes were collectible. No rational business man conversant with the true condition of affairs would contend that 50 per cent of the taxes delinquent for more than five years are collectible.

Everybody knows that these delinquencies represent town lots that have been turned into corn fields and could not be sold for the taxes. It represents sand hills that were palmed off for fertile farm lands upon the unsuspecting investor during the boom times and are in about the same position as the child that cannot discover its father. Nobody claims to own them and nobody is willing to pay taxes on them. The delinquent tax list moreover represents hundreds of thousands of dollars of personal taxes levied upon bankrupt or defunct business concerns and parties who are out of the reach of the tax collector.

In Douglas county, for example, the aggregate delinquency is represented as \$230,042.20, or 10.12 per cent of the taxes levied. How much of this \$230,000 is collectible? We venture to assert that it is not 10 per cent. The railroad tax quacks know well that under the law the tax levied is always 10 per cent higher than the estimated amount of collectible taxes.

Everybody in Nebraska familiar with state finances knows that fully one-half of the state debt has been caused by bank wrecking and embezzlement. Everybody knows that the state lost \$236,000 in Charley Mosher's Capital National bank depository. Everybody knows that the state lost nearly \$600,000 by Joe Bartley's benevolent financing. Upon these losses the state has been paying from a 7 per cent interest and the total loss now aggregates more than \$1,000,000.

Was this part of the state debt caused by tax delinquents or by bank wreckers and public thieves? Is it not about time for the tax bureau charlatans to quit their bunco bulletins and come down to the two main points: First, what is the actual value of railroad property in Nebraska, and, second, what proportion does its assessed value bear to its actual value?

Manifestly, if the railroad property in Nebraska is worth \$325,000,000, as may be proved by their own bulletins, its assessment for \$28,000,000 is scandalously below the ratio of assessment of all other property returned by the assessors. The property which the assessors have failed to return can cut no figure in these computations any more than the testimony of 100 men who did not see a man steal sheep can offset the testimony of two witnesses who did see him steal the sheep.

MORGAN IS KEEPING BUSY.

The return of J. Pierpont Morgan to the United States is expected to be speedily followed by interesting developments. The speculative world is said to be waiting with no little anxiety for some further disclosure of the plans of the "Colossus of finance." Traders have hesitated to take any pronounced position in the market until they could discover which way the Morgan cat was going to jump. There is no definite information as to what was accomplished by Mr. Morgan in Europe in regard to his international schemes, but it is safe to assume that his efforts were not without practical results. He was a guest of King Edward and of Emperor William, but paid no attention to lesser monarchs. It is said that he has carefully prepared the rulers of Great Britain and Germany for what is coming and that instead of having their antagonism he will probably secure their co-operation.

Mr. Morgan has plenty of work to do in this country. There are great schemes yet to be carried out. One of these is the settlement of the Louisville & Nashville railroad debt, involving the consolidation of several lines. It is understood that all the details were arranged while Mr. Morgan was abroad and that a plan has been drawn by a railroad expert which the financier will pass upon. If he approves the plan the public will be given another opportunity to add a few millions to the Morgan fortune. The complete details of the steamship combine are yet to be made public by Mr. Morgan, if he purposes doing so. According to the terms the public has thus far heard, Morgan has arranged to pay \$100,000,000 for one group of steamships that can be duplicated with more modern machinery for \$50,000,000, yet there is no doubt he will profit handsomely by the operation. It was hoped that Mr. Morgan would make some effort to bring about a settlement of the anthracite coal strike, but it appears that he approves of the course of the operators. Nobody will be surprised at this, since his sympathies are necessarily and from self-interest with monopoly. There has never been a financier who cared less for the public interests and welfare than J. Pierpont Morgan.

A New York dispatch says that what Wall street expects him to do immediately is to start a new movement in stocks. Many are carrying a load of

Morgan industrial which were bought at very much higher prices than are now prevailing in Wall street and they are hoping he will enable them to unload. He will doubtless do the best he can in this direction in order that the confidence necessary to the carrying out of his other schemes shall be maintained. No one will question the financial ingenuity and resourcefulness of Mr. Morgan, but there are many who regard him, perhaps events will show justly, as a most dangerous enemy of the public interests and welfare.

THE DEMOCRATIC HOPE.

The hope of the democrats, according to Washington advices, is in the dissatisfaction of the industrial classes. They are not counting upon the farmers, for the reason that with good crops the agricultural producers are well satisfied and people who are in this state of mind do not support the democratic party. Democrats at the national capital admit that the favorable crop conditions are injurious to the party's prospects, but they profess to believe that this loss will be more than counterbalanced by the dissatisfaction among the industrial classes "arising out of the present high prices and the failure of wages to keep up with them." They say: "The bad condition in the coal mining region and in a good many manufacturing centers where the people, although occupied, have hard work to get along, will do a great deal. We are not looking to the agricultural states for our gains. They will be republican anyhow, but it is in the congested districts, where political conditions are more nicely weighed, that we shall encroach on the opposing party."

It is the usual thing for the democrats to base their hope of success on popular dissatisfaction and it is quite probable that the party will profit to some extent from the existing unrest among the industrial classes, but the result may show that the democrats are greatly overestimating this advantage. Intelligent wage earners, who consider political conditions rationally, will ask themselves how they can be benefited by giving their support to the democratic party. In what respect could the condition of the industrial classes be bettered if the next house of representatives should have a democratic majority? It would not be able to accomplish anything. It could carry through no legislation not acceptable to the republican senate and president. The only effect of the election of a democratic house of representatives would have would be the creation of a fear of democratic ascendancy in the government, which would certainly not be conducive to the maintenance of financial and business confidence. Grant that the industrial classes have reasonable ground of complaint in the fact that wages do not increase with the rise in the price of commodities, the election of a democratic house of representatives would not remedy this condition. On the contrary, if it should have the effect reasonably to be expected, an impairment of confidence through apprehension of the democratic party securing control of the government, the situation would probably become more serious for the industrial classes. At all events it assuredly would not be improved.

There is no promise of betterment for the wage earners in democratic success and any one of that class that believes there is is deluding himself. The policy of the democratic party is hostile to the interests and the welfare of the industrial classes. This ought to be and undoubtedly is well understood by all intelligent workmen and it is therefore most improbable that any considerable number of them will at this time be drawn to the support of that party.

A correspondent writes us to suggest that something more ought to be done to procure for Omaha equal treatment at the hands of the railroads with that accorded Kansas City. He tells us that for the Priests of Pallas festivities Kansas City has secured a one-fare rate on all railroads for a distance of 200 miles extending over twelve days, while for the Ak-Sar-Ben carnival Omaha is to have its one-fare concession only for three days and a smaller radius. As a result Kansas City can invite Omaha people to visit the Priests of Pallas at reduced railroad fare, while Kansas City people cannot come to Omaha Ak-Sar-Ben week except by paying full rates. If these conditions are as represented, complaint ought certainly to be entered and an effort made to equalize the railroad concessions to the two cities.

The republicans of Douglas county are entitled to the same treatment in the selection of delegates to nominate a successor for David H. Mercer as is accorded to the republicans of Sarpy and Washington counties. They have no right to ask for more and they will not be satisfied with less. The republicans of Washington and Sarpy counties have been allowed to elect the number of delegates apportioned to them without the intervention of the "congressional committee and the republicans of this county should have the same privilege.

We shall presently see whether the republican congressional committee of this district represents the rank and file of the party or the nonresident congressman. While Mercer was allowed to name the committee as the candidate of the republicans of this district, the committee is expected to represent the republicans of the district and not simply Mr. Mercer or his man Friday, who has assumed to be the "whole thing" and given out his own program for the whole committee, of which he is only one of the nine members.

Emperor William of Germany and King Victor Emmanuel of Italy are about to exchange courtesies by visiting one

another at each other's capital. The medal makers will be kept working overtime to turn out the souvenir decorations their majesties will bestow on each other's subjects.

The rainmakers have gone out of business in Nebraska this year and the weather prophets who predicted terrible scorchers between July 17 and August 21 have lost their reckoning. But cabbage out in the pot. It goes in cold and comes out hot. Away down south in Dixie. The same as before the "wah."

Sizing Up the Kinship.

Philadelphia Ledger. A Cuban editor declares that this country is not the father of the Cuban republic; only the stepfather.

A Glance Backward.

Indianapolis Journal. Probably there was not a single trust formed in this country during the panic of 1893 to 1896, caused by democratic legislation and misgovernment, but there were hundreds of mills and factories closed.

Moving the Corn Crop.

Indianapolis Journal. It would take a railway train gridding the wheat crop of the United States this year with the bumper corn crop to bear from. The job will be neatly handled by breaking it into sections.

A Significant Sign.

Minneapolis Journal. The fact that the steel trust refuses to sell rails to a railway company which refuses to explain its purpose to the trust is indeed profoundly significant. It indicates that the trust is in alliance with the great railway system of the country to prevent the building of new and independent lines. The company must go abroad for its rails. And it will have to pay a tariff on them, too.

National Game Tabooed.

Philadelphia Press. Secretary Shaw has done a wise thing in punishing clerks found guilty of playing poker. Not only have their families suffered for a long time, but there was constant fear of government loss. As a result their salaries were raised and their work transferred so as to make it impossible for them to take anything valuable, even if they tried. That is proper. The secretary retained the men only because of their families.

Irrigation Up-to-Date.

Philadelphia Record. Irrigation is a process by no means confined to the efforts of promoters who are owners of arid lands. The irrigation of stock is the most active and sharp-tongued contemporary war. "When a railroad becomes prosperous it never cuts down rates; it waters its stock until dividends are reduced to nominal proportions." The trick is as old as the hills. There are even political philosophers who insist upon irrigating the coin of the realm.

Better Salaries Should Be Paid.

Minneapolis Journal. Nebraska schools are likely to remain closed because teachers can't be obtained. When the condition of a committee of increase in teachers' pay is that at present there is any class of teachers that deserves better pay it is the common school teachers everywhere, who render the state a service of supreme and little appreciated importance. It will be no credit to the Nebraska if they do not remedy this condition. On the contrary, if it should have the effect reasonably to be expected, an impairment of confidence through apprehension of the democratic party securing control of the government, the situation would probably become more serious for the industrial classes. At all events it assuredly would not be improved.

Success in Life.

San Francisco Chronicle. There are some of living men who might be mentioned who have attained to all that goes to make up success as it is commonly estimated. They have wealth, social and political influence and popularity; they have everything that heart can wish, and yet the man of the world of the average sort would not for a moment admit that their success is to be compared with that of the man who has lost everything yet has served his country as a patriot, has made the foundations of the state a little stronger, the life of the common people a little sweeter and happier, and given to the family and his friends an example of unspotted rectitude and in doing these things has missed personal advancement and pleasure.

THE "TIDAL WAVE" SCARE.

Apparently Sensible People Influenced by a Foolish Prophecy. Philadelphia Press.

The fact that once a state of general apprehension is created, through no matter what silly influences, sensible people will yield to its meaningless menace is proved once again in the matter of the Atlantic City "tidal wave" scare. When a leader of thousands who took the scare seriously would have been affected by it at first instance if they had heard Rev. Andrew Jones uttering his absurdities on the street corner, they were affected after the vague prophecy of an ignorant and foolish man had been worked into a general rumour of impending danger, originating one knew not where.

Now that it is over of the whole episode is a commentary on the curious, half superstitious attitude that so many otherwise counted as well-informed and well-educated people maintain toward all natural phenomena. To them all the doings of nature are profound mysteries. And since the mysterious has always in it more or less of threat, more or less of that which is inbreathable and malignant, as well as inexplicable, they are fearful of phenomena that are as orderly as the movement of the earth on its axis and beneficent in effect.

If, for instance, the mass of those leaving out the avowedly ignorant who were of the same race and color as the false prophet—who were apprehensive over the so-called "tidal wave" scare had the slightest idea of wave causation they would have had no occasion for fear. If they had known the simplest facts as to the conditions favorable to earthquake waves or the factors in the making of storm waves that move outward from some great storm, they would have known that incredible folly lies in the alleged ability of an itinerant religious mountebank to predict a "tidal wave." But, unfortunately, though our schools fuss over nature studies to a marked degree, neither the older nor the younger generation has the slightest grasp on nature in its larger aspects.

Our faulty education is responsible, therefore, for whatever degree of importance was attached to the rumors of death and destruction that took on so vital an aspect to so many people. Even the weather is feared, and they are fearful of phenomena that are as orderly as the movement of the earth on its axis and beneficent in effect.

Nothing is apprehended of the broad principles of physics, nothing is understood of general tendencies; everything is known smatteringly. And, consequently, being but little above the poor Indian, whose untutored mind sees God in clouds and hears Him in the wind, any idiot barking at the crossroads is listened to with mouth agape.

