

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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CEO. B. TZSCHUCK. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 3rd day of September, A. D. 1902. M. B. HUNGAITE, Notary Public.

The way to irrigate is to irrigate with water—not with wind.

As a last resort we may all have to play foot ball to keep warm.

Present prospects are that a compromise will be effected in the contest over the Stratton will. The lawyers must have lost their grip.

Don't fool yourself that the meat packer's merger has been entirely abandoned. When it comes it will make its debut as a full-grown combination.

Several distinguished gentlemen seem to be impatiently waiting for the parties to the coal strike to adjust their differences and give them a chance to shout "I did it."

As soon as the American people get right down to business in dealing with them, the coal monopolists may find out to their sorrow that then there will be nothing to arbitrate.

It is to be hoped the crown prince of Siam has been sufficiently impressed with our military academy at West Point to advise his royal father on his return to keep out of trouble with the United States.

Senator Allison's version of the Iowa platform appears to be diametrically opposed to that put upon it by Speaker Henderson in his letter of withdrawal. Had the speaker borrowed the senator's spectacles when he read the document he might have stayed in the race.

Governor Savage cannot be deprived of the privilege Thanksgiving gives him of issuing at least one more proclamation during his official occupation of the executive mansion. There is danger, however, that he will omit the chief reason why Nebraskans will feel thankful.

Postal receipts are universally accepted as significant of general business conditions. The official revenue figures for the last fiscal year show up the largest in the history of the department. They enormously exceed the total for the preceding year, which had broken all records.

If William R. Hearst should be successful as a candidate for congress perhaps he will be able to transform that staid old journal, the Congressional Record, into a modern twentieth century, twenty-four edition daily newspaper that might find a purchaser now and then, if the price were placed low enough.

People must not get the idea that the decision of the Nebraska supreme court barring the bible from the public schools is due to the fact that the school book trust has no copyright on the volume. It is the constitution of Nebraska, prohibiting religious or sectarian instruction in the schools, that stands in the way.

Russell Sage has provided, with characteristic foresight, it appears, for the event of his death, so that the collateral held by him for loans can be released instantly when called for. But it is safe to gamble that he has provided, with equal foresight, that they shall not be released before payment of the loans in full has been made.

It is easy to put up a straw man and easier yet to knock him down. Colonel Bryan is wasting a great deal of lung power in the present campaign in pulverizing the Fowler currency bill, which has not passed either house of congress and has not the remotest chance of passing—first, because the people do not want it, and, lastly, because the bankers do not want it.

A CAMPAIGN OF SUBJUGATION.

When the anthracite coal operators spurned the earnest appeal of President Roosevelt to submit the differences between the mine operators and the mine workers to arbitration on any terms, it became manifest to the American people that the coal magnates were prosecuting a campaign of subjugation and extermination.

The conflict between the mine magnates and the mine workers has assumed international proportions and is naturally viewed with serious apprehension by the American people. Thoughtful men of all classes begin to realize that the issue raised by the controversy between the mine owners and the mine workers involves the very foundation of our industrial fabric and that the strike in Pennsylvania is simply the skirmish of the irremissible struggle that will have to be fought out by evolution or revolution.

In refusing to arbitrate and to deal with the coal miners' union the coal magnates plant themselves upon the old pro-slavery platform, and like the southern slave holders, who insisted that the regular army should be called out whenever necessary to enforce the fugitive slave law and protect them in the possession of human chattels, the coal barons insist that the whole machinery of government shall be exerted to perpetuate the old system of master and servant—the master to order and the servant to obey. While they are not content that the mine workers are mere chattels to be bought and sold, they desire their right to associate themselves for mutual betterment and protection, ignoring modern industrial conditions that have made it necessary for the men behind the machine to counteract the pressure of the taskmasters who operate the machine.

While political economists are trying to educate the people to the idea that capital and labor are married together for better or for worse on terms of mutual equality, the mine magnates want to turn the twentieth century clock back and force the resumption of the old relations that gave the master supreme control of his servants, to labor upon such terms as he chose to prescribe—the servant to be entirely at the master's mercy.

The evolution of colossal industrial concerns and the monopolization of commerce by rail and waterway in the hands of the Morgans, Rockefellers, Vanderbilts and Goulds has forced American wage workers to combine for mutual protection and these organizations constitute the bulwark of our citizenship against the encroachment of organized capital.

The subjugation of the American workmen, white or black, native or foreign, would sound the deathknell of American freedom, carrying in its train the political serfdom of the masses. The extermination of the workmen's unions would be followed by the degradation of the workers and the enthronement in power and place of an untitled nobility, the so-called captains of industry, whose highest aim is the absorption of all wealth and power.

These conditions are recognized by the president as calling for wise statesmanship and courageous action, always bearing in view the welfare of the masses. Changed conditions necessarily must be met by a change of laws and policies.

GOVERNOR ODELL'S POSITION.

The position of Governor Odell of New York in regard to the anthracite situation will be approved by the entire country. He holds the presidents of the coal-carrying railroads responsible and he proposes to use all the authority he possesses as the chief executive of the state in an effort to bring the arrogant and insolent coal barons to terms. There is the right spirit in the governor's declaration, in response to the impudent statement of Baer that "we will not accept political advice or allow the interference of politicians in this, our affair." Properly indignant at this supercilious avowal, Mr. Odell told the operators that being governor of New York, the chosen representative of 7,000,000 people, he was acting solely in that capacity, "and, what is more," he added, "I intend to use every power at my command to do it."

Again when the spokesman of the coal operators stated that they refused to recognize the union as represented by Mr. Mitchell, Governor Odell declared his belief that from a public point of view their position is absolutely untenable. "If coal operators, railroad men and other business men can combine for mutual profit and protection, there is no reason why laboring men should not." He said further that there is no good reason why the operators should not recognize the mine workers' union. Public sentiment is overwhelmingly on the side of Governor Odell in this respect. The operators assert that the organization of miners is an unlawful body and they have denounced its members as outlaws. That it is as legitimate as any other labor organization in the country seems to be unquestionable and the facts do not justify the charge made indiscriminately against its members. Some of them, it is true, have violated the laws, but it is manifestly most unjust to arraign as outlaws the entire organization, because of the misdeeds of a few of its members. As the assumption of the coal operators that the miners' union wants to run their business, it is utterly unreasonable and untenable. The miners have been ready at any time during the five months of the strike to submit their demands to impartial arbitration and abide by the result. This conclusively shows that they sought no undue advantage, but simply to secure the correction of conditions which they feel to be unfair. In short, the claims and assumptions of the operators are simply subterfuges and have no sound or substantial basis.

Governor Odell is a careful, conservative man and when he expressed the belief that he would find a remedy for

the unfair treatment of the public by the anthracite coal combine it may be confidently assumed that he had a substantial basis for his belief. It is also safe to say that he will not trifle with the matter, but will promptly and vigorously put in operation whatever powers the laws give him. The general public will regard with keen interest the development of the course in this very vital matter of the governor of New York.

PROTECTING ISTHMIAN TRANSIT.

American action in taking control of the Panama railroad and refusing to allow the Colombian government to transport troops over the line, has raised the question whether this is not an infringement of the sovereign rights of Colombia which the treaty obligation of the United States does not justify. Admiral Casey's explanation of the action is that it was necessary to maintain free transportation, since allowing the Colombian government to transport troops and war material along the line would be provoking to the revolutionists and might cause an interruption of traffic.

While this is plausible, it is pointed out that such a course does not find warrant in the treaty and therefore furnishes just cause of complaint and protest on the part of the government of Colombia. The treaty, negotiated fifty-six years ago, under which the United States assumed the obligation of maintaining free and uninterrupted transit across the Isthmus of Panama, declares that in guaranteeing the perfect neutrality of the isthmus "the United States also guarantees the rights of sovereignty and property which New Granada (now Colombia) has and possesses over the said territory." Our government has hitherto been very careful to respect this stipulation. Thus when in 1885 the United States intervened in the isthmus the forces sent there were instructed to be mindful of the rights of Colombia and to confine their actions to positively and efficaciously preventing the transit and its accessories from being "interrupted or embarrassed."

