

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss: George B. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily Morning Bee for the month of October, 1903, was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Number of copies and Total. Rows include 1st class, 2nd class, 3rd class, 4th class, 5th class, 6th class, 7th class, 8th class, 9th class, 10th class, 11th class, 12th class, 13th class, 14th class, 15th class, 16th class, 17th class, 18th class, 19th class, 20th class, 21st class, 22nd class, 23rd class, 24th class, 25th class, 26th class, 27th class, 28th class, 29th class, 30th class, 31st class, 32nd class, 33rd class, 34th class, 35th class, 36th class, 37th class, 38th class, 39th class, 40th class, 41st class, 42nd class, 43rd class, 44th class, 45th class, 46th class, 47th class, 48th class, 49th class, 50th class, 51st class, 52nd class, 53rd class, 54th class, 55th class, 56th class, 57th class, 58th class, 59th class, 60th class, 61st class, 62nd class, 63rd class, 64th class, 65th class, 66th class, 67th class, 68th class, 69th class, 70th class, 71st class, 72nd class, 73rd class, 74th class, 75th class, 76th class, 77th class, 78th class, