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..15c
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—Z23 Park Row Building.
Washington—501 Fourteenth Street.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

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 exchanges, 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 February, 1903, was as follows:

1	29,190	15	29,225
2	30,530	16	31,320
3	30,630	17	31,540
4	30,600	18	31,490
5	30,490	19	31,450
6	30,570	20	31,610
7	30,550	21	31,670
8	29,200	22	29,295
9	30,610	23	31,930
10	30,500	24	31,850
11	30,652	25	31,980
12	30,640	26	31,550
13	30,640	27	31,980
14	30,570	28	31,780
Total			853,432
Less unsold and returned copies			9,364
Net total sales			844,068
Net average sales			30,145

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 28th day of February, A. D. 1903. M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.
(Seal.)

Never mind, Greater Omaha will be marked on the map before the next federal census is taken.

The senate votes on the canal treaty today. If it also votes a final adjournment no tears will be shed.

Now if the legislature had not stepped in to postpone our city election, it would be all over but the shouting.

It's really too bad that discovery of coal in Omaha's back yard could not have come a little earlier in the season.

New York City is moving for a municipal electric lighting plant. Municipal ownership keeps pushing to the front in all parts of the country.

When President Roosevelt reaches Omaha and is accorded the entertainment prepared for him last fall, the banquet that failed will have had a happier sequel.

Looking further forward, a far-sighted person can see the destruction wrought by the floods paving the way for another big river and harbor bill logrolled through the next congress.

When a legislator champions a measure until it gets half way through the legislative hopper and then abandons it or helps to make it harmless by amendment, his constituents can draw their own conclusions.

A nephew of Susan B. Anthony has been nominated for mayor by the republicans of Leavenworth. That will doubtless be gratifying to the equal suffrage leader, but not half so gratifying as if the nominee had been a niece.

The lawyer who is supposed to get a $2,000,000 fee out of the sale to the United States of the property and rights of the Panama Canal company will probably be free to admit that the practice of the legal profession can be made to pay.

Cheap power would be the best inducement Omaha could offer for the establishment of new mills and factories. More mills and factories would mean more employment for labor, which must be the backbone of Omaha's growth and prosperity.

Governor Peabody of Colorado is emulating the example of President Roosevelt as a peacemaker between warring employers and employes. If the Colorado miners maintain their strike record they will keep the chief executive busy.

If there is no ground for complaint that tax burdens have been unequally distributed in Nebraska, why was it necessary for the republicans to make one issue of the campaign a promise to revise the revenue laws in the direction of more exact equality?

And now it has been discovered that the Third ward is going back on the city administration. The favorite arraignment of the city administration of the past was that it represented the bums and vicious classes and for proof the steadfast support of the Third ward was cited. Is it possible the antis have now amalgamated with the bums and lawless elements?

The Lincoln Journal quotes as a measure of prevailing prosperity figures compiled by the New York Financial Chronicle, which show that the net earnings of the railroads of the United States increased from 1896 to 1902 by $234,000,000. It forgets to say, however, that property with double and treble net income also doubles or trebles in value. Yet peculiarly enough the railroads of Nebraska are paying in taxes actually less in 1902 than they did in 1896.

SHAMELESS BETRAYAL OF THE PEOPLE

If any man or set of men should deliberately concoct a scheme to set the town on fire or blow up its public buildings with dynamite the community would rise up as one man to have them thrown into prison or lynched, but when men set about deliberately to undermine and destroy self-government, the people tamely allow them to proceed with their devilish work. And yet this is precisely what has been going on at Lincoln for the last sixty days under the leadership of John N. Baldwin, the head pusher of the most rotten lobby that has ever infested the state capitol.

When the legislature convened its members were for the most part disposed to do what is right and just by the people. Nine-tenths of them doubtless entered the capitol with the sincere desire to give the people relief from existing abuses and protect them from corporate aggression and exaction, but the machinery set in motion by John N. Baldwin and the allied corporations has completely demoralized the legislature and makes self-government a farce.