The situation there was perhaps less serious than at present and the American intervention operated to the advantage of the Colombian government. Possibly it will do so now, but it appears not to be so regarded by that government and it is manifestly desirable to avoid an impairment of friendly relations with Colombia. The condition of affairs in that republic is grave and it is by no means assured that the revolution will not succeed, but our government, while faithfully fulfilling its obligation, should not invade any right of Colombia as a sovereign state. Undoubtedly there is no such intention at Washington and it is safe to say that whatever may be necessary to reassure the Colombian government will be done.

LENGTH OF THE COLLEGE COURSE.

In his first annual report to the trustees of Columbia university President Nicholas Murray Butler declares himself squarely for cutting the college course required for the A. B. degree to two years. This recommendation comes in answer to the protest against keeping students too long in college before launching them upon the active professional career which is the goal of their collegiate instruction and transfers them into the income-producing class. In an exhaustive discussion of the subject President Butler points out how the standard of college work has been steadily raised until the bachelor's degree granted at the end of a four years' course no longer represents what it did three or four decades ago, but far more than was required then, when young men as a rule finished at college before attaining their majority, instead of as at an average age upwards of 23. The requirements for entrance today, he insists, are equal to what would formerly give admission to the junior year, while the instruction formerly constituting the first two years of the college course is now secured in the high schools and preparatory academies before the student seeks enrollment at college.

The idea advanced by President Butler is to retain the present four years' course, but to rearrange it so that it will include a lesser course of two years, the latter to be a prerequisite to further study in the professional schools leading to degrees in law, medicine, science and theology, while the former would be offered to those desiring a more complete culture course capped with the A. M. degree, or bent on pursuing the more exacting researches for which the doctor's degree is the prize achieved.

That the tendency is everywhere toward a shorter college course and more strict requirements for admission to the professional schools is plainly visible. In all the larger educational institutions the development of the elective system has been to substitute for the last year of the college course the first year's work in medicine, law or advanced science for those who figure on continuing professional studies at the same institution, but discriminating to the extent of a year's instruction against students from other institutions. To an unprejudiced mind this handicap in the professional schools on graduates of other colleges as against those from the collegiate department of the same university has never appeared justifiable. In the field of higher education, if nowhere else, pure democracy should rule and merit alone win, with each competitor accorded equal terms with every other. That in itself proves the unreasonable and untenable character of the present college course with intermittent fourth year and affords the basis for President Eliot's move at Harvard to grant the bachelor's degree at the end of the third year without deferment to students completing the required work and the present recommendation of President Butler, which would doubtless be denounced in many quarters as revolutionary.

The college course is in a state of flux just at present—it is headed in the direction outlined by President Butler, but to carry it the whole distance he advocates

will take considerable time. So far as the western colleges are concerned, especially those supported as state universities out of public funds, the safe plan is to keep close to established usage until the eastern institutions with large private endowments that enable them to experiment freely get nearer to equilibrium by solving the more perplexing part of the problem.

TARIFF COMMISSION PLAN.

There appears to be some misapprehension in regard to the tariff commission plan suggested by President Roosevelt. It is explained that what the president contemplates is not such a commission as that of twenty years ago, but a permanent body, whose function should be not to frame tariff laws and fix tariff rates, but to furnish the necessary data upon which congress may do these things. For example, it is pointed out that in the matter of hides nobody knows, definitely and conclusively, what the effect of the duty has been upon the price of hides in this country and in South America, its effect on the domestic leather manufacture, or on the export trade in boots and shoes, or even on the domestic prices of those articles. It is suggested that if an inquiry were made along this line by men having the public confidence their conclusion would go a long way towards lessening the friction between east and west which every mention of the subject now creates.

There is consensus of opinion that a tariff commission like that of 1882 would be practically useless, as was the case with that one, but perhaps such a commission as the president is understood to contemplate, having the single purpose of furnishing congress with information as to the effect of schedules, would be valuable. There seems, however, to be no great interest taken in the commission suggestion and it is not likely to be favorably regarded by congress.

CANAL TRANSPORTATION.

A question before the people of New York which is of interest to the producers of the northwest is that of improving canal transportation between the lakes and tidewater. Both parties in that state are in favor of canal improvement, recognizing that there is a situation where the commercial supremacy of New York City is threatened because the canal system has not been sufficiently improved to meet the requirements of commerce. There is a difference, however, as to plans, and this may for the time being prove fatal to the proposition.

