

THE ILLUSTRATED BEE.

Published Weekly by The Bee Publishing Company, Bee Building, Omaha, Neb.

Price, 5c Per Copy—Per Year, \$2.00.

Entered at the Omaha Postoffice as Second Class Mail Matter.

For Advertising Rates Address Publisher.

Communications relating to photographs or articles for publication should be addressed, "Editor The Illustrated Bee, Omaha."

Pen and Picture Pointers

**B**EGINNING as a rodman with a surveying party which laid out a little jerkwater railroad over the sand bluffs between Dallas and Quincy, Ill., a road since known to fame as the Carthage & Quincy, J. F. Wallace has risen to the position of general manager of one of the really great railroads of the United States. In the interim since 1869, when he occupied his humble position of assistant to the man with the instrument, Mr. Wallace has filled a host of important billets, so that he brings to his new position a ripened experience gained in active railroad service. Mr. Wallace is a native of Massachusetts, being



GILBERT M. HITCHCOCK, CONGRESSMAN-ELECT FROM THE SECOND NEBRASKA DISTRICT, supervising the expenditure of over \$100,000,000. He has many friends in Omaha, who were among the first to congratulate him when he was given the position of general manager of the Illinois Central system some weeks ago.

It hasn't been a very long time since the United States government entered seriously on the work of forest preservation. President Cleveland issued the proclamation setting aside the first forest reserves during his second term of office. His successors have fully recognized the importance of the work then commenced, and have added both to the domain under the protection of the rangers and to the scope of their usefulness until the position of forest ranger has come to be looked upon as one really worth the respect of the citizens. In the mountain countries the people were at first inclined to resent the interference of the authorities with the freedom of the timber, but they now see the matter in its true light and give cheerful assistance to the plans of the general government for conserving the standing timber. One of the greatest burdens laid on the ranger is the prevention of fire. During the fall months this is the cause of ceaseless vigilance and worry, for then the grass is dry and the dead pine needles of years gone by afford the best imaginable material for feeding a wild fire. No one who never experienced the fact can in the remotest degree understand how quickly a fire will run through timber carpeted with pine needles. All that is needed is for a spark to fall in a bed and then it's a race. Careless hunters are mainly responsible for the destructive fires that rage through the woods of the mountains and these are objects of constant solicitude on the part of the forest rangers. Many a man has been given a salutary lesson in the art of being careful by these quiet men who ride their range in the pine timber throughout the year. In the prevention of fires alone the rangers have more than repaid the cost of maintaining the services, and in the fighting of the fires that have started in spite of their watchfulness they have been of inestimable service.

Four generations were represented at the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Schroeder at Calhoun, Neb., Saturday, November 8. This venerable couple has lived at Calhoun for eighteen years and has a friendship as wide as its circle of acquaintances. Though in his seventy-eighth year, Mr. Schroeder danced with every woman, young and old, who danced at the reception in the evening following the ceremonies during the day. The youngest and

most vivacious youth showed no more interest and pleasure in the events of that day than this old gentleman, nearing the sunset of life, who, when the American flag was hoisted from the city hall where the golden wedding ceremonies were held, was able to count a descendant for every star in that proud emblem. Mrs. Schroeder was at the dance and witnessed the gaiety with keenest delight, but did not participate. "I am old and have reared a large family, but tonight I must dance to the music of one of my boys," jocularly remarked the aged father as he whirled past the orchestra led by his son John from Council Bluffs. Christopher Schroeder was born in Kreis Ploen, Holstein, Germany, March 23, 1825, and Catherina D. Kay was born at the same place August 3, 1827. Since childhood the lives of these two have been blended. Catherina Kay became Mrs. Schroeder November 8, 1852. Only the year before their union Mr. Schroeder had returned from war, where he had served his native country since 1847 in its famous struggle against Denmark, known as the rebellion of Schleswig-Holstein. He fought valiantly in the battles of Schleswig, Hadersleben, Gluesburg, Kolding, Breitz, Friederig, Isted and Friederickstad. Having returned from these four years of military strife, young Schroeder chose for his life occupation that of farming. He settled down in 1852 with his young wife and from then on has been successful. So successful, in fact, was he that by 1884, when he brought his wife and family to America and settled at Calhoun he was able to retire from active labors and begin the enjoyment of the fruits of his busy and industrious career. He has lived continuously at Calhoun, a retired farmer, where he and Mrs. Schroeder find their greatest pleasure in their children and children's children. Ten children have blessed this union and seven of these are living. All were at the golden wedding of their venerable parents save one or two who were unavoidably detained elsewhere.



FAMILY GROUP AT THE GOLDEN WEDDING OF MR. AND MRS. CHRISTOPHER SCHROEDER AT FORT CALHOUN, Neb.—Photo by a Staff Artist.

So, large was the concourse of relatives and friends, many of whom were from Omaha, that the ceremonies had to be held in the town hall. Rev. Mr. Thiele of Omaha officiated in the performance of the golden wedding ceremony. At the supper which followed in the evening 150 guests were present.

