THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.:
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1	29,530	17	29,510
2	29,570	18	29,580
3	29,540	19	29,570
4	29,520	20	29,515
5	29,520	21	29,560
6	29,560	22	29,560
7	29,510	23	29,540
8	29,490	24	29,590
9	29,540	25	29,670
10	29,550	26	29,840
11	29,510	27	29,480
12	29,620	28	29,550
13	29,615	29	29,500
14	29,660	30	29,610
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GEO. B. TZSCHUCK.

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

Presidents who keep close to the people cannot go far astray.

There's music in the air in Omaha. And more kinds of music than one.

General Colby's battlecry is "Let loose the coyotes of war. On to Fort Riley."

For President Roosevelt New England is not in any sense the enemy's country.

The tree-planting season has passed and gone and the sign-planting season is about to begin.

Golf is on the wane and tennis on the up grade—at least that is the thermometric reading in Omaha.

According to inside information the shah of Persia makes his British hosts tired. Perhaps it is mutual.

Plumbers and gas fitters must refrain from putting on a militia uniform, excepting for a masquerade ball.

Now that the dog pound fund has run out, canines with barks on may run at large in Omaha without let or hindrance.

Senator Mason of Illinois is falling into the habit of writing open letters. That looks as if he were convinced his candidacy for re-election was still alive.

A French actress has managed to die leaving an accumulation of debts aggregating over $100,000. American actresses would like to know how their French sister did it.

Oom Paul Kruger finds it as hard to reconcile himself to the innocuous desuetude that envelopes ex-presidents as those in this country who have moved into the White House and out of it again.

The vessel on which Mr. Schwab is traveling to Europe cannot be equipped with apparatus for wireless telegraphy, else we would be having hourly bulletins keeping us informed of the state of his health.

Having been interviewed by the Emperor of Germany and other royal dignitaries of the old world, no wonder J. Pierpont Morgan is close-mouthed when approached by ordinary American newspaper reporters.

A contract has been let for paving another street in the heart of Omaha that has never before been paved. Slowly but surely the gaps in our system of street pavement are being closed up. Let the good work go on.

Omaha has expended several thousand dollars for street signs, but there is scarcely a trace of the signs or the money anywhere. That does not prevent us, however, from repeating the experiment so long as we have money to burn.

Colonel Bryan will spend the entire month of October on the hustings in Nebraska. Ample notice is given so that the population can be again moved up to the railroad crossings and waterspouts, where thousands of eager auditors always congregate on the open prairie whenever Mr. Bryan and his official reporter pass.

Managers of the populist campaign in Nebraska are out again with appeals for popular contributions of campaign funds. The poverty dodge is a great trick, but it can be played too often. When the populists were on top and holding out a regular percentage of the whole state payroll as assessments on all at the crib, the same plea of poverty was put forward.

LAWLESS AND REVOLUTIONARY.

The question confronting the republicans of Douglas county is whether they will tamely submit to the lawless and revolutionary proceedings by which David H. Mercer is trying to force a sixth term nomination upon this district in the face of inevitable defeat.

The function of state, congressional and judicial committees has under time-honored usage been limited to the calling of conventions to which each county in the state or district, as the case may be, is invited to elect delegates in proportion to the number of votes cast for a designated party candidate at the preceding election. The number of delegates to which each township, precinct or city ward in any county is entitled in the representation of that county has always been left by all parties entirely to the respective county committees, who provide for primary elections and conventions to select delegates under proper safeguards.

This has been the method pursued in every congressional district in Nebraska this year. This also has been the method pursued in the selection of delegates to the Second district congressional convention in Washington and Sarpy counties. Having ratified and legitimized the action taken in those counties, the Mercer committee has neither the legal nor moral right to impose unheard of conditions upon the republicans of Douglas county not imposed on the republicans of the other counties in this district or in any other district in this state.

Whoever heard of such a thing as a congressman levying a head tax upon his competitors as an entrance fee to the congressional racetrack? Yet that is precisely what Mercer is trying to do in requiring every aspirant for his place to pay $50 to his campaign manager for the privilege of being considered a candidate, and then $14 for every ward delegation and $6 for every precinct delegation whose names he wants placed on the official ballot. In other words, every candidate in Douglas county must contribute $50 to Mercer's campaign fund before he is allowed to compete, while candidates in Washington or Sarpy counties can come in free. What right has the Mercer committee to exact any payment from pledged or unpledged delegates in Douglas county so long as the expense of conducting the primary election is borne by the county committee out of the filing fees for delegates to the county nominating convention?

Under the direct pressure of Mercer this revolutionary proceeding has been supplemented by a lawless attempt to impose a test oath on registered republican voters who have complied with the statutory requirement of registering their political affiliation. A still more flagrant violation of the law is the attempt to allow a select committee of five to locate the voting places and appoint the election officers in the various precincts and wards in the face of the express provision in the law that these functions must be performed by the whole county committee.

It is almost a foregone conclusion that a nomination secured by such lawless and revolutionary methods would be pronounced invalid by the supreme court and the name of the candidate would be ruled off the ticket as a regular party nominee. Mr. Mercer in his desperation may be willing to take these risks. But can the republicans of this district afford to run the chance even if they were willing to submit to the outrage perpetrated by the Mercer committee?

THE PRESIDENT ON TRUSTS.

President Roosevelt adheres to the views expressed in his first message to congress in regard to the industrial combinations engaged in interstate commerce. In his speech at Providence Saturday he said the great corporations are the creatures of the state, and it is the right and duty of the state to control them. There is need of supervision and regulation, declared the president, and he expressed the belief that the power of control by legislation must be assumed by the nation. If it shall become evident that the constitution does not permit needed legislation then the constitution should be amended.

The trusts, in the opinion of Mr. Roosevelt, must be placed under the control of some sovereign "to which, as its creature, the trust shall owe allegiance, and in whose courts the sovereign's orders may with certainty be enforced." The great corporations as now organized not being responsible to or controlled by any legislature, nor wholly subject to the jurisdiction of any one court, "some governmental sovereign must be given full power over these artificial corporate beings." That sovereign must be the national government, and when it has been given full power "then this full power can be used to control any evil influence, exactly as the government is now using the power conferred upon it under the Sherman anti-trust law." The president still regards publicity as highly essential. He urges that the first exercise of the power of the government should be the securing of publicity among all great corporations doing an interstate business, and the publicity, "though non-inquisitorial, should be real and thorough as to all important facts with which the public has concern." The president admonishes against ignorant and reckless meddling with the delicate and complicated mechanism of modern business, and advises moderation and self-restraint—counsel which will certainly be approved by all who have a practical knowledge of the situation.

No one who reads this latest utterance of President Roosevelt can have any doubt of his earnest desire for legislation by congress looking to the supervision and regulation of the great combinations. No one has urged this with more evident sincerity. It is plain that the president is most deeply impressed with the importance of this problem and of the imperative duty of seeking a solution. He recognizes the difficulties, due to the peculiar division of governmental power, but he thinks a good beginning can be made in solving the problem if the subject be approached with honesty and common sense. The attitude of the president being clearly defined and there being no question that it is approved by the people, the republicans in congress should realize the duty and the expediency of giving this question the consideration which its commanding importance demands. To disregard the distinct call to this work of the leader of the party would be a very serious political mistake.

THE MORE SENSIBLE VIEW.

Those Cuban "patriots" who have hoped to get a large slice of the proposed loan of $35,000,000 will not think better of President Palma and his cabinet for opposing the loan, but no doubt their position will be approved by the substantial interests upon which would fall the burden of paying the debt. The sensible view of President Palma is that Cuba should not try to float a large loan until the administration can establish the fact that it can run the government economically and end up its first year's experience with a surplus. President Palma realizes that the new republic has not yet established any credit and therefore cannot borrow money advantageously. A moderate loan to help out the sugar producers could perhaps be obtained, and it is probably advisable to contract a small government debt for this purpose, but to load upon the country, under existing conditions, such a debt as was proposed in the congress, most of it to go to the payment of war claims, would be a very grave blunder.

It has been demonstrated, however, that Cuba cannot now float a loan of $35,000,000, unless it should be approved by the government of the United States, and of course this could not be obtained. The Cuban revenues at present are not sufficient to provide for the payment of so large a loan, and therefore our government would not approve and probably would not permit the loan. Doubtless President Palma and his cabinet are fully aware of this, though there has been no official utterance here in regard to the matter. The temptation to borrow is undoubtedly strong with many Cubans. The clamor for pay of the men who served in the revolutionary army has a great influence upon some of the politicians. The more intelligent and conservative Cubans, however, see the danger to their domestic interests as well as to their independence involved in borrowing before credit is established, and these will support President Palma.

MERCER OF NEBRASKA.

"No one blames the people of Washington for exhibiting anxiety to have Mercer kept in congress perpetually. He lives in Washington and has all of his interests there. He represents the people of the national capital as if he were elected by them. But why should the District of Columbia dictate to the Second Nebraska district whom it should select as its representative in the lower house of congress?"—Omaha Bee.

The fact that a man serves the District of Columbia well in congress is no good reason for unpopularity at home. He is sent here not merely as the member from a certain district in a certain state, to legislate exclusively for that district or that state, but as a member of the national congress, to legislate for the whole country and incidentally to serve as a member of the body which is given, by the constitution, "exclusive jurisdiction" over the ten miles square chosen by the government as a capital. * * * Mr. Mercer's interest in the District is even more broadly national than that of some others of his colleagues in district legislation. He is as well chairman of the committee on public buildings, a body which has to do with the business of providing the government with a proper outfit. Naturally there is no other single city where this work centers so largely as Washington. And quite as naturally Mr. Mercer, being a diligent worker, attentive to details and eager for results, exerts himself to the utmost to secure appropriations for the capital, where they are needed so badly. He is serving the whole people, however, when he aids in the process of bringing the public building equipment more nearly up to date. Nebraska benefits with other states whenever a new public building is erected in any city, and especially when one of the great gaps in the government's garb here at Washington is filled.

The District has made no moves which savor of a dictation of Mr. Mercer's return. It has naturally expressed its appreciation of his services. It would be more than pleased to see him return. It will benefit more largely, and the country with it, from the services of an experienced man than from those of a newcomer, who must acquire the true perspective which only several years of service can give to the legislator.—Washington Star.

Mercer's unpopularity at home is not because he has made himself popular with the property-owning citizens at Washington who are vitally concerned in big appropriations for public improvements in the national capital, but because he no longer identifies himself with the people of this district. In other words, it is because for years he has been only an occasional visitor to the district he represents, during campaigns in which he is seeking re-election and furthermore because he has systematically shirked his political obligations and has never extended a helping hand to any candidate for office, while insisting that every republican in the district must help him. Incidentally Mr. Mercer has managed to make himself unpopular with his constituents by an alliance with an unpopular governor and a political interloper from an adjoining state who has nothing in common with the people of this district, but has used Congressman Mercer and Governor Savage as catspaws to pull Union Pacific chestnuts out of the political oven.

The assurance that the District of Columbia has manifested no other interest in Mr. Mercer than it does in other members of congress who have served long terms is not borne out by the facts. Why have all the Washington papers—democratic, independent and republican alike—taken such an active interest in Mercer while they appear absolutely indifferent about men who rank much higher on the national chessboard? Why do Washington papers publish Mercer eulogies and Mercer cartoons and Mercer editorials while they ignore or oppose congressmen of the highest type and standard like David B. Henderson, Joseph G. Cannon, Sereno Payne, General Grosvenor or James S. Sherman? Why did District of Columbia people present Mr. Mercer with a silver service and why did they single Mercer out as the only congressman to act with the Washington local Grand Army reunion committee? Is it because Mercer owns his residence in Washington and lives there and is more directly interested in the upbuilding of the city of Washington than other members of congress who have invested their money in their own districts?

To be sure, Mr. Mercer, in his jollying mood, has just intimated in a public speech that he would if re-elected bring the national capitol to Omaha, but such palaver is taken for what it is worth by intelligent voters of this district. The people of Omaha and the Second Nebraska district are willing to let the District of Columbia keep the national capitol and are preparing also to let the District of Columbia keep Mr. Mercer and enroll him among its permanent population.

So far as the chairmanship of the committee on public buildings is concerned, our amiable Washington contemporary need give itself no fears that the country in general and the city of Washington in particular will suffer because it will be filled by a tenderfoot. It is foreordained by the unwritten law of congress that Mr. Mercer's successor as chairman of the committee will be an experienced member who has served several terms on the committee and is entitled to promotion by his seniority of rank.

The Board of Education is noted for impulsive benevolence. Having re-elected Superintendent Pearse for three years when he would have been only too happy to get an extension of twelve months, the board in its exuberant spirit has inserted High School Cadet Drillmaster Pearse into the High school faculty. If Superintendent Pearse has any other surviving relatives, male or female, anywhere, he should not be too modest to make the fact known to the board with a request to have their names inserted on the school board payroll with at least four figures. With $9,000 more in sight than was originally figured among the available assets by the finance committee, the board is in the right humor to fling money at anybody by the name of Pearse, and Mr. Pearse should, by all means, make sun while the hay shines.

The triple alliance between Bombastes Baldwin, Dave Mercer and Governor Savage has projected the three non-residents who want to dominate Omaha politics through the police force further to the front of the stage than was originally designed by the playwright. Omaha audiences do not take kindly to the heavy villain in the melodrama.

Democratic organs and orators may be relied on to take issue with nearly everything President Roosevelt says in his speeches that can be given a political tinge. But it would have been the same with McKinley if he were alive. Nothing a republican administration does ever satisfies the democrats.

Waste of Good Money.

Washington Post.

Between Canadian justice and Cuban leniency, the man who steals makes a serious mistake in spending the money with American lawyers.

A Name that Fits.

North Platte Tribune.

The Omaha Bee refers to the head of the legal department of the Union Pacific as Bombastes Furiosa Baldwin. Judging from Baldwin's actions while in this city the early part of the week, the name is particularly applicable.

Putting the Blame on Providence.

Chicago Record-Herald.

President Baer of the Philadelphia & Reading company says God put the mines into the hands of the present operators. Mr. Baer doesn't go so far, however, as to claim divine inspiration for the advance in hard coal prices.

An Eccentric Rule.

Baltimore American.

Secretary Shaw is eccentric in some things. One of his new rules is that letters to his department shall be answered promptly. Heretofore answers to letters written to government bureaus have afforded considerable entertainment to the heirs of the writers.

Baldwin the Great at North Platte.

Grand Island Independent.

The people of North Platte resent the imputation that its citizens have lost control and that lawlessness reigns. And it appears that during the visit of John N. Baldwin a controversy arose between a news reporter and the Union Pacific attorney—one that became so heated that the reporter has had a warrant sworn out against Baldwin on the charge of provoking an assault. We just knew, when the colonel told us about those strawberries, that there was a man who would go to jail some day.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Schwab departs for Europe just as Morgan arrives in this country, so the hemispheric balance is likely to be maintained.

It is said that more babies have been named after President Roosevelt than after any other executive of the nation save Washington and Jefferson.

The earl of Dudley, the new lord lieutenant of Ireland, is the youngest man who ever represented the British government at Dublin castle. He has just passed his 35th year.

The estate of the late Pierre Lorillard, like that of most other reported multi-millionaires, does not inventory as well as expected. The final report of his executors places its value at $1,797,925.

Muzzafar-ed-Din, shah of Persia, requested that the train which took him from Dover to London be run no faster than twenty miles an hour. He prefers to see the country rather than give his widows the benefit of his life insurance.

The only wound ever sustained by Lord Kitchener during his long term of military service was received in the Soudan, where a bullet from an Arab's gun struck him in the cheek. The bullet, after remaining in the flesh for some time, fell into his plate at a London restaurant.

REPUBLICAN STATE TICKET.

Blair Pilot: It's a good year to plan on a few days' outing. Mammoth crops, good prices and good times generally. Take an outing; republican prosperity will continue yet a while. Mickey is good for 20,000 majority.

Blue Springs News-Herald: John H. Mickey has been successful in everything that he ever undertook. W. H. Thompson has been a colossal failure at the thing for which he has struggled all his life and that thing is to project himself into office.

Norfolk News: J. H. Mickey, the republican nominee for governor is receiving enthusiastic welcomes at the assemblies, chautauquas and other public open-air meetings he visits. He is a man who may be depended upon to make friends wherever he appears.

Hastings Tribune: J. H. Mickey, Nebraska's next governor, was in the city Tuesday. Wherever he goes he impresses the voters favorable. They learn that what others have said of him as a fine man, is true, and believe he is just the man to vote for.