Sooner or later the Erie canal will have to be enlarged and deepened, if New York City is not to lose a material part of its commerce. For several years other commercial points have been drawing trade from the metropolis and those who have given intelligent consideration to the matter express the belief that this loss must go on and probably become more serious in the future if canal transportation is not improved. The question of doing this has been discussed for years, but of course the railroad influence is against such improvement, for the obvious reason that its effect would be to keep down freight rates during most of the year. Besides it would involve a heavy expenditure, estimated at not less than \$85,000,000, and this naturally causes a considerable opposition to the project. The matter is before the people of the Empire state in the present campaign, but no confident prediction can be made as to what their verdict will be. Western producers would welcome such canal improvement as is proposed.

RELICS OF OTHER DAYS.

The open car is still doing its best to keep up the pleasant fiction in the public mind that artificial warmth is not needed, and in its aid to the imagination may be considered in the light of a public benefactor.

INNOCENCE ABROAD.

General Dewet was much impressed by his reception in Brussels and naively declares: "In the presence of this enthusiasm we ask ourselves why was there no intervention?" Evidently the general hasn't learned that shouting is exhilarating—and cheap.

WILL WONDERS NEVER CEASE?

An organization of Pullman porters has been formed to stop the tipping practice. If the members use the proper amount of violence they will probably be able to prevent people from yielding too much to the habit that has become so obnoxious to the porters.

HOW THE NATION GROWS.

In his address at the cornerstones laying of a new custom house in New York Secretary Shaw said: "Since 1860 our population has multiplied two and one-half, while our foreign commerce has multiplied by three and one-third." The figures are accessible to everybody, but this was a new way of presenting them.

TURNING FROM THE CITIES.

Among the tendencies of the times none is more gratifying than those that are gradually making rural life less objectionable to the best elements of our society. The tide of rural exodus to the city shows some signs of turning. Those who have been leaving the old farms have more and more dispositions to turn back. The rush of rural communities cityward is being stayed and the country districts show more and more marked signs of being rescued from desolation. Certainly no more hopeful indication was possible. City life stands, on the whole, for mental, moral and physical deterioration.

RITONERS LIVING IN AMERICA.

Almost no traveler from a foreign land comes here who does not express astonishment at our luxury. It is, at least, in certain sections of the country, the most obvious feature of our civilization. Gorgeous apparel, homes that are palaces, feasts that are frequently marked by such splendor as almost to stagger the imagination, superb equipages and a riotousness in entertainments and amusements that we have to go back centuries to find precedents for—these things are so painfully familiar. They have become so much a matter of course as no longer to excite much comment.

NORMAL PRODUCTION OF HARD COAL.

During the last fiscal year the total anthracite coal production amounted to 67,471,667 tons and the total bituminous coal production of the United States amounted to 224,799,961 tons. In the same period the total imports of coal, chiefly from British America, amounted to 1,441,422 tons and the exports of anthracite and bituminous amounted to 6,971,184 tons. The whole domestic coal consumption, anthracite and bituminous, last year amounted to 277,270,866 tons, or a little more than three and a half tons for each head of the population, exclusive of Porto Rico. In spite of the enormous supply there did not appear to be any great plethora of coal production in the country last year.

air of respectability, armed with all the weapons of wealth and influence in business, political and social circles, thus strike a dagger to the heart of free institutions and yet escape the punishment which would overtake the humble offender.

The only remedy is in the hands of the people themselves. The penalty of the law must be enforced upon the corporation criminals, however high and arrogant, who corrupt government to sordid ends, no less than upon renegade officials who make merchandise of their places. The movement at St. Louis which has placed behind prison bars a wealthy professional corruptionist and corporation briber is worthy of universal emulation.

What if the merger bosses assume not to recognize labor organizations? The fact of labor organization nevertheless exists and will have to be dealt with. Combination of workmen in the line of their common interests is as much a development of industrial conditions as combination on the capitalistic side. It cannot be got rid of by attempting to ignore it. It is one of the towering facts of the industrial and social situation of the present age, to which willingly or unwillingly, foolishly or wisely, adjustment must in the end be made.