Men who have enjoyed the confidence and respect of their constituents, too weak or vulnerable to withstand corporate temptation and corporate bulldozing are now championing corporate rapacity in the halls of legislation and brazenly asserting that the railroads have been taxed too much in the last ten years, when every man, woman and child knows that the railroads have controlled the state boards of assessment in Nebraska ever since the state board was organized. It is a matter of record that the railroad assessment of 1892 is more than 50 per cent higher than that of 1902, which was dictated by the railroads. Is it not an insult to the intelligence of the people to assert that the railroads have been taxed too much in the last ten years? Does it stand to reason that with a mileage many hundreds of miles greater the railroads of Nebraska should today pay taxes on nearly $4,000,000 less than they did in 1890?

It is a matter of notoriety that the state boards of twenty years ago and the state boards of ten years ago did not pretend to assess the railroad franchises, which constitute by far the most valuable part of their taxable assets. It is a matter of notoriety that the state board of 1902 did not assess the railroad franchises and Auditor Weston and Treasurer Stuefer so testified before the supreme court. It seems almost incredible that in the face of these facts men elected to represent the people should not only champion and defend corporate tax shirking in the past, but inject into the new revenue law provisions that they must know will perpetuate this iniquity.

The only excuse so far given in defense of the undervaluation of railroad property is that other property, notably personal property, has for years been assessed at ridiculously low figures, and special stress is laid upon the assessment of live stock on the farm and household goods in the home. A comparison of the assessment of this class of property and railroad property in other states may be instructive. Take, for example, the assessments of personal property in Nebraska and Illinois:

	Nebraska, 1902.		Illinois, 1902.	
	Assessment—One-sixth.	Actual value.	Assessment—One-fifth.	Actual value.
Cattle	$ 4.30	$ 25.80	$ 4.58	$ 22.80
Sheep	.57	3.42	.69	3.45
Hogs	1.03	6.18	1.24	6.20
Horses	7.02	42.12	10.69	53.45
Mules and asses	8.59	51.54	12.04	60.20
Steam engines	78.08	468.48	88.17	440.85
Safes	10.09	60.54	8.92	44.60
Billiard tables	12.26	73.56	10.57	52.85
Carriages and wagons	4.58	27.48	4.60	23.00
Watches and clocks	1.69	10.14	1.47	7.35
Sewing machines	2.72	16.32	1.88	9.40
Pianos	21.48	128.88	17.35	86.75
Melodeons and organs	4.98	29.88	4.07	20.35

Compare these figures with the railroad assessments of the two states. In 1902 the total railroad mileage in Illinois was 10,407 miles, assessed at $8,225 per mile, which is equal to $41,125 actual value, or an aggregate value of $428,095,210. Nebraska has 5,704 miles of railroad, assessed at $4,461 per mile, which, multiplied by 6, would give an actual value of $26,766 per mile, or an aggregate value of $150,673,264. Assessed by the Illinois standard, which is admittedly low, the aggregate value of Nebraska railroads would be $234,227,000 and their aggregate assessment would be $48,507,027.

With such figures before them the champions and defenders of the present system of railroad tax assessment do not have a foot to stand on.

THE KEENE-HARRIMAN CONTEST.

The contest between James R. Keene and E. H. Harriman for the control of the stock of the Southern Pacific railroad, is the most interesting matter just now in the railway world. A few days ago Judge Lurton, in the United States circuit court at Cincinnati, granted a temporary injunction restraining the transfer or disposing of the lease of the Central Pacific by the Southern Pacific, or the disposing of any of the rights of the Southern Pacific under the Central Pacific lease. The injunction also restrains the Union Pacific from voting any capital stock of the Southern Pacific.

It appears that what the Keene faction object to is the employment of earnings in new construction, especially on the Central Pacific, whose result must be to turn traffic that way, to the injury of the southern route. They are understood to claim that Harriman's object is to put the Central in first-class condition from earnings of the Southern Pacific's entire system and then turn that road over to the Union Pacific in such condition and on such terms that the southern lines will be unable to compete with it. The San Francisco Chronicle says in reference to the contest that the sympathy of the people of California should be wholly with Harriman, for the reason that the Central and Union Pacific roads form the natural and most direct highway for commerce passing between the most important section of the Pacific coast and the most important sections of the eastern states. The order of injunction requires the defendant to show cause on April 1 why a permanent injunction should not issue and the result is awaited with a great deal of interest not only by the companies concerned but also by that portion of the public which will be affected.

STILL OBJECTING.

A week ago it was reported that the Dominion government had sent a second remonstrance to the imperial authorities regarding the American members of the Alaskan boundary commission. Three days later the Canadian premier, in a speech in the House of Commons, said he regarded the treaty providing for the commission as a distinct victory over the position previously assumed by the United States, declaring that "decision or no decision, one result of the commission would be the best possible education for the American and British people on the points contended for by Canada." He found fault, however, with the commissioners appointed to represent the United States as not being "impartial jurists of repute." He urged that the British commissioners should be men of that character, the best to be found in the empire.

The imperial authorities are apparently giving no attention to the remonstrances of the Dominion government and reports from the Canadian capital state that the feeling there is that the imperial authorities are so determined to keep on good terms with the United States that even at the risk of weakening imperial sentiment in Canada they will give Canada's case away. The attitude of the Dominion government in this matter is characteristic of its entire course in dealing with this country—a course of objection and obstruction, often of the most irritating nature. Its protest against the commissioners appointed by the president of the United States is most extraordinary and it is not surprising that the British cabinet has disregarded it. The commissioners—Secretary Root, Senator Lodge and ex-Senator Turner—are men of ability, in every way qualified for the duty imposed on them. They are men whose public career justifies confidence in their integrity and their selection was assurance that the president believed them to be conscientious and upright as well as capable. It looks like impertinence, to put it moderately, for the Dominion government to protest against men of the distinguished record and character of the American commissioners. It makes a strain upon international comity for that government to imply, as its protest does, that these eminent American citizens cannot be depended upon to decide according to the facts. Of course they believe that the American contention is right. It was not to be expected that the president would select commissioners who believed otherwise, or who had given no consideration to the question. But if Canada can justify her contention, if she can show valid reasons and substantial grounds for her claim, she will find that the American commissioners are not beyond being convinced.

The fact is that the talk about the Canadian case being given away simply means that there is no confidence in the claim of that country. Some prominent men of the Dominion were opposed to the treaty providing for the commission. The present talk is to prepare the popular mind for a defeat that is felt to be inevitable because of the weakness of the Canadian case.

MAY ASK CONCESSIONS.

It is quite probable that after this country has concluded a reciprocity arrangement with Cuba—of which there now seems to be favorable promise—some of the European powers will seek like commercial concessions. It has already been announced that Germany proposes, in the event of the ratification of the pending treaty, to ask the Cuban and United States governments for identical privileges. It is pointed out that otherwise German traders will be placed at a disadvantage and of course the traders of other European countries would be in a similar condition.

It is therefore to be expected that all those countries will seek to secure from Cuba the same consideration which that republic shows to the United States in the matter of the tariff and just what the result of such a movement might be it is not easy to foresee. A recent Berlin dispatch says that Germany's position is to be defined clearly, so that the United States may not complain when Germany gives other nations preferential treatment. This sounds a little like a threat, although it may not be so intended. At all events the establishing of close commercial relations with Cuba through reciprocity will be very likely to have some effect upon our trade relations with certain European countries and may bring about important changes.

It is intimated that The Hague tribunal may yet be cheated out of its opportunity to arbitrate the Venezuelan claims by the prospect of an amicable arrangement between President Castro and his European creditors. The Hague arbitrators ought to fix up some kind of a rule to prevent the withdrawal of controversies once submitted, except by its consent, if it does not want to hold the sack.