Norfolk News: Mickey is evidently not an ideal from the fusion standpoint. He is causing them too much worry to be really satisfactory as an opponent of Mr. Thompson of Grand Island. If they had been allowed to choose they would have picked out a much weaker man.

Tekamah Journal: The Blair Republican is devoting volumns of editorial space trying to prove that Governor Mickey is not a farmer. If the Republican expects Thompson to be in the race at all it will need all the space to tell why a lawyer and sport should be elected instead of Mr. Mickey.

Minden Gazette: It is all wrong for the republicans to nominate a man who is interested in a bank for governor, but it is the right thing to do to nominate a banker for congress. This is the populist idea. If that is the argument against Mickey why isn't it just as good against Shallenberger?

O'Neill Frontier: Our future governor, J. H. Mickey of Polk county, may not be as windy as the candidate of the fusionists, but he is a substantial man in every way and inas-much as wind is not a necessary qualification for the office of governor there is no reason why he should be considered handicapped because of being short of wind.

O'Neill Frontier: These fusionists are funny people. Yes, very funny. Two years ago they insisted that Dietrich was friendly to the saloon men and therefore should be annihilated, as it were. Now, because Mickey don't get riproaring drunk and dance the cancan in good old democratic style, they say he is unfit to be governor. Poor, poor fusionists!

Aurora Republican: Mickey seems to be a hard proposition for the fusionists. Some of their papers remark that he is better than his party and we only hope that the party isn't very far behind him. If Nebraska had a few more candidates like the gentleman from Polk, politicts would be a great deal cleaner and offices would be more successfully filled.

Weeping Water Republican: Candidate for governor, J. H. Mickey, was shaking hands with a number of our citizens here Saturday, while on his way to address the old settlers at Union. Mr. Mickey is a very pleasant gentleman to meet and we believe impresses all with whom he comes in contact, with his ability to govern the affairs of the state in a just and business-like manner.

Alliance Times: Two years ago the fusionists were howling against C. H. Dietrich, the republican candidate for governor, because he would go into saloons and take a glass of beer or two. At present they are howling against John H. Mickey just as justily because he does not drink beer and call him a temperance man and a prohibitionist. Well, you cannot please the silly little pinheads anyway, so we are going to quit trying.

Stromsburg Journal: Polk county is one among the very few plague spots on the political escutcheon of our fair state and by the way, it is one of the worst, too. We hope, however, to see a change in its complexion this fall, and by next fall the entire eradication of the plague. As Hon. John Mickey is a resident of the county, sectional pride should actuate every voter in casting his ballot for him. Stand up for Polk county and let us give the state of Nebraska the best governor it ever had.

Valentine Republican: When Senator Dietrich was candidate for governor two years ago the fusion element of this state condemned and denounced him (falsely to be sure) as being a member of the association of liquor dealers. Now they have turned tails and go after J. H. Mickey, the republican candidate for governor this year, on the ground (equally as false) that he is a prohibitionist. Mr. Mickey is a good, honest, upright, moral and temperate man, the very essential qualifications that a desirable governor of this state should possess.

David City Banner: The statement made by this paper some time ago, to the effect that W. H. Thompson, the fusion nominee for governor, was a railroad attorney and its prompt retraction after Thompson went in public print over his signature, denying the charge, and at the same time asking the fusion editors to retract from some of their false statements has caused some of the fusion editors of the state much mental worry. They give the Banner credit for being honest in the matter, but say they can't. In other words they appear to believe a false statement once told should be stuck to, at least to the close of the campaign.

Beatrice Express: An esteemed contemporary asks where W. H. Thompson got his title, "the little giant," and wants to know what he has done to deserve it. He probably bestowed the title upon himself, as a reward of merit; he has never done anything to deserve it, save to deliver a few moderately able political speeches and to keep a tight grip on the coat tails of the peerless leader. He is a county lawyer, with a fair practice, but such reputation as he has made was not won at the bar; in fact, he is like his idol, Mr. Bryan; although a lawyer by profession, nobody ever heard of any distinguished work in the courts by him. His real profession is politics.

