THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Daily Bee (without Sunday), One Year.$4.00
Daily Bee and Sunday, One Year..... 6.00
Illustrated Bee, One Year..... 2.00
Sunday Bee, One Year..... 2.00
Saturday Bee, One Year..... 1.00
Twentieth Century Farmer, One Year.. 1.00

DELIVERED BY CARRIER.

Daily Bee (without Sunday), per copy.... 2c
Daily Bee (without Sunday), per week...12c
Daily Bee (including Sunday), per week..17c
Sunday Bee, per copy 5c
Evening Bee (without Sunday), per week 6c
Evening Bee (including Sunday), per week.....10c

Complaints of irregularities in delivery should be addressed to City Circulation Department.

OFFICES.

Omaha—The Bee Building.
South Omaha—City Hall Building, Twenty-fifth and M Streets.
Council Bluffs—10 Pearl Street.
Chicago—1640 Unity Building.
New York—2328 Park Row Building.
Washington—501 Fourteenth Street.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed: Omaha Bee, Editorial Department.

BUSINESS LETTERS.

Business letters and remittances should be addressed: The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha.

REMITTANCES.

Remit by draft, express or postal order, payable to The Bee Publishing Company. Only 2-cent stamps accepted in payment of mail accounts. Personal checks, except on Omaha or eastern exchange, not accepted.

THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss:
George B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of October, 1902, was as follows:

1	30,700	17	31,820
2	30,930	18	31,450
3	31,190	19	30,400
4	30,970	20	32,240
5	29,350	21	32,330
6	31,290	22	31,570
7	30,910	23	31,740
8	31,070	24	32,150
9	31,000	25	31,140
10	31,160	26	29,255
11	32,090	27	31,070
12	29,920	28	31,090
13	31,350	29	31,630
14	31,230	30	32,300
15	31,040	31	31,330
16	32,700		

Total 969,615
Less unsold and returned copies..... 9,872

Net total sales.....959,743
Net average sales..... 30,959

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

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

Whether the packing industries have merged or not seems to have little effect on meat prices.

Governor-elect Mickey may hope that his troubles at the pie dispensary will prove to be the worst of his tribulations.

It would not seem natural to install a set of newly elected officers in this county without having at least one place contested.

It seems as if a Pacific ocean steamship line has become a necessary adjunct of every well regulated transcontinental railroad system.

It is a pretty safe bet that Speaker Henderson is right when he says there will be little legislation at the short session of congress aside from appropriations.

The degree of the generosity of railroad companies in increasing wages can be better judged when it is learned whether the public is to pay the increase.

With school teachers in Chicago unionizing and school boys going on strike it is about time for some one to move that the temporary organization be made permanent.

Secretary Root very aptly characterized the United States as the biggest labor union ever organized, and that is why New Mexico, Arizona and Oklahoma want to join the union.

For some reason or other the county surveyor's measurements of railroad mileage in Omaha figure out several times the mileage which the railroads return to the state board for taxation.

It should be distinctly understood that the uncomplimentary things the popocratic organ says about political judges refers only to republicans on the bench. Note an exception for the popocratic judge.

A large number of Omaha jobbing houses would like to expand, but cannot find suitable quarters to accommodate their growing needs. Omaha will have to erect a large number of new warehouses within a very short time.

It took twenty-five years of discussion in and out of congress to lead up to provision for the establishment and maintenance of the gold standard, and it is not likely that the currency question will be settled out of hand.

If they only knew how many people in this vicinity were building air castles on the official figures the officers who make up the canvassing board for the state of New York would surely move up their work of canvassing the election returns ahead of the date prescribed by law.

Should the coming Nebraska legislature continue the supreme court commission with a membership reduced from nine to six, what an opportunity the present commissioners would have for an exhibition of unselfish devotion each in urging the other to make the exit first.

Another of the fraudulent votes by which the Mercerites carried the last republican primaries has been unearthed through the testimony adduced in a case in court to which the information bearing on the plaintiff's nonresidence is only incidental. As the election is over, perhaps we will be spared having this exposure denounced as a campaign roorback.