Senator Stewart of Nevada, as chairman of the committee on Indian affairs, is said to be in favor of breaking up all the reservations and giving the white man a chance to take up the land by purchase or otherwise. Senator Stewart will have his efforts actively seconded so far as the western reservations are concerned by the land grab rings that even now let no chance go by to separate the Indian from his share of the public domain. If the land grabbers are only let alone in their ingenious schemes they will have the reservations broken up without waiting for congressional legislation.

The new machine wants the legislature to enact a law that will authorize inquisitorial test oaths at the primary elections by which it is proposed to ascertain how men voted at the last election. Why not extend these inquiries to elections before the last, for example, to the election of 1900, or the election of 1901? How many of the anti-machine or new machine men supported the city republican ticket three years ago? How many voted the republican legislative ticket two years ago? How many of them supported the republican candidates for the school board a year ago?

Governor Cummins of Iowa gives it out that the platform on which he will run for a second term will contain the same declarations as to the tariff and the trusts as the platform on which he was originally elected and which was reiterated by the last republican state convention in Iowa. Not only this, but he declares himself in favor of incorporating the Iowa idea into the next national platform. The Iowa idea will furnish texts for a great deal of discussion yet.

Members of the Douglas delegation who bound themselves by an ironclad agreement to vote as a unit have at last discovered that it will not be practical for them to play the role of the three guardsmen. "One for all and all for one" is a very pretty play in a stage scrimmage or in a romance, but men in public life, especially men in a representative capacity, are held individually responsible for their acts and cannot hide behind each other.

President Francis of the Louisiana Purchase exposition will have to hurry back from Europe to get ready to proceed with the dedication exercises and share the honors of the occasion with President Roosevelt. On account of the limited time Mr. Francis will have to notify the crowned heads who have failed to be accorded interviews that if they want to see him they will have to come over to St. Louis themselves.

Carnegie's Expanding Collection.

Boston Transcript.

Mr. Carnegie is apparently not satisfied with his unique collection on the North American continent. He is going to finance the Pan-American Transcontinental railroad, with the design, ultimately, to give a library to every village in Acre and Paraguay. A deep schemer is Mr. Carnegie, and as indefatigable as Mark Twain's collector of echoes.

Government by Injunction.

Minneapolis Times.

Government by injunction is carried a step too far when it is used to prevent a wife from exercising her natural right to pull her husband's whiskers when he is not acting right. A man who wears a long and flowing beard should be good to his helpmeet or take the consequences without a murmur. The injunction granted in a recent case should be dissolved.

Restricting Senatorial Debate.

Baltimore American.

We take it that if the senate should adopt a cloture rule it will be mild in character, looking to nothing more drastic than a limitation of debate when any member, or set of members, undertakes to carry out a program such as Quay and Morgan put into execution during the regular session just closed. In such a case a cloture rule would be a national blessing, and it is earnestly to be hoped that Mr. Allison's suggestion will bear fruit in the form of a reasonable regulation for limiting debate in the senate.

Breaking the Bonds in Russia.

New York Tribune.

If the decree of the czar granting his subjects freedom of worship is carried out, the Jews of that country will have had double cause for celebrating the feast of Purim, which occurred yesterday. The feast commemorates the time when Mordecai, with the aid of Queen Esther, delivered the children of Israel from the Persian persecutor. Wherever there are Jews the feast is celebrated with song and merrymaking and the reading of the Book of Esther. In the realm of the czar the Jews have, indeed, small cause for rejoicing, but even there the Purim celebration is a time for joyous festivities. If the imperial decree shall have the effect of making the burden of the Russian Jew lighter, if it shall break the bonds whoch have bound him down to a condition worse than slavery, Purim will from now on have a deeper significance for him, the czar will be remembered as a liberator, and emigration from Russia will be diminished.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Colonel William F. Vilas has presented to the Grand Army Memorial museum at Madison, Wis., an oil painting of himself, by request.