Superior Journal: Mr. Mickey does not pose as a "little giant," a middle weight or a heavy weight giant. There is nothing spectacular or theatrical about the man. He is a plain, every-day business man, with plain, every-day common sense, and he will apply his faculties and experience faithfully and conscientiously to the business of the state when elected. His candidacy for governor appeals strongly to those business men and farmers who are tired of the spell-binder element in politics, and who wish the state run as a business institution. The republican party has lately furnished the state with a good business governor in the person of Mr. Dietrich. It now offers another in Mr. Mickey.

Crete Vidette-Herald: It is said that the "little giant" indignantly denies that he is an attorney for the Grand Island & Western railroad. Now that he has got his hand in the explanation business will he please explain to an interested public how it is that for the last twenty years he has traveled over both the B. & M. and Union Pacific on annual passes? If he has not been in the employ of the roads why have they so tenderly carried him from pillar to post without cost? Is it because they love him, or because his carcass is so small that they did not wish to charge for its transportation? Had he been an attorney for the roads he would have been entitled to these pasteboards, but now it is up to the "little giant" to tell us how and why these things are thus.

York Republican: The fusionists are simply compelled to charge that the republican state nominees are "corporation creatures." They can't say anything else against them, and that is false. J. H. Mickey was nominated for governor only because the republicans of the state wouldn't allow the corporations to nominate their own candidate. The corporations bound the fusion party hand and foot, bought it with passes and put it on their capacious fobs within three months after it elected its first set of state officers. Fusionists know this well. And everybody else knows it. That the republicans of Nebraska worked a political revolution and cast off the corporation political yoke in the last state and congressional conventions, is also well known. It could do no harm for the discarded fusion tools of corporation political managers to go back and sit down for awhile, and give their jaws a chance to cool off.

Columbus Journal: W. H. Thompson, the democratic nominee for governor, made an address last week before the League assembly being held at Fullerton. His subject was "Good Citizenship." While his address occupied less than twenty minutes he went back to Washington's time, then mentioned Monroe, Jefferson, Jackson and Lincoln, and although he could not have ended his remarks with a better man than Honest Old Abe, yet many who listened to his short speech wondered why, knowing our late lamented and martyred McKinley to have been a good and true Methodist, could not have had a few words. Is it possible that from a democratic standpoint a man who has been a statesman or good citizen is not worthy of mention until he shall have been dead 100 or even fifty years? Let us at least hope that as the years roll by, the men of the McKinley standard will largely increase, for we know that the world will be the better for it, because it is said of him, he was quiet, modest, dignified and considerate of others, and an ideal husband.

Nebraska City Daily: How silly people do get in a campaign! Mr. Mickey, the republican candidate, having saved money on his farm and in his bank, loaned a sum to a Polk county farmer; and, as is usual in such cases, took a first and second mortgage, the latter being for about $40, it being merely an interest mortgage. Of course, like all other second mortgages it covers the same property as the first instrument, consequently it shows a whole lot of security for such a small loan. Now a soulless opposition describes that mortgage in detail, using it to prove that Mr. Mickey is a Shylock, a venal vampire, and all those other things that a candidate becomes in the eye of an opponent. The fact of the matter is that upon nearly every encumbered property, there is one of these second mortgages, which shows a ridiculously large amount of security. It is the usual business way of making a loan, but that does not hinder people from attempting to make political capital out of it. As a matter of fact, if the farmer intended to pay the loan (and they all pay nowadays) it would make no difference how much property was named in the instrument; that would not make a cent's difference to the debtor. The Daily is not in politics, and it is neither working for nor against Mr. Mickey, but such cheap methods of campaigning deserve censure, no matter who is guilty of employing them.

OUR NON-RESIDENT CONGRESSMAN.

Wausa Gazette: The way Rosewater is pouring broadsides into his friend Mercer is a caution. Watch for results later.

Pawnee Republican: When Congressman Mercer said the editor of The Omaha Bee had "bats in his belfry," did he mean brickbats?

Beatrice Sun: It is often said of politicians that "The Bee is buzzing in their bonnet." Wonder if Mr. Mercer hears the buzzing of The Bee?

Ord Journal: The Omaha Bee acts as if it would not support Dave Mercer. That paper acted just the same way about Tom Majors in 1894. Tom didn't get elected.

Neligh Yeoman: The fusionists of the Second district will run G. M. Hitchcock of the World-Herald for congress. In this case a nomination for Mercer will not prove quite the equivalent of an election.