COMPETITION IN STEEL.

It has not been long since the announcement of a merger of steel companies into a concern of $50,000,000 capital would have excited wonder. Such a combination, however, now seems small in comparison with a colossal organization like the United States Steel company with a capitalization of nearly a billion and a half. Nevertheless, the confederation of several independent steel companies under the name of the Union Steel company is a reminder of the important fact, the fact that is destined to grow in importance, that the stupendous Morgan merger is far from having comprehended all the efficient plants in the steel industry even of this country. Besides those just now included in the Union company there are other strong independent steel companies in the east, while the Colorado Steel and Fuel company in the west occupies a strategic position, and is so ably managed as to be a serious competitor of the Morgan combination, a competitor the latter has sought most strenuously, but so far unsuccessfully, to remove.

These and many other radical facts give no small assurance that the potency of competition has not yet been eliminated from the steel industry, whatever the appearance of things may be. Many owners of independent steel enterprises deliberately refused to go into the Morgan merger in spite of what seemed to be tempting inducements, and it remains yet to be proved that their judgment was not sound. So far public attention has been centered upon the advantageous phases of mere magnitude of operations, in which in some directions economies of operation may undoubtedly be effected, but there are also disadvantages. The Morgan merger is overcapitalized. The smaller concerns are likely to have the advantage of more minute and effective supervision of details, of keener invention and attention to improvements and of quicker decision and action. They are more likely to keep free from the burden of excessive capitalization and from the restraints on operation almost sure sooner or later to be caused by speculative and other complications.

The defects of the Morgan merger in competition with the independent concerns are largely hidden in a period of universal prosperity when every facility—in highest activity—cannot keep pace with the demand upon the steel industry. They will be uncovered, however, whenever the tide of industry shall have ebbed. Unless all economic history is in error, the independent smaller concerns, more compact, more instant in adjustment, free from stock market entanglements, will be in better position to meet the conditions of a changing industrial market. At least the possibility of steel competition yet remains.

THE RULES OF THE HOUSE.

According to Washington dispatches one of the contests in the next congress will be in connection with the rules of the house of representatives. A number of republican representatives are opposed to the present regulations, which have prevailed for several years, or indeed since introduced by that greatest of all speakers, Thomas B. Reed, and there is a very strong disposition to have a change in the rules that will give greater opportunity for individual members to promote the particular legislation in which they are interested.

It is easy to understand the objection to the present rules. They are, unquestionably, arbitrary to a very considerable extent, but that very principle has been found necessary in order to enable the majority to have its way and consequently to secure legislation. It is well understood what the situation was before the Reed rules were introduced. Prior to that time there was obstruction to legislation in the house of representatives which rendered it almost impossible to get action on any question. A minority could defeat anything which it desired. The Reed policy gave the majority the power that properly belonged to it and since then the house of representatives has been in a position to carry out the will of the majority under all circumstances.

Whether or not this parliamentary practice should be continued is a question of some interest and to some public men of more than ordinary concern. For example, it is stated upon what appears to be excellent authority that Representative Hepburn of Iowa proposes to make a hard fight at the republican caucus to be held when congress convenes for a more democratic system of house organization. It is said that he will not contend for a general revision of the house rules unless he finds a strong sentiment for it, but is going to confine his work to one particular phase of the alleged existing despotic system. Representative Hepburn is by no means alone in believing that the present rules of the house should be modified and it is by no means improbable that his views in this respect will prevail in the next congress.

VENEZUELA'S FOREIGN ISSUES.

The United States has had more or less trouble with the foreign issues of Venezuela and the prospect is that it will have more. In the controversy between the southern republic, which under its present administration has been remarkably troublesome, and Great Britain the United States government, at the risk of war, brought about an arbitration agreement with England which still awaits final determination. In conpection with this matter, whatever the real merits of the case, there is no question that the course of the Venezuelan government was open to objection, but this was disregarded by our government in pursuance of its policy of protecting the independent countries of this hemisphere against all forms of European aggression. The United States insisted that the controversy between Great Britain and Venezuela involving territorial rights should be submitted to arbitration and the British government yielded.

It now appears that the government of Venezuela is disposed to take advantage of this position on the part of the United States and insist upon certain rights not authorized by international law, which it is expected our government will sustain the southern republic in against the protest and action of European powers. The government of Venezuela having established a so-called blockade, which in the opinion of several European governments is not effective under the rules of international law and has therefore been disregarded, the Venezuelan government is manifesting a disposition to make serious trouble with those powers.

The folly of this attitude is obvious and persistence in it must result to the great injury of Venezuela, but it seems to be the impression in that country that it will be sustained in its position by the United States. It is another illustration of the fallacious notion commonly entertained by the southern republics that it is the policy of the United States, under the Monroe doctrine, to protect them in whatever they may do in regard to foreign powers. In this they misapprehend the true meaning of that doctrine, which is not intended to relieve them from their just duties and responsibilities as independent states.

The latest report is that the Venezuelan government intends to insist upon what it conceives to be its rights and to this there can be no objection, but in order to enlist the support of the United States that republic must make it perfectly clear that there is justification for its position.

DUPLICATE ASSESSMENT MACHINERY.

The work of the tax commissioner and the Board of Review brings out forcibly the fact that we are maintaining an unnecessary and costly duplication of the machinery for tax assessment. All the labor expended by the tax commissioner and his assistants to make up the assessment roll of property within the city of Omaha subject to municipal taxation is repeated by the ward and precinct assessors and county authorities in making up a separate assessment roll for county and state taxation.

But the unnecessary burden imposed by the present practice extends beyond the mere double expense for assessors and clerks. It is heaviest on the individual taxpayers, who are compelled to devote valuable time to the return of property schedules twice each year when once a year should suffice. It requires them when they think they are aggrieved to appear before two sets of equalizing boards where one could do the work as well. The time of the busy man is worth money to him and frequently he prefers to let an inequitable assessment stand because it involves only a few dollars when the time necessary to correct it is worth more to him in the ordinary course of his business.

The creation of a separate tax department for Omaha distinct from that for the whole county, including Omaha, was unquestionably justified by the deplorable condition of affairs we were then suffering, which, by systematic undervaluations and listing at a small fraction of true values, forced the imposition of colossal tax rates, frightening away capital and population. So long, however, as the assessments in other counties throughout the state are made on a basis of one-sixth or one-seventh, it would clearly inflict the most unjust burdens if property in this city and county were assessed only once at their true valuation for both state and local taxation. No good reason exists, however, why the law cannot be amended to avoid the present duplication of assessment machinery. There is no good reason why the assessment roll as made up by the tax commissioner for the city of Omaha should not be used as the basis of the assessment roll for the county by simple division. If property subject to city taxation is listed at its full value, or 100 per cent, while the ratio applied in this and other counties is but 16 per cent, dividing by 6 will bring the city assessment down to a uniform basis with other county and state assessments without injustice to any interest.

To institute such a reform will require some intricate but not insurmountable legislation. Yet the saving that would be effected, both to the public as a whole and to individual taxpayers in their private capacity, would make it worth while for the lawmakers to make the attempt.

It is not surprising that President Eliot is dissatisfied with either his recent inadequate expressions regarding organized labor or with the inadequate report of them. As published they were very inconsiderate and tended to excite the acrimonious response which they instantly received. It is well that he has made haste to reconsider his views or to put them in less objectionable form. Not only does he acknowledge now that organized labor has come to stay, but strongly emphasizes the good it has accomplished in better sanitation, more reasonable work hours, and abolition of child labor and the company store. He points out the fact that union labor is far from perfect, a fact that unionists themselves appreciate, but he declares that as a rule employers are more to blame than the labor organizations for recent troubles. From the tenor of his complete discussion it is fair to assume that President Eliot has suffered from inaccurate reports.