About a year ago, realizing the necessity of a school of domestic science in Omaha, the Sisters of Mercy established such an institution at St. Katherine's academy, and when it had been equipped, like many others who would help others to help themselves, they found that the present necessity was not so much for the school where this science might be taught, as for some medium of stimulating sufficient interest in household economics to furnish pupils for such a school. Accordingly the sisters set about the task of creating such an interest. A meeting was called of all women interested and by means of chafing dish demonstrations, lectures, musicales and like entertainments in the line of the home science work an organization was finally effected, its object being to extend the interest in household economics. It is known as the Home Queens' circle and has this fall resumed its meetings with an enthusiasm that promises to insure success. Many pupils have been brought into the school through its influence and a series of entertainments has been planned for this winter for the benefit of a fund that will give the school's training to many deserving young women who would otherwise be unable to receive it.

Hitchcock is a son of Omaha, having been born in this city, where, except for a few years devoted to his education, he has spent all of his forty-three years. Although admitted to the bar, he has pursued journalism as a profession since 1885 as publisher of the Evening World and later the World-Herald. Although of republican antecedents, he has been for many years closely identified with the democratic party, by whose convention he was nominated to congress. His election over Congressman David H. Mercer by a plurality approximating 1,800 in a district strongly republican is ascribable to peculiarly abnormal conditions that proved specially favorable to him.

The Bee has already presented its readers portraits of five of the successful candidates for congress at the recent election who have now become members-elect for Nebraska of the Fifty-eighth congress and herewith presents the sixth, Gilbert M. Hitchcock of Omaha, who will represent the Second district after March 4, 1903. Mr.

Rev. E. Comble Smith, who is to fill the pastorate of the First Methodist church of Omaha, was born in 1864 at Newcastle-on-the-Tyne, England. He was educated at Percy's academy and at Cambridge university. He came to the United States when 22 years of age. Rev. Smith has been in the ministry in Kansas for ten years, the last three years being spent in Leavenworth. He began his career in Robinson, Kan., and was in that place for eighteen months; spent one year in Muscotah, Kan., was in Seneca for five years and the remainder of the time has been pastor of the First Methodist church of Leavenworth. Mr. Smith is a trustee of Baker university, the large Methodist school of Kansas situated at Baldwin, Kan., and has filled the dual office of president and registrar of the Kansas conference board of examiners for several years. When Mr. Smith went to Leavenworth he found his church in debt to the amount of \$6,500, but by hard work he has succeeded in reducing it to \$1,500. Regarding his call to the Omaha church, Mr. Smith said: "I am very much pleased with the call; in fact, I feel quite flattered by it, and I am looking forward to a period of very successful work in Omaha. I am very much pleased with the outlook there."



REV. E. COMBLE SMITH, D. D., NEW PASTOR OF FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF OMAHA.

born at Fall River. He attended college at Monmouth, Ill., leaving there during his junior year to take the position with the surveying party which determined his life's work. He has risen to fame as an engineer, being a member of the Institute of Civil Engineers of Great Britain and a past president of three of the leading American engineering societies. Chronologically, his railroad career is as follows: Started railroad life as rodman, Carthage & Quincy railroad, in 1869; in 1870, chief engineer and superintendent Peoria & Farmington; 1881, chief engineer Iowa Central in Illinois; 1882, superintendent of same road; 1883, master of trains Iowa Central in Iowa; 1887, appointed engineer of bridges Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe, and had charge of the construction of bridges over the Missouri river; resident engineer Chicago, Madison & Northern at Chicago in 1889; became engineer of construction of the Illinois Central in 1891; chief engineer in 1892; assistant second vice president in 1898; assistant general manager in 1901 and general manager in 1902; married Sarah E. Ulmer at Monmouth, Ill., September 11, 1871. During the last ten years Mr. Wallace has been responsible for the splendid physical condition of the Illinois Central,

Lineman's Adventure With a Lunatic

**W**ALL meet with strange adventures in this world, I guess," said an old lineman, quoted by the Cincinnati Enquirer, "but I think I had an experience that beats many. While engaged with the Bell Telephone company, I was sent out one day to find the trouble between the office and the insane hospital at Indianapolis. 'Shooting trouble' is what we called it. I followed the line all the way out and found the difficulty lay between a forty-foot pole and the 'p'che in the men's building. "An attendant escorted me from place to place, but while I was in the hall examining the telephone he was called away. I was busy with my work when a hand was laid on my shoulder and a voice at my elbow said: "Say, is that the safe where you put my money?" "Astounded, I looked up, and into the face of an elderly man, who looked every inch the gentleman, being neatly and carefully dressed. For a moment I was too much surprised to answer, for his appearance at first belied the inference I drew from his question, but a closer observation revealed an unnatural expression in his eyes; so, remembering where I was, I knew he was a maniac. Thinking to humor him, I said: "Yes, I put it there; it is a good place for it." "Quick as a flash he caught up a heavy stool that was standing near and brought it down with all his might on the telephone, crushing it. "Give it to me, quick—quick!" he