Captain W. S. Cowles, brother-in-law of President Roosevelt, has applied for sea duty and is to be the first commander of the magnificent new battleship Missouri.

A Pittsburg young woman was suffocated by the crush in a street car Friday night. As the conductor had already collected her fare, the company has managed thus far to control its grief.

For the sum of $1,000,000,000 Lieutenant Hobson offers to build a navy for Uncle Sam that will make him master of the seas—at least until some other nation shall double the appropriation.

C. C. Calhoun, a young man, is the most envied lawyer in Kentucky. He succeeded in having Kentucky's war claim of $1,323,999.35 allowed by congress and has returned to Louisville with the certified check in his pocket. He gets 10 per cent, or more than $132,000, for his work. He was a poor man up to this time.

In accordance with the will of Jefferson Kearny Clark, who died in St. Louis four years ago, a handsome monument is to be erected in Bellefontaine cemetery in that city to perpetuate the fame of his father, General William Clark, the northwestern pioneer. The monument will overlook the Mississippi river at the point where General Clark and Meriwether Lewis debarked from their celebrated exploring trip to the mouth of the Columbia river.

HINTS FOR THE LEGISLATURE.

Friend Telegraph: The grafters who desire the job of inspecting traction engines at $5 each have another scheme to get into a fat job. This bill should be burned with its fathers and would improve the thresher service about as much as inspection improves the quality of illuminating oil.

Norfolk Press: The same thing that has happened in all previous sessions will happen at the end of this session of the legislature. Bills of all kinds will be up for hurried consideration, and many measures that ought to be killed will slip through. It is a mistake to limit the pay or time of the legislature.

Tobias Express: We have examined the new revenue bill and we believe it will be a big improvement upon the old law. Of course there are some things in it that we do not approve of, but we do not expect a law that will exactly suit everybody, and doubtless some of these objectionable features will be eliminated before it becomes a law. It should at least be passed and given a trial.

Howells Journal: A few weeks ago it looked as though there was some chance of our state legislature passing a law providing for the assessment of all property, both real and personal, at its actual cash value. Under the present law it is hardly possible to procure a just assessment. There is but one way of righting this matter, and that is the assessing of all property at its actual value. When this is done the farmers, the business men, the railroads and the capitalists will all be forced to pay their just share of taxes. As the railroad lobby has lined up in opposition to such a measure there is no danger of its passage at the present session.

Pender Times: The legislature has passed a bill which the governor has signed that provides that in order to become a lawyer you must attend a high school at least three years, and put in three years in a law school and one year in a law office, or three years in a law office, and of course pass an examination. This law is certainly uncalled for and it is not creditable to the law-making powers that it was enacted. It isn't schools, but brains, that make a lawyer, just the same as in any other calling. Higher education is all right, but not essential to become a good, honest lawyer. In a few years it will require a college education to become a drayman.

Geneva Signal: The legislature is winding itself up rapidly and possibly the state will feel relieved when the end of the string is reached, although thus far this legislature has averaged far above the average. The constitutional limit for the introduction of bills expired some days ago and the members must now dispose of the ones already written. The revenue bill, the passage of which will, if accomplished, constitute the important work of the session, is now engrossing the energies of the house and thus far the members have stood almost solidly for the bill practically in the form reported by the committee. It really looks now as though the bill might pass.

Holdrege Progress: The Burgess bill, known as house roll No. 175, providing for the manner of purchase of county supplies, such as stationery, blankbooks and blanks, should be passed. It is in the line of economy and will prevent the jobbery which has prevailed in many counties in the past in the matter of awarding contracts for these supplies. In the past the big city offices have come in and gobbled up these contracts because the small home printing establishments have not been equipped to furnish all the supplies. Under the provisions of the new law much of the stationery and blanks would be done at home at as low a rate while the other work such as blankbooks would be submitted to legitimate competition and result in a saving to the taxpayers in each county.