The fact remains that no other administration, republican or democratic, has ever accomplished so much as that of President Roosevelt in dealing with the trust and corporation question. Attempts to make partisan capital on that score will fail. Nearly one-half of the states are under democratic control, but they are the states which have accomplished the least towards solving the trust problem. Theoretical reformers, rampant partisans and carping critics cannot help and can only hurt progress towards sane and safe treatment of this serious subject. President Roosevelt has taken it up with candor and courage and the American people appreciate his efforts.

The developments in the train of the coal strike bring out forcibly the fact that independent coal mining companies are absolutely at the mercy of the coal carrying railroad companies, which, in addition, are engaged in mining operations. No secret is made of the latter fact. Yet the Pennsylvania constitution expressly prohibits the railroad companies from engaging in mining. The state constitution seems to be as null and void where railroad interests intervene as the thirteenth, fourteenth and fifteenth amendments to the national constitution with respect to the suffrage of colored citizens.

The annual report of the first assistant postmaster general contains an interesting description of the work of the dead letter office, with an enumeration of the variegated property which seeks ownership there. The great bundles of dead-letter papers used to pad the circulation statements of local claim-all sheets are not included because they are not distributed through the mails, but are carted by the wagonload direct from the publication office to the junk dealer. The circulation statements of these sheets never show any return papers.

David B. Hill is apparently anxious to have everything explained, and through a friend gives it out that he offered Judge Peckham the democratic nomination for governor, but the offer was declined. It is a little singular, in view of all that has been said on this score, that Judge Peckham himself should fail to settle the question of fact.

Here comes ex-Senator Allen now with a half-way endorsement of David B. Hill, vouching for him that he "would make an abler executive and be freer from corporate influences than Cleveland and in this respect be far preferable for the presidency." More treason to Bryan!

It is observable that Colonel Bryan should see fatal objections to every democrat who is suggested for the presidential nomination, and that he can himself think of no unobjectionable leader upon whom any considerable number of democrats can agree.

Diversion of Railroad Earnings.

Chicago Inter Ocean.

The bandit business will never be thoroughly discouraged in the west until the railroads make common cause and common warfare against it.

Out of Harm's Way.

Chicago Chronicle.

The action of the German students in joining in a movement against pistol duels is unreservedly to be commended. There is always a possibility that somebody will get hurt in a pistol duel.

Senatorial Qualifications.

Chicago Chronicle.

It is announced that Thomas F. Walsh desires and hopes to be senator from Colorado to succeed Mr. Teller. Mr. Walsh has no political convictions, but he has $25,000,000, so that his candidacy is entirely proper and promising.

Some Things Worse.

Baltimore American.

People who think that republican government is a failure might modify their views on learning the fact just announced that the taxes in Russia have increased 100 per cent in twenty years. An autocracy may be more picturesque than a republic, but it is also much more expensive to keep up.

High-Priced Lawyers Outfought.

Pittsburg Dispatch.

One of the interesting incidents of the strike arbitration is the fact that while the anthracite presidents haughtily refused to recognize John Mitchell as the leader of the miners they have employed high-priced lawyers to spend nearly a week in trying to tangle him up, and the effort has not succeeded.

Notable Sympathy Strike.

Indianapolis Journal.

One of the most remarkable labor strikes on record is that of nearly 300 coal miners at Washington, Ind., who struck on Wednesday in the interest of the mules employed in the mines. They declared that the animals were not properly cared for, were often worked without having been fed or watered, and that they themselves would not work unless the mules were better treated. It was a sympathetic strike, and it did honor to the men.

Caste and Class in Manila.

New York Outlook.

Manila is a big army post socially, and very gay. The army officers are agreeable, and every one seems to enjoy life there. It has been an interesting experience to come in contact with a set of people who are so evidently persuaded that they belong to a superior caste by the simple fact that they wear shoulder straps. It has also been entertaining to discover that all the rest of the world belongs to another inferior class called civilians, or, as one officer put it, "they are only cits." Of course, a cit is not exactly a pariah, but he is sometimes made to feel that he does not exist socially except in sufferance.

A Picturesque Reunion.