Nebraska's Bumper Crop

Six and seven years ago the biggest crop that Nebraska could boast of was her "anti-plutocracy" resolutions. Conditions had been good for the sowing and the sprouting and the spring and summer of 1896 found almost all classes of Nebraska people pelting the country at large with platform anathemas against wealth and banks and corporations and railroads and everything in sight that was known to be single dollar ahead of the game and anxious to keep that dollar honest. Nebraska was poor, and they were for the most part consumed with a burning desire to punch the whole wide world as being responsible for it.

Today you probably couldn't get an anti-plutocracy resolution passed in Nebraska through a Nebraska town meeting or a political gathering there, or by any influence persuade more than one Nebraska farmer orator to rise up and denounce things in general, as was their wont. They haven't the time—much less the inclination. They are too busy getting rich themselves. With only inconsiderable mineral resources and few manufacturers, Nebraska still has broad and broadening farms that are proving in the long run to be better wealth producers than mines or mills or steamships. The yield of wheat and corn is unprecedented this year, and the Nebraska farmers are all overworking with good nature and optimism. From farmers of resolutions and populist orators they are turned jocosmiths and money lenders—if they can find anybody to borrow their surplus cash. They are all dangerously near the plutocracy line. Lots of farmers have \$5,000, \$10,000 or \$25,000 wheat crops; there are reports of several \$40,000 and \$50,000 yields; and as to corn, all the known adjectives out there are powerless to adequately describe the crop.

The Nebraska editor, as ever, is a harmless whopper or two now and then. A newspaper in Dawson county soberly discusses the feasibility of utilizing the corn stalks to replace the rotting poles of the local independent telephone company. Anybody who has seen the corn stalks and cobs will go to waste this year because they are too big to use in the ordinary furnace, and the small number of sawmills in the state prevents any other use of them, unless the railroad companies will employ them for ties.

And so it goes. Big crops in Nebraska and big prices! That combination can't come every year, of course. But the Nebraska are being given an opportunity to reflect that it doesn't pay to fight the benevolent system of government under which they live. Whether property doesn't happen to be quite so overvaluing as at present, the actual comparative efficiency of the British fleet in action there is room for wide differences of opinion. The fact that, almost 100 years ago, there died all practical experience in real sea fighting cannot be cited to the disadvantage of Britain's navy as compared with the navies of France, Germany or the United States. European power has engaged in a serious conflict at sea since the Napoleonic wars. All the powers except the United States and Japan, which are not likely to be England's foes, are destitute of officers who have experienced the shock of battle at sea. Hence there is no reason to suppose that British captains and admirals, man for man, would acquit themselves less creditably than their European opponents. In the British navy, moreover, there exists a body of fighting traditions which must be reckoned highly as an asset of marine warfare. Unless British officers have woefully degenerated, they are steeped in those principles of the initiative which Nelson so dazlingly exemplified, and which, other things being equal, would place a British fleet at the head of the parade on the way to victory. The German navy has no such traditions, and its naval history is a blank. The French have traditions, but, unhappily, the traditions grown up since the time of Tourville are those of nerveless inefficiency and defeat.

In the course of a few hours the House of Commons the other day gave formal sanction to expenditures amounting to \$150,000,000. The legislative machine in Great Britain has manifestly broken down under the weight of business. Nominally the question of expenditure can be discussed in committee of the whole (or committee of supply, as they say in England); in fact, only one item in a hundred is subjected to adequate criticism. By way of remedy it has been suggested that some of the powers be delegated to subordinate bodies; but this would lead to what the unionist majority in Parliament affects to call "disunion." An alternative suggestion is the delegation to appropriate committees of the consideration of various classes of supply bills. The adoption of either method would mean the Americanization of the methods of the British Parliament, and our transatlantic cousins may have reason to both the congressional committee system and the devolution of local legislation upon English, Scotch and Irish local legislatures. Parliament can no longer deal effectively with both imperial and parochial affairs.

There is not a promising outlook for the plans to induce the settlement of farmers on the agricultural lands of the Vaal and Orange River colonies. The great drawback is the aridity of the climate of the agricultural plateau. Irrigation is a prerequisite of success in farming on the pre-empted land; even cattle raising can be conducted only on a scale limited by the shortage of surface water in the dry season. Irrigation is expensive and can be resorted to by individual cultivators only under exceptional favorable circumstances.