Ord Journal: One of the bills that is before the legislature that should become a law is one providing for the appointment of matrons in all county jails where there are female prisoners. The matter of a selection is left with the county board, and the amount of the compensation is also fixed by them. It would seem that any man would realize the necessity of such a measure, and the desirability that women prisoners should be taken care of by women, and as there would be no expense, except when the matron was engaged, it could not be high and besides in every town there are women of character who would be glad to care for the unfortunate at a minimum fee in order to help them in other ways. Besides in many cases, the placing of women in jail under the care of men who sometimes have the care of jails would tend to make them worse instead of better.

Springfield Monitor: Now would be a very good time to have the legislature pass a law and make the proper appropriations to put in bridges over the Platte river where they would be most advantageous to the traveling public. By all means the bridges should be built and kept in repair by the state and not have the burden fall on the county or counties where they are located, as at the present time. The people over the state are more or less benefited by these bridges and there is no good reason why a few should be taxed to accommodate the many. The washing away of so many bridges this week by the floods will cost thousands and thousands of dollars to replace them and will mean a great deal to the people where they are located. Whether or not this county is called on to help rebuild the Louisville bridge, the Monitor thinks that something should be done at once to have the state take this matter in hand.

Table Rock Argus: The new revenue bill has been before the house this week. Fifty or more amendments have been offered to the bill, but most of them are being killed off as fast as they come up for endorsement of the house. The bill provides for the election of a county assessor, who shall appoint deputies with the approval of the board of commissioners, sufficient to do the work. This is a radical change from the present system, and must be tried before its merits or demerits are fully known. Some honest taxpayers have been led to think the new bill is aimed to increase their taxes, but the object of the bill is to uncover property hidden by the tax shirker, and make all property in Nebraska bear its just proportion of the cost of government. According to the valuation in the auditor's office, Nebraska is not worth as much by several million dollars as it was ten years ago, when all who are at all familiar with conditions as they exist in our state today know, that there never was a time in all the years of the past when the material wealth of Nebraska was as great as it is today, and under a fair, honest, equitable assessment this wealth will produce sufficient funds to meet the demands of the state government on a reasonable levy. This is the object of the present bill, and it ought to be passed.

Banished Joy of Anticipation.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Colonel Bryan's refusal to regard himself as being a candidate for the presidential nomination is not to be construed otherwise than as a condescending relinquishment of an anticipated rapture.

HELPS HEALTH FORCE

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot.

The queerest contribution on record to the Treasury department's conscience fund was received last week. It is an old-fashioned watch with a gold filled case and Swiss movement. With it was this note: "Such as I have I give unto you for the conscience fund. The money I gave for the watch is more than I consider I owe the government." The timepiece is worth only a few dollars. Secretary Shaw does not know what to do with the contribution. A watch cannot be turned into the general fund and Mr. Shaw does not know whether he has the authority to sell it and turn in the proceeds. That question is being looked up by the department's solicitor.

A newspaper photographer at the White House asked Senator Hanna, when he walked out of the building one morning, to permit his photograph to be taken with the White House executive offices as background. "Oh, none of that for me," the senator said, as he prepared to dodge into the door of his carriage. "The last time the Gridiron boys got hold of me they pretended to X-ray my head and presented a photograph of Senator Hanna with the White House as the central figure of his aspirations, etc. Oh, no; I don't want to give anybody any fresh opportunity to suppose that I am in love with the White House as an adornment of my picture. If you'll just go out to Pennsylvania avenue I will make no objection to the photograph."