Springfield Republican.

It is a picturesque announcement that diplomatic relations between Greece and Persia are about to be resumed after an interval of non-intercourse extending over 2,393 years. The last diplomatic relations between the two powers, it is said, was when Darius, in 491 B. C., sent heralds to Athens to demand the submission of the Greeks to Persia. The immortal defense of the pass at Thermopylae by Leonidas against the Persian host was in 480 B. C. The sending of heralds to Athens by Darius was not equivalent to the modern conception of continued diplomatic intercourse, but the episode perhaps will serve in the way it is now used in order to connect the Persia and Greece of today with their mighty predecessors of the ancient world. If the two countries were embodied somehow in spirit and had kept their faculties all these years they might now sit down and have an interesting talk over their experiences since the days of Darius, Xerxes and Alexander.

GENEROUS AT PUBLIC EXPENSE.

New York World: By advancing wages and freights simultaneously it is now estimated that the railroads will put about $50,000,000 more in the pockets of their employes and about $120,000,000 more in their own, leaving them a clean net profit of $70,000,000. The general public should be thankful that the railroads are not frequently seized with these fits of generosity.

Baltimore American: Railroads are not making friends by increasing freight rates, nor is the public convinced that such increase is rendered necessary by an increase in the cost of operation. They are doing a larger business than ever before, and the rates, if anything, should be reduced. The demands upon them are very heavy now and their profits are correspondingly large.

Louisville Courier-Journal: The recent increase in wages on the railroads, taken in connection with the slight decrease in net earnings for September, has caused an advance in freight rates. As the roads are overrun with traffic, the shortage of cars being estimated at about 60,000, though 80,000 new cars have been added during the year, the situation is such as to put the railways in a position where they can insist on an advance, and it seems they are doing it, although it is denied that the rise in rates will be general. The advance hardly seems justifiable.

Philadelphia Record: Probably in making the shift of burden from their own shoulders to the shoulders of their customers the railway companies have chosen to put the weight where it may most readily be borne. Unless the iron and steel makers and the farmers shall be able to reduce the rate of wages paid by them they will have to pay the increased freight rates and make the best of it. The prosperity, therefore, that falls into the lap of labor the astute railway managers have merely acted as agents in transferring from other sources of supply. There is a suspicion that when the balance is struck there will be a superflux left in their hands.

PERSONAL NOTES.

It is earnestly hoped "Uncle Joe" Cannon will not be permitted to see some of the portraits printed in the newspapers.

Joseph Isaac Rabinowitch, a Jewish war hero and Russian exile, is visiting Chicago. He lived fourteen years in Jerusalem.

Judge Nathan Webb, who presided over the United States court in the District of Maine for twenty-three years, has just died at Portland.

William Roscoe Thayer and Ashton R. Willard of Boston have been decorated with the Order of the Crown of Italy. They are notable authors.

John Marshall Harlan, associate justice of the United States supreme court, on December 10 will celebrate the twenty-fifth anniversary of his ascension to the supreme bench.

Everyone had a whack at Tom Johnson during the Ohio campaign and now the Ohio supreme court has forbidden him to reorganize the Cleveland police force on a political basis.

Rev. James Outram, a noted Scottish mountain climber, who has been visiting unexplored districts of the Rocky mountains in British Columbia, says he discovered on Mount Columbia a gigantic glacier covering 200 square miles.

Congress Roberts enlivened the dinner of the Boston Boot and Shoe club the other evening by the following. "One day the venerable chaplain of the senate was heard to pray: 'Oh, Lord, make us considerate of the trusts committed to our care.' That day they passed the Dingley tariff bill."

Peter de Villa, the discoverer of gold in the Klondike region and once fabulously rich, is now earning a livelihood by nailing boxes at the Ben Lemont winery at Santa Cruz, Cal. He has a suit pending for the recovery of one of the richest mines in the Nome region, but has no means with which to prosecute it, and the case is likely to go against him by default.