gasped, but I didn't stop to give him anything, but just started on a run for the door, and there met the attendant, who soon quieted the poor fellow and led him away. "I had to make another trip to the city for another telephone, and as it was late by this time I didn't go back until the next day. When I got out there I found several 'trusties' guarded by their keepers working in the garden. I saw my friend of the day before busy with a large knife topping turnips. He glanced up at me, and I saw a quick, angry gleam shoot into his eyes. "I had to climb a tree in an isolated part of the yard to unfasten a wire that had in some way caught on a limb. I connected my test set and called up the wire chief and explained the case to him, so with the work I had done and talking to him twenty minutes must have passed. I started to get down, and when I reached the lower limb looked for a place to drop. But I didn't drop, for there, standing at the foot of the tree, stood my crazy man, the knife still in his hand. "Come down!" he yelled. "I know you. You are the man that stole my \$5,000. Give it up to me or I will kill you, you thief! Come down or I will come up there and cut your heart out!" "But I didn't come. I scrambled higher and yelled for help, though none came. "The maniac found a heavy board near, and placing it against the tree, started to climb up, but in his hurry and excitement he did not place it securely, and when he was about half way up it slipped and he went sprawling to the ground. He got on

his feet and tried it once more. Again and again he tried it, but it would slip and throw him. Several times, however, he came within an inch of reaching the lower limb, from which he could have easily climbed up to where I was. "About this time another inmate came sauntering along and at once took a hand in the game and held the plank for my friend, who soon made good headway, and I saw in a few moments he would reach me. "I yelled again, but no one came. At that instant an idea flashed into my brain. I quickly attached the test set and called the wire chief at the office. "For heaven's sake, call up the Insane hospital and tell them to send help to me or I am a dead man! There are two lunatics after me, and one of them is coming up the tree with a knife a foot long! Hurry, hurry, for God's sake!" "With a surprised exclamation he cut me out. I looked down and found the man was in the tree, and was coming toward me, snarling like a wildcat. "Closer he came, until he was just below me, when he seated himself on a large limb, and, flourishing the knife, yelled: "Look at this. Ain't it a beaut? Won't it cut you, though? It is sharp, sharp! I will cut you up like a steak!" "He started toward me, and had one hand on my foot, and I had just raised the other to kick him, when several keepers rushed up; two of them climbed the tree, and just as he raised to knife to strike they reached him and threw a rope around him. So intent was he on doing for me that he did not see them, and was easily taken."

New Cup Defender

**N**OW that the contract to build a cup defender has been signed and the Herreshoffs are fairly at work on the new yacht, says the New York Sun, those yachtsmen who take more than a passing interest in the coming international races and the plans made for the defense of the cup are wondering what kind of a craft Nat Herreshoff will turn out. A few members of the club have seen the plans for the new boat and are very much pleased with them. No very radical departure has been made from the models of Columbia and Constitution. These models have proved to be the fastest in former races and it would not be safe to abandon them and try to develop a freak boat that might or might not be a success. In model it is understood there is very little apparent difference between the new boat and Constitution. In the new boat Herreshoff will correct the errors of Constitution and develop more strongly the good points of Columbia. In general dimensions the only difference in Columbia and Constitution was in the beam, Constitution having ten inches more than Columbia. Each boat was ninety feet on the water line, 132 feet over all and nineteen feet ten inches draught. They carried the same amount of lead on the keels, and it was the extra beam of Constitution that enabled it to carry its big increase of sail. This extra beam without increased over all length gave to Constitution a somewhat clumsy appearance when compared with Columbia and this chunkiness may have had something to do with its inability to

turn to windward in a rough sea as Columbia did. In the new boat, it is said, this error will be corrected and the new aspirant for cup honors will be longer over all than Constitution or Columbia. Compared with Columbia and Shamrock, Constitution was very high-sided and when heeled it presented quite a big surface of hull, which must have been detrimental to it in turning to windward. Constitution had about three inches more freeboard than Shamrock II. Three inches does not seem much in a vessel as big as a modern cup defender, but three inches less on 132 feet, the over-all length, means a saving of forty-four square feet of surface. It is not thought that the new boat will carry any larger sail spread than Constitution. It would not be surprising if it had less sail and thus possibly would get time from Constitution and from Shamrock III if it should be selected to defend the cup. The assembling of the material to build the new boat will begin very shortly, and then as soon as the south shop has been cleared out the new yacht will begin to grow. A steam yacht occupies the south shop at the present, but it will be launched in a few days.

Will Buy a Home

It is reported that the new German ambassador, Charlemagne Tower, intends purchasing the Bleichroder palace, which, with its picture gallery and luxurious furnishings, is one of the finest houses in Berlin.