A novel bargain sale of real money fresh from the presses of the government took place in a Washington business house one day last week. It was an advertising dodge and it worked well. One thousand new one-dollar treasury notes were sold for 90 cents each. The sale lasted just two hours and all that time the line of would-be purchasers of "good money at reduced rates" was over a block long. No person was allowed to buy more than one bill at a time, but there was no limit placed upon the number of times each person might buy. In consequence, the line was of the nature of an endless chain. As each 90 cents was handed to the cashier, a bill of sale was made out and a dollar bill was wrapped up like an ordinary purchase and delivered to the customer.

Six candidates for the position of snake-catcher to the division of reptiles and batrachians of the National museum presented themselves before the Civil Service commission and were examined as to their knowledge of snakes and called upon to prove that their prowess as snake-charmers was not mythical.

The fortunate one of the six who strove for the peculiar berth in the government's service will have the scientific title of "aid in perpetology" and will receive a compensation of $50 a month.

One of the candidates was a young man, not more than 20. Several were middle-aged, and one, a bewhiskered and bewildered countryman, laid claim to the office on account of the presentation of a photograph showing his body covered with snakes.

Orders have been posted in several departments of the government notifying employes that they must pay the debts they incur for the necessaries of life or lose their jobs. Some clerks make a regular practice of buying on credit from grocers and merchants, pushing it to the extreme limit, and then failing to pay. Their salaries from the government are not subject to seizure so that the creditor has no legal redress against this debtor and must lose his debt unless the head of the department in which the debtor is employed compels him to pay or leave the public service. Trouble on this score has been common in Washington, almost from the foundation of the government.

An old employe in one of the departments tells in the Brooklyn Eagle how President Jackson stopped long enough in his fight on Nicholas Biddle and the United States bank to help a landlady collect a board bill from a long-delinquent debtor. He occupied a position of responsibility in the Navy department, where the man who tells the story is now employed. He was a person of fine address and a smooth talker, and he had no difficulty in running up a heavy bill with the landlady. In her despair she finally went to the White House, where she was ushered into the presence of the president. She told her story to him and the old hero of the battle of New Orleans listened attentively. When she had completed her tale of woe he said:

"Have Mr. Blank give you his note at sixty days for the entire amount of his indebtedness to you and when that is done bring it to me."

The landlady followed the president's instructions. Mr. Blank promptly signed the note, though wondering what she wanted with it, for he knew no bank or note shaver would discount his paper. She took the note to the president, who read it carefully, expressed his satisfaction, and then took up his good gray goose-quill pen and endorsed it. In those days the banks did not send out notices to the makers of notes of the date those interesting documents fell due. They waited until the day of doom, as it were, and then sent their collector out to hunt up the victim and get the money. So when Mr. Blank's note fell due the bank collector called on him and jogged his memory. Mr. Blank received him affably, and smilingly said:

"My dear sir, I am not prepared to take that note up today; the best I can do is to renew it."

"I don't think that would suit your endorser," blandly remarked the collector.

"My endorser?" exclaimed Mr. Blank in surprise. "Why, man, there is no endorser on that note."

"Oh, yes there is," replied the collector. "Here's the note, look at it and see for yourself."

Mr. Blank took the note and as he saw A. Jackson scrawled across it in old Hickory's well known rugged hand he nearly fell out of his official chair. Recovering himself with an effort he said:

"I think you are right. I will pay the amount before the three days of grace expire."

And he did. So much for the right kind of an endorser.

THE OLD RELIABLE

ROYAL

BAKING POWDER

Absolutely Pure

THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE

RIGHTS OF STREET TRAFFIC.

Significant Decision Rendered by the Federal Circuit Court.

Chicago Chronicle.

What are the rights of teams and pedestrians on the streets as against the street cars? A recent case in St. Louis raises the question. It should have a definite answer.

A citizen of St. Louis riding in his carriage with members of his family attempted to cross a street on which a trolley car was approaching. He did not get across quickly enough; the motorman could not stop the car quickly enough; the result was a collision and wreck with personal injuries to the owner of the carriage and his family.

The case was tried in the United States courts. It was recently decided by the federal court of appeals for the circuit over which Judge Caldwell presides.