S. V. ("Deacon") White, the veteran of Wall street, who has just sold his seat on the New York Stock exchange, says that when he began trading there, over thirty years ago, the transactions of a day seldom reached 200,000 shares, as against an average of 2,000,000 now. "Mr. White," said one of his old friends a day or two ago, "you have accomplished many big things on 'the street,' but your greatest achievement has been that, in spite of your many vicissitudes, you have always paid your debts."

Emperor William recently ordered the army chaplains to deliver periodical lectures in the evening for the benefit of private soldiers. Attendance is usually small, not being compulsory, but one reverend gentleman found that his lecture room was filled every evening. He was much pleased and to the commanding officer expressed his pleasure at the religious awakening. "Rubbish," said the uncompromising colonel; "I have merely discovered that compulsory attendance at your sermons is excellent punishment for trival offenses."

EXPEDITIOUS WORK BY CONGRESS.

Important Legislation Planned for the Short Session.

Philadelphia Press.

President Roosevelt is anxious to accomplish something definite at the coming session of congress and is taking the wise way to bring it about. He not only consults with people generally, and with his cabinet, but he calls in leading members of congress to make certain, as far as possible, that he will not waste his efforts on that body.

The session will last only three months. When the holidays and the time when congress will not meet are excluded there will be much less than three months for actual work. The appropriation bills must all be passed, and there are numerous measures considered in part at the first session which will come up for final disposal at the second session. To take up measures relating to trusts, the tariff, treaties and so on with any view of disposing of them depends entirely on the temper of congress.

If disposed to attend to work closely there is ample time to do all the important work that may be brought to the attention of congress. On the other hand, work can easily be excluded or defeated by filibustering in the senate or by adjourning over from Thursday to Monday and by dilly-dallying methods well understood by old legislators. At the last session of the Fifty-first congress a great deal of very important legislation was passed in addition to the appropriation bills. The same thing can be done now if the senate can be induced to attend to business and legislate.

The conferences between the president and leading senators should result in prompt legislation. There is no trouble with the house. A commission to take up the tariff question can be provided early in the session. A bill to amend the laws relating to trusts, so as to meet the president's views, could be put through in quick time, provided republican senators so desire, and so on with other needed legislation.

That would suit the nation and avoid any necessity for an extra session. The question is will it be done? If not it will be solely because of open or secret opposition. But the prospects are for harmonious, successful and expeditious work.

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot.

Officialdom is following with keen interest every development in the senatorial campaign in Colorado, on the result of which hinges the fate of Senator Teller. On the face of the returns the fusionists have a majority on joint ballot. The republicans control the house, the fusionists the senate. Threats are made to oust enough democrats from seats in the house to give the republicans a majority on joint ballot. But the democrats in the senate may play a similar game. The outcome of the struggle cannot be predicted, but there is little doubt the fight will be a hot one from start to finish. What interests Washington most is that in event of republican success former Senator Wolcott is likely to succeed Senator Teller. Wolcott is well known and well liked in Washington and it is hoped he will win re-election to the senate from that state. He served for several years as member of the district committee and on the committee on postoffices and post roads of the senate, and was in this way brought into personal contact with nearly all the prominent citizens and business men of Washington. He is a hustler and born fighter. There has has always been a strain of fighting blood in the Wolcott family. The senator, when a mere boy of 16, enlisted in the One Hundred and Fiftieth Ohio volunteers and served until the end of the war.

He was born in Long Meadow, Mass., and all his early associations are of New England. He attended Yale college for a while and in 1871 he was graduated at the Harvard law school. He then went to Colorado and practiced law with great success. He also practiced politics with equal success. His skill as a political orator soon made him famous throughout the entire west and his reputation in this regard preceded him to the national capital. Many of his speeches in the senate were masterpieces of eloquence.