If it turns out to be true that the Union Pacific shops at North Platte are not to be pulled up by the roots because the citizens of North Platte are willing to do penance and crawl on their narrow bones before Bombastes John N. Baldwin, the people of Grand Island, Sidney and Cheyenne will have good grounds for a damage suit to compensate them for the disappointment and the false hopes held out that the repair work heretofore done at North Platte would be transferred to their towns as a reward for good behavior.

The late New York democratic state convention is said to have contained among its membership prominent democrats who had not participated in party organization since the nomination of Bryan in 1896. Colonel Bryen has repeatedly declared that these men are not democrats and have no place in any democratic body, but in New York they seem to repudiate the Bryan definition as to what constitutes a democrat.

The bribe giver, as much as the bribe taker, is dangerous to society, although the offense of the latter is not to be excused. But if government is to be purged of corruption, punishment must be meted out to those who poison the very sources of authority and who for personal ends or corporation greed offer temptations to men in public place.

THAWING OUT HEROISM.

Like all other great disasters, the strike is bringing out some phenomenal heroism. Of this class is the statement of a gas company in Brooklyn that it will run its works at a loss rather than see the public suffer.

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MAKING PEOPLE GO TO CHURCH.

The Old-Fashioned Way of Earnest, Beautiful Service.

New York Mail and Express. "Why do not workmen go to church?" That is a question which certain pastors have been trying to find an answer to, by the aid of a systematic inquiry—a sort of personal canvass. The answer to it seems at first blush to be decidedly easy. Workmen do go to church. All workmen do not go, to be sure, but millions do. Church attendance is no more a matter of class than labor itself is. Nearly all Americans are decidedly workers. Possibly it should be explained that the inquiry was directed toward clearing up the point why so many manual laborers abstain from church attendance. That makes the proposition considerably simpler; and yet it is in no sense surprising that the inquirers found themselves completely baffled. The workmen who did not go to church hardly knew, themselves, why they did not go, except that they did not care to.

The utility of such personal inquiry ought to suggest itself, perhaps, by this time. Religious people are agreed that, if great numbers of people do not wish to go to church, it is desirable to make them wish to go by rendering the services more attractive to them. Out of this conclusion many undignified proceedings have sprung, which, though they may have attracted masses of people, must in the long run have operated to make still more people feel that they did not want to go to church. Among such meretricious attractions ought to be classed the girl whistlers and their solos, and all sorts of mountebank performances and utterances in the pulpit and out of it. These aids are to be classed, roughly of course, with yellow journalism. Their purpose is to excite people's curiosity—to make them come to see what the erratic minister or the fantastic choir-master is going to do next.

The old-fashioned way of making people want to go to church—the method of giving them a simple, earnest, beautiful service of adoration and heartfelt worship—still serves quite as well as any other. Services of this sort are not confined to any church or denomination. They are to be found, and properly enjoyed, in all the large denominations at least. Every person has his particular notion of the form that his adoration should take, and for that reason there are the two-and-seventy sects. There is in our diverse, our many-sided American church, a religion for everybody. The doors of the churches are wide open. They are not only willing to welcome anybody—they are anxious. There is no church so rich, no church so exclusive, but that the decently-clad workman may find a place there, at one end or another; and if the church or churches so well attended that ordinarily no place is left for the stranger, those churches at least must have solved the problem of attraction.

ALWAYS THE GRAND OLD ARMY.

Memories Awakened by the Encampment at Washington.

More than a third of a century ago the grizzled and tattered survivors of the great national tragedy in history paraded the streets of Washington. Ten years ago representatives of the strongest civic organization ever perfected by war veterans, those who were left of the former magnificent armies went over the old line of march. For the third time the capitol of the nation which they preserved is receiving them; the men who fought the mightiest battles of modern time. They were not an army trained to the mechanical arts of war, but rallied as patriots from the paths of industry and peace. They were the worthy sons of revolutionary fathers joining with the equally worthy sons of an adopted country.

There is no new lesson to be gathered from this assemblage of the thinned ranks whose blood warms to the temperature of youth as they clasp hands and fight their battles over again. It is no truer now than at the close of the civil war that its veterans exemplified the spirit which should inspire American citizenship whenever the constitutional or territorial integrity of the government is assailed. Time adds to the appreciation of their sacrifices and consequent achievements and the highest praise will come from the future generations that reap in full the consequent harvest of blessings. There is sadness that their number grows less, that their step is not so quick or steady, and that the gray of age contrasts with the blue of the service, but they are the remnant of the grand old army to whose glory no decoration, no more praise of words can add lustre or durability.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

Coal oil shows a tendency to go up, as usual.