The case turned on the main question of contributory negligence. Did the driver of the carriage fail to use ordinary care and prudence in trying to drive across the tracks ahead of the car? Did the motorman exercise ordinary care and prudence in operating his car at the street crossing where carriages and pedestrians were frequently passing?

The court held that the street cars have no exclusive rights in the streets of the city. The citizen has the same rights as the street car company at the crossing. Each must use this right as not abusing it. The citizen must not unnecessarily obstruct and delay the car. The motorman must not recklessly push his car across the intersecting street without regard to the teams and pedestrians on the track ahead of him. This is the local law everywhere.

LINES TO A LAUGH.

"Pa," said the small boy, "what is the ghost of a smile?"

"A ghost of a smile," pa sadly replied, "is something that is found in empty bottles."—New York Sun.

Algy—So you asked old Jones for his daughter's hand? What did he say?

Ferdy—He said, "Take her and let me be happy."—Puck.

Mrs. Muggins—Mrs. Bjones is a pretty shrewd shopper, isn't she?

Mrs. Buggins—Yes indeed. Why, I have actually known that woman to get a bargain at a church fair—Smart Set.

"Have you the time?"

"No, but I hear the newsboys crying the 6 o'clock editions of the evening papers."

"Then it must be a little past 4."—Kansas City Journal.

Jones—It's a mistake to judge a man by his clothes.

Mrs. Jones—That's so; he ought to be judged by his wife's clothes.—Detroit Free Press.

Josh—I s'pose Silas is mad at the feller thet sold him the horse.

Hiram—I dunno why he should be. If yer look at the horse yer won't blame anybody fer sellin' him.—Judge.

"Yes," Miss Wooby was saying, "my eldest sister married one of the Van den Gilts of New York."

"You don't say?" replied Miss Pepprey. "A first cousin of mine married one of the Joneses of the United States."—Philadelphia Press.

"Very few children are educated at home nowadays."

"No," said Miss Cayenne; "it is difficult now to find a child more than ten years old who does not feel convinced that it knows more than its parents."—Washington Star.

KILLARNEY.

Balfe.

By Killarney's lakes and fells,
Em'rald isles and winding bays,
Mountain paths and woodland dells
Mem'ry ever fondly strays.
Bounteous nature loves all lands,
Beauty wanders everywhere,
Footprints leave on many strands,
But her home is surely there!
Angels fold their wings and rest,
In that Eden of the west,
Beauty's home, Killarney,
Ever fair, Killarney.

Innisfallen's ruined shrine
May suggest a passing sigh,
But man's faith can ne'er decline,
Such God's wonders floating by—
Castle Lough and Glena Bay,
Mountains Tore and Eagle Nest,
Still at Muckross you must pray,
Though the monks are now at rest.
Angels wonder not that man,
There would fain prolong life's span,
Beauty's home, Killarney,
Ever fair, Killarney.

No place else can charm the eye
With such bright and varied tints;
Ev'ry rock that you pass by,
Verdure broiders or besprints.
Virgin there the green grass grows,
Ev'ry morn spring's natal day,
Bright-hued berries daff the snows,
Smiling winter's frown away.
Angels often pausing there,
Doubt if Eden were so fair,
Beauty's home, Killarney,
Ever fair, Killarney.

Music there for echo dwells,
Makes each sound a harmony;
Many voic'd the chorus swells,
Till it faints in ecstacy,
With the charmful tints below
Seems the heav'n above to vie,
All rich colors that we know,
Tinge the cloud-wreaths in that sky.
Wings of angels so might shine,
Glancing back soft light divine,
Beauty's home, Killarney,
Ever fair, Killarney.

$15.00

It isn't every clothier that has as many lines of suck suits at a single price as we have at

$15.00

Others From $10.00 to $25.00

And this is also true of our top coats.

NO CLOTHING FITS LIKE OURS.

Browning, King & Co.

R. S. Wilson, Manager.