From over the river at Fort Myer, where the guileless "rookie" holds sway, comes the following story, for which confirmation cannot be obtained at the War department. On his first guard, so the story goes, a raw recruit was approached by the sergeant of the guard, who adopted toward him the usual tone of "non-coms." when dealing with recruits. In a voice that suggested far-off thunder he demanded if the sentry had seen the officer of the day. The sentry hadn't, and he admitted it shamefacedly. Thereupon the sergeant, having explained his exalted rank, departed with dignity, leaving the recruit mightily impressed with the importance of the same sergeant. Presently the officer of the day strolled down the line and passed the sentry. As he stopped in front of the post the recruit inquired gruffly:

"Are you the officer of the day?"

"Yes," came the surprised reply.

"Well, you want to get onto your job, you do; the sergeant of the guard is looking for you."

Souvenir hunters and collectors of rare articles of historic value have been preparing for a raid on the White House since the announcement the other day that there would soon be a sale of china and old bric a brac at the executive mansion. It seems that this report was without foundation and that there is to be no auction. The laws forbid giving away by the mistress of the White House of any of the furnishings of the executive mansion that were purchased by government money. The only way to get rid of wornout chairs, china, tables, etc., is by public auction. It was reported recently that Mrs. Roosevelt had decided on a cleaning out of a lot of stuff, including some of the old china. As before stated, the rumor was false and there is no indication that collectors are to have an early chance to pick up any of the historic pieces of the White House.

Comparatively few people know, writes the Washington correspondent of the Brooklyn Eagle, that Uncle Sam is planning winter naval maneuvers in the Caribbean sea to the tune of a round million of dollars. The summer maneuvers off New England and Long Island were so much nearer home that in the general interest they aroused the Porto Rican plan has been rather overlooked. The warships have taken their turn one after another in the dry dock to be groomed and freshly equipped for the coming operations.

December 1 is the date arranged by the Navy department for the operations to begin and for two months the entire force will be busy with attack and defense. Although the department has been forced to drop from the original list a few warships that have been crippled by accident, it is certain that the fleet will be the largest and most powerful ever assembled under the Stars and Stripes, whether for purposes of peace or war.

The fleet is scheduled to arrive today off the island of Culebra, which will be the base of operations and which, it is expected, will prove the most available headquarters in future for the West Indian naval station. As an island Culebra doesn't amount to much. It takes a pretty detailed map to show it at all and then it is merely a dot in the sea. It was ceded with the island of Vieques by Spain in the treaty of Paris and was not considered worth mentioning, but was included in the general designation, "Porto Rico and adjacent islands." Even in Porto Rico the people hardly know of its existence. The island lies between the eastern end of Porto Rico and the island of St. Thomas and seventeen miles from the latter. It is a bunch of picturesque hills ranging in height from 150 to 650 feet. The island proper is approximately seven miles long and three miles wide. Reckoned as part of it are several small islets, Northeast island, one mile long and two and one-half miles from the mainland, and Culebrita, about the same size and three and one-quarter miles away. The latter bears, perched on a 300-foot bluff, a lighthouse whose fixed white light can be seen twenty-one miles out at sea.

PRESCRIPTIONS FOR TROUBLE.

Common Sense Nourishment Ladled Out Without Price.

Saturday Evening Post.

Never since the first sick man grumbled have there been so many cures for the body known in the world as now. That man is the exception who has not been cut to pieces and mended up again. There are a dozen schools of healing for every disease. One physician attacks the liver, another the bone, a third the skin. They assail you with drugs, with heat, cold, mud, magnetism and prayer. They lock you up in a box and bake you, or turn a swarm of bees in on you, or bathe you in purple light. So much do we care for the body. But who cures the hurt soul? What patent medicine will dry tears?

You have worked hard and honestly in life, perhaps, and suddenly you are struck down on the road and thrown aside—a failure. Or the being dearest to you, your wife or the boy who was flesh of your flesh, your one care and hope in life, is dead—was put out of your sight, yesterday, in that cut in the muddy ground yonder. Never to come back home—never to speak to you or touch you again. What are you to do? The hours and days and years must creep on and on before you can go to him. Or perhaps the hurt is not a vital stab like that, but some mean, belittling shame, some vulgar disgrace that has fallen on you by no fault of yours. You think that you never shall lift your head or look your friends in the eyes again.