Grand Island Independent: Mr. Mercer thinks he would like to be nominated just about a week before Roosevelt comes to Omaha. Perhaps his idea is that Rosewater would be good for just a little while anyway.

Waterloo Gazette: Should Mercer be nominated by the republicans, Rosewater will be in the position of the historic gentleman who was between the devil and the deep, deep sea. And will he throw himself into the breach?

Stanton Picket: Whether Dave Mercer wins out or loses in his attempt to secure a congressional renomination for the sixth term, he is at present about the worst scared man beneath this clouded canopy, and scarcely a star in sight.

Fremont Tribune: A three-cornered congressional contest in the Second district with Mercer, Rosewater and Hitchcock as the candidates would be interesting. So would the spectacle of Rosewater supporting Hitchcock to beat Mercer.

Superior Journal: The orchestra has tuned up down in Omaha, the democrats nominating Gilbert M. Hitchcock, editor of the World-Herald, for congress. The real show will commence when Dave Mercer makes his try for renomination on the republican ticket.

Blue Springs Sentinel: Congressman Mercer insinuates that Editor Rosewater of The Bee is getting "nutty" and is growing a crop of bats. If those boys would realize the spectacle they were presenting to the people of the state they would swear off and quit.

Beatrice Times: From present indications Mr. Mercer is a dead duck so far as being a congressional candidate is concerned. It is very evident that The Bee will fight him, and in so close a district no candidate can stand the opposition of a powerful paper within his own party.

Alliance Herald: The glad tidings come from Omaha that Dave Mercer's star has set—that this servile tool of corporation greed is destined to never again take his seat in congress to misrepresent the people of the great commonwealth. The everlasting glory and credit for this certain-to-be-achieved result will belong to organized labor.

Geneva Signal: Editor Rosewater of the Omaha Bee intimates that as between Dave Mercer and Editor Hitchcock of the World-Herald, his ancient enemy, he is likely to support Hitchcock for congress. Hitchcock was given the fusion nomination in the Second district Saturday. If The Bee's allegiance is divided the interests of the state, congressional and county tickets may suffer.

Springfield Monitor: Should Dave Mercer again be nominated for congress in this district, and such a proceeding would not be strange, could it be possible that Rosewater would carry out his alleged threat and support the democratic nominee, since Hitchcock of the World-Herald is the candidate selected? Under such circumstances the editor of The Bee would no doubt come out as an independent candidate.

Stanton Register: In discussing the chances of success in the different congressional districts this fall a prominent republican said that Dave Mercer would be elected, as he had secured more "pork" for his district than any other congressman. "Pork" means large appropriations for public buildings and work. Now that is a great argument to advance for the election of a congressman. Ignore the fact that Omaha only retains Mercer as a resident because he gets office. Pass up the fact that in ten years Mercer has never made a speech or advanced an idea to benefit the nation. Overlook the fact that he has never made a speech defending republican principles that was worthy of reproduction. "Pork" seems to be the main thought in Mercer's success, but we are of the opinion that the taxpayers of the Second district want a man of ability to assist in making good laws; energy and talent to help make the nation better, rather than a man whose sole ambition is to get the greatest slice of the taxpayers' money to be used to help those who secure his election.

THE SAND OF TIME.

Manifestation of Nature's Changes in the Great Salt Lake.

New York Times.

If the great Salt Lake of Utah is drying up—and this is certain to be its fate unless its waters shall be early replenished from some source—it will mark but one of nature's slow changes on the face of a planet which to our casual view seems to be of permanent form. This body of salt water in the middle of a continent means as much to the geologist as the moraine of a glacier or the abandoned bed of a great stream. They are all footprints in a development, the history of which extends through the infinite ages. As far back as our written annals go the face of the earth has been practically as it is at present, and the most marked transformations that we know anything about are the eruptions of volcanoes, the extension of an ocean beach, the recession of a melting ice mass or the disappearing of a lake.

In no other way can we form so accurate an estimate of our own littleness as by standing off and contemplating the puny accomplishments of a generation. One man lives and dies, perhaps, at what we call "a ripe old age," and yet nature in his time has not thought it worth its while to make any material alteration in the surface of the globe. He notes in reminiscence vast changes that man has wrought, but the oceans, rivers and lakes are just where they used to be, the level of the land is the same, temperatures and climates are practically unchanged and the scheme of the world, although full of evidences of evolution, is as it was 100, 1,000 or 5,000 years ago. No fact is better calculated to make a human being realize what a mite he is after all, in spite of all the pomp and circumstance with which for a few years he passes in and out among his fellow men.