Isolated farmers cannot construct the costly works required for the impounding and distribution of flood water. The amount of governmental assistance that would be needed by settlers in the new colonies would be prodigious, and as long as there are wheat lands in the Canadian northwest to be had practically free of cost the tide of emigration will be unlikely to set in for the Cape. Lord Kitchener's prophecy of a new America in South Africa must remain long unfulfilled, if it shall ever be realized.

The surprising defeat of a conservative member of Parliament for the south division of Belfast in a by-election is another indication that the Balfour ministry cannot count with confidence on a normal majority of 140 in the future. The North Leeds defeat was a warning; the desertion of the unionist standard in a unionist stronghold like Belfast is a severe blow. The former unionist member had twice received pluralities of 2,900 and had been three times returned unopposed, while Thomas Sloan, the present member-elect, secured a majority of 224 votes. The dispatches assert that the election has no bearing on the home rule question, but the defeat of the unionist candidate was due to dissatisfaction with the government's land policy. When strong unionist districts like Ulster revolt at the unsatisfactory handling of the land question, it must appear conceivable that the only possible solution of the Irish question will consist, not in the revival of the crimes act or other forms of repression, but in a just and reasonable treatment of the relations of landlord and tenant, which is the basis of centuries of discontent and agitation.

FLASHES OF FUN.

Atlanta Constitution: "What do reason Brer Williams and his eye w'en de collection basket?" "He say de singin' do him so much good dat he 'blesse ter fall asleep on dream er heaven."

Judge: "Gentlemen," said the new senator from the old country, "I have not prepared a speech, I do not consider it necessary. After a long, long time the hearers assimilated the thought that my name talks."

Philadelphia Press: Mr. Ferguson—"You want to know what good my vacation did me, you? It didn't have no effect on me. It did me the things of my mind."

Chicago Tribune: "I am much impressed with the peculiar geological formation of this country," said the foreigner who had had financial dealings with the government. "Is geological formation?" said the native.

Washington Star: "Don't you sometimes long for your children to miss days?" said the sentimental person.

Philadelphia Press: "Some of these people who are protesting the telephone, 'there are times when the telephone has been the fence and making faces at people I don't like, instead of having to say, 'How do you do?' and 'Hello' to see you."

Philadelphia Press: The Chinaman had refused to give up the whip. "But," said the man who had called for it, "the whip is the right thing, ain't it?" "Check all right," answered the Chinaman, blowing a mouthful of spray over the towel he was holding. "All right, all right. Check says 'ugly little man.' You ugly big man."

Brooklyn Life. "Oh, a half a yard of dark-blue serge. And a couple of spoils of brand. And a couple of spoils of brand. That's all," she said. "And her costume rare. A little too rare—Ah, me!"

Philadelphia Press: "Will it stand the glare of the summer sun? And the salt of the summer sweat? And it mustn't shrink. For, Mercy! think! What a dreadful thing 'would be'!"

Philadelphia Press: "I gazed upon her fair sweet face And her gown of faultless fit; And I wondered why She came to me in that attire. And what she could make of it."

Chicago Chronicle. We read that last Tuesday Duke Boris played poker and visited Dr. Huxford. Trouble is there is no connection between the two circumstances, yet it would be just as well to have them "segregated"—especially as his royal highness was separated from quite a few rubles at the American national game.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

As to the actual comparative efficiency of the British fleet in action there is room for wide differences of opinion. The fact that, almost 100 years ago, there died all practical experience in real sea fighting cannot be cited to the disadvantage of Britain's navy as compared with the navies of France, Germany or the United States. European power has engaged in a serious conflict at sea since the Napoleonic wars. All the powers except the United States and Japan, which are not likely to be England's foes, are destitute of officers who have experienced the shock of battle at sea. Hence there is no reason to suppose that British captains and admirals, man for man, would acquit themselves less creditably than their European opponents. In the British navy, moreover, there exists a body of fighting traditions which must be reckoned highly as an asset of marine warfare. Unless British officers have woefully degenerated, they are steeped in those principles of the initiative which Nelson so dazlingly exemplified, and which, other things being equal, would place a British fleet at the head of the parade on the way to victory. The German navy has no such traditions, and its naval history is a blank. The French have traditions, but, unhappily, the traditions grown up since the time of Tourville are those of nerveless inefficiency and defeat.

AMAZING AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS

Dimensions of the Main Pillar of American Prosperity.

New York World. Agriculture being the main pillar of American prosperity the census survey of the nation's farms just published is of unusual interest.