All accounts agree that the coal mine presidents are earning their salaries these days.

The annual Veiled Prophets' parade in St. Louis this year had its luster dimmed by the unveiling of the fronts around the city hall.

The revolution in Colombia is believed to be on its last leg. The leader of the insurgents broke the other by falling off a horse.

A member of the Cleveland city council has been acquitted of the charge of bribery. None of his pals could be induced to sue him in the St. Louis key.

It would be well for the Universal Peace union to note that the richest man in Germany is Krupp, the gunmaker, who pays taxes on an annual income of \$5,000,000.

New Yorkers are bracing themselves to meet with becoming courage the horrors of the coal famine when the elevators in the skyscrapers are obliged to stop running.

The time recently to navigate the tropics was between Havana and Hong Kong will enable Consul General Bragg to contemplate the folly of monkeying with an automatic kicker.

With a record of 180 earthquake shocks in twenty-four hours the vernal side of Guam ought to be able to shake down that annual appropriation which congress doled out at the last session.

Several hundred paragoners have announced with grave gravity that "Admiral Casey is at the bat" in Panama. As the admiral wears boots it is confidently believed he will make a base hit.

Only a small proportion of the total population here from Missouri, but before swarming to tackle Russell Sage the other day, turned down a \$5,000 bunch of hoodle the other millions will accept Missouri as an abiding place long enough to exclaim, "You'll have to show me."

A bunch of chills and fever and a robust case of bronchitis were somehow persuaded to tackle Russell Sage the other day. Where are those playful microbes now? Russell shook 'em off as a terrier would a mouse and with all the energy of his being resolutely refused to cough up. He is built that way.

Signs of the times point to a mild winter. Wooden houses are plentiful in Connecticut. New York city streets are not storing winter supplies. Michigan heavers are still in the woods, red eared corn is unusually plentiful in Illinois, goose bones presage a winterless season in Iowa, and the festive groundhog is nervously chomping his shadow in Nebraska. Let's be merry while it lasts, but don't forget the coal bin.

BLASTS FROM RAM'S HORN.

The weeping religion is seldom a working one.

Paint on the pipe will not purify the water.

Sympathy for others is a salve for our own sorrows.

The supreme art of living may be summed up in giving.

Life is a man's opportunity for the realization of his ideals.

Effervescent preaching can produce but effervescent practice.

The registers of heaven are not copied from the records of earth.

The noise made by some churches is but the rattling of dead bones.

The lights of the world are not illumined by the fires of controversy.

Grief is God's way of providing us with the oil of comfort for others.

When ambition is the child of envy it will be the mother of sorrows.

The opportunity is always ready for the man who is ready for the opportunity. It is no use getting up the steam of zeal so long as you are choked up with the rust of prejudice.

The devil invites us to fight for the ornaments of the church while he steals the whole building.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES.

Brooklyn Life: He—Did you know I was going to propose? She—Why, I didn't see how you could help yourself.

Town Topics: "What did the lovers quarrel about?" These aids are to be classed, roughly of course, with yellow journalism. Their purpose is to excite people's curiosity—to make them come to see what the erratic minister or the fantastic choir-master is going to do next.

Brooklyn Free Press: Mr. Bore—There is nothing pleasanter than to talk to the one you love best.

Brooklyn Eagle: "Mrs. Storm is a great advocate of woman's rights. Have you ever heard her discourse on the subject?" "No; I've never heard her get any further than woman's records."

Philadelphia Record: Ethel—What is more aggravating than a man who tells you of his love and never mentions matrimony? Edith—Oh, a man who tells you of his money and never mentions matrimony.

Philadelphia Press: "Ah!" joyfully exclaimed the old-fashioned man, whose she had accepted. "I was determined to win you." "Yes," she replied, "but I didn't think you would stoop so low."

Philadelphia Press: "He's quite a star as an after-dinner speaker, isn't he?" "Star? He's a regular moon. He becomes brighter the fuller he gets."

Sketch: Doctor—I am very glad to tell you, Mrs. Hodges, that your husband will recover, after all.