What can you do? You are young and strong; is life over now and dead? No doctor prescribes for these hurts; no drug touches them. Yet there are homely prescriptions which do give relief.

First, don't disguise the wound to yourself. It is there, real; it may never heal. When Pope was an old man he wept bitterly at his mother's grave. Not all of the long years, he said, had healed the hurt of her going away.

Don't touch your wound. But your physical nerves are weakened, your vitality is lessened. Go to work there.

Is there any occupation or amusement which you especially relish? Take it up. Be it the theater, or novel reading, or photography, or cookery—go to it. Don't mind what the neighbors say. You will be surprised and perhaps a little ashamed to find how soon your pulses will grow regular and your thoughts sane.

Next, stiffen yourself to carry your grief alone. Don't drip the black flood hourly on to your neighbors. Be sure each of them has his own load to carry. Look for it. Give him a helping hand with it.

And after a year or two of this commonsense nourishment of yourself you will suddenly see that going through the vale of misery you have made it a straight road to the heights.

LINES TO A LAUGH.

Chicago Tribune: "Now these," said the dealer, opening another barrel, "are what we call fancy winesaps."

"Yes," remarked the customer, tasting one of them, "they are what you might call winesaps—in fancy."

New York Times: "Ephem, a'pose de good Lawd should come down an' look inter yer eye an' say, 'Ephem, what hab you done wid all dose chickens dat yer hab stole?' What would yer say?"

"Parson, I might say dat my old 'ooman cooked 'em, but you I nows dat a man ain't bound to testify agin his wife."

Chicago Post: "No," said the decided girl, "I never will marry a man to reform him."

"Perhaps it isn't wise," replied the demure young thing, "but wouldn't you hate to marry a man that some other girl had reformed?"

Boston Courier: "One would never think the sun was as far from the earth as astronomers say it is."

"How far is that?"

"According to their calculations, it's 90,000,000 miles. Fearful distance, isn't it?"

"Oh, I don't know. I called on a girl last evening who seemed more distant than that."

New York Sun: Achilles was sulking in his tent.

"You see," he exclaimed bitterly, "my mother left my heel vulnerable, and I can never play foot ball!"

Seeing the greater glory was denied him, he rushed forth to engage in a minor fracas before the walls of Troy.

Somerville Journal: When you see a girl picking a thread off a young man's coat, you can generally assume that she loves him, but when you see her making a pretense of picking off a thread that isn't there, you can be dead sure of it.

LIFE'S HAPPY DAYS.

Baltimore American.

The happiest days of all will come not
when fame crowns the brow
With laurels of unfading hue, while all
the world doth bow
Before the glory of its might—before the
majesty
That wraps renown as with a robe—not
such the days we see.
These days will come—the world will hum—
and gone will be joy's dearth,
When the ton is in the cellar and the
scuttle's on the hearth.

The happiest hearts will beat not when
love floods two souls as one,
When warm and high in lovers' veins the
tides of passion run;
Oh, raptures strongest will not thrill when
that old tale is told—
But ages all ecstatic in a moment's space
be rolled.
And love will not be in it, if bliss divine
finds birth—
When the ton is in the cellar and the
scuttle's on the hearth!

THAT THROAT-TICKLING

It's first, the throat;
Then, the bronchial tubes;
Next, the lungs;
At last, Consumption.

There's nothing so bad for a cough as coughing!
There's nothing so good for a cough as—

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

The best time to take it is when the cold first comes on, when the trouble is in the throat.

Throat tickling, throat colds, threat coughs are all easily controlled with Ayer's Cherry Pectoral.

Doctors first prescribed this nearly 60 years ago. They use it more today than ever. They know its ingredients. They understand how it heals congested membranes and overcomes inflammation. Ask your own doctor about using this medicine for colds, coughs, and all lung troubles.

J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.

"I had a terrible cough last spring, and it took just one bottle of Ayer's Cherry Pectoral to completely cure me. I have used this medicine in my family for many, many years."
MRS. J. B. DANFORTH, St. Joseph, Mich.