There are sermons of many different kinds in stones. If they have any message for the tribes of men it is that they are older, that they came into the world thousands (or is it millions?) of years before we did, and in the ordinary course of events will remain long after the proud spirit of mortal has fled its earthly haunts. The lifetime of a man is a minute or two in a geological age, and such an age is not long in the history of a planet. If we were oftener to pause and reflect a little upon the insensible impress which one lifetime makes upon the eternities we should find it of chastening effect. It is well that we should sometimes get a glimpse of nature's very deliberate operations in world building.

LINES TO A LAUGH.

Detroit Free Press: Lady—Do you have far to ride to your work?

Pat—I walk, mum. Th' doctor said me automobile was ruinin' me health.

Leslie's Weekly: "Waiter, what's all that noise like a pile-driving machine at work?"

"That's the cook pounding your beefsteak. You ordered tenderloin, I believe, sir."

Washington Star: "I shall sweep everything before me in this campaign," said the unscrupulous politician.

"I see," said his wife; "that explains what that rude person meant by saying you were out for the dust."

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "Is this my family tree? Well, well, what crooked limbs! There don't appear to be but two straight ones in the lot."

"Yes, noble patron. I straightened those in honor of your revered grandmother, the ballet dancer."

Philadelphia Press: "Does my boy," inquired the parent, "seem to have a natural bent in any one direction?"

"Yes, sir," said the teacher. "He gives every indication of being a captain of industry some day. He gets the other boys to do all his work for him."

Baltimore American: "You see, ma'am," began the professional beggar, "I got my arm scalded. I'll be glad to show you—"

"Never mind," interrupted Mrs. Kosidart. "You're only wasting your time here."

"Not at all, ma'am, my motto is: 'No trouble to show goods.'"

Chicago Tribune: Attorney—Now, then, sir, what is your name?

Greek Witness—Nolos Palatualaguagaro-latuopolisguilleranopo—.

The Court (interrupting)—That will do, sir, for purposes of identification. Proceed with the examination, Mr. Sharpe. We have other cases to try.

Brooklyn Life: Mrs. Dimpleton — Why don't you get your life insured?

Dimpleton—What's the use? I'm well enough, and I'll probably outlive you.

"Well, you always did look on the dark side."

Chicago Tribune: He thought it an effective way to propose.

"I'd be your caddy for life," he said.

"Very well," she replied. "Take my fan, stand to one side and watch for points while I play this game out. But remember that interruptions will spoil one's very best plays."

Then she began a desperate flirtation with his hated rival.

"I FIGHTS MIT SIGEL."

Grant P. Robinson.

I met him again, he was trudging along,
His knapsack with chickens was swelling;
He'd "Blenkered" these dainties, and thought it no wrong,
From one secessionist's dwelling.
"What regiment's yours? and under whose flag
Do you fight?" said I, touching his shoulder.
Turning slowly around he smiling said,
For the thought made him stronger and bolder:
"I fights mit Sigel."

The next time I saw him his knapsack was gone,
His cap and canteen were missing,
Shell, shrapnel and grape, and the swift rifle ball
Around him and o'er him were hissing.
"How are you, my friend, and were have you been,
And for what and for whom are you fighting?"
He said, as a shell from the enemy's gun
Sent his arm and his musket a kiting,
"I fights mit Sigel."

And once more I saw him and knelt by his side,
His life-blood was rapidly flowing;
I whispered of home, wife, children and friends,
The bright land to which he was going;
"And have you no word for the dear ones at home,
The wee one, the father or mother?"
"Yaw! Yaw!" said he, "tell them! Oh! tell them I fights—"
Poor fellow! he thought of no other—
"I fights mit Sigel."

We scraped out a grave, and he dreamlessly sleeps
On the banks of the Shenandoah river;
His home and his kindred alike are unknown,
His reward in the hands of the Giver.
We placed a rough board at the head of his grave,
And we left him alone in his glory,
But on it we marked ere we turned from the spot,
The little we knew of his story—
"I fights mit Sigel."