From its final footings we learn that the total value of farm property in the United States in 1900 was \$20,500,000,000; that the total value of their products, including crops, animals, poultry, eggs, dairy articles and everything else for the preceding year (1899) was \$4,720,118,752, and the "gross income on investment" in farming for the whole country was 18.3 per cent.

Analysis and comparison of these huge totals are necessary to make them instructive. The number of farms in 1900 was four times as many as in 1850 and one-fourth larger than in 1800. Their total value was five times as great in 1900 as in 1850 and 23.4 per cent greater than in 1800. The total value of their products was very nearly doubled in the one decade from 1890 to 1900. No such amazing agricultural progress has ever taken place before in the world's history.

Nearly all this immense increase in agricultural values has taken place in the north central and south central groups of states. In the north Atlantic division, comprising New York, New England, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, the total value of farm property decreased nearly \$30,000,000 in the last decade. The seven leading agricultural states are, beginning at the west, Missouri, Iowa, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York; and Abraham Lincoln's state leads the union in the value of its farm property at \$2,094,318,397, but Iowa is a little ahead of all other states in the total yearly value of its farm products, which is \$565,000,000 or \$200,000,000 more than Illinois.

New York is not quite the Empire state in agriculture, but in the total value of its farm property and its annual farm products it leads all other states save three only—Missouri, Iowa and Ohio. New York and New York are so nearly even that they almost tie each other for third place.

DEMAND EXCEEDS SUPPLY.

Why the Price of Meat May Continue High.

John Gilmer Speed in Success. There is another important element that seems to indicate that the price of meat will continue to be higher for a long time—there is a falling off in the production of cattle. In the United States, on January 1, 1900, the oxen and other cattle numbered 27,510,054. At a corresponding time, four years earlier, the oxen and other cattle numbered 32,044,409. There is a falling off of something like 14 1/2 per cent, during a period when the population has increased something like 10 per cent. Here are conditions which were not brought into existence by the beef trust, nor yet by the predecessors of the beef trust.

In the beef trust preparing to take advantage of these conditions? That seems very likely, for the people who have combined to form this trust have waited until now to do it, waited until a time when the eyes of the whole country are turned upon them to form a combination so intimately connected with the life and the happiness of the people as any of the other great enterprises—the steel, the oil, the sugar, the flour, for instance, is their purpose sinister? That can hardly be, unless it is sinister to employ large aggregations of capital in a large way; for, after all, the only security that the future holds out to them is good service to the people. The people are just beginning to look into this matter of trusts. They will understand them very thoroughly before discussion ceases, and, if they are benefited in their influence, ways will be found to curtail their power. Besides, beef cattle and other animals can't be bred and killed in the old way in the older parts of the country. But meat is likely to be high, if not as high as at present, until the production and the demand are in more harmonious accord.

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Washington Star: "Don't you sometimes long for your children to miss days?" said the sentimental person.

Philadelphia Press: "Some of these people who are protesting the telephone, 'there are times when the telephone has been the fence and making faces at people I don't like, instead of having to say, 'How do you do?' and 'Hello' to see you."

Philadelphia Press: The Chinaman had refused to give up the whip. "But," said the man who had called for it, "the whip is the right thing, ain't it?" "Check all right," answered the Chinaman, blowing a mouthful of spray over the towel he was holding. "All right, all right. Check says 'ugly little man.' You ugly big man."

Brooklyn Life. "Oh, a half a yard of dark-blue serge. And a couple of spoils of brand. And a couple of spoils of brand. That's all," she said. "And her costume rare. A little too rare—Ah, me!"

Philadelphia Press: "Will it stand the glare of the summer sun? And the salt of the summer sweat? And it mustn't shrink. For, Mercy! think! What a dreadful thing 'would be'!"

Philadelphia Press: "I gazed upon her fair sweet face And her gown of faultless fit; And I wondered why She came to me in that attire. And what she could make of it."

Chicago Chronicle. We read that last Tuesday Duke Boris played poker and visited Dr. Huxford. Trouble is there is no connection between the two circumstances, yet it would be just as well to have them "segregated"—especially as his royal highness was separated from quite a few rubles at the American national game.

GIVING POINTERS TO A DUKE.

Chicago Chronicle. We read that last Tuesday Duke Boris played poker and visited Dr. Huxford. Trouble is there is no connection between the two circumstances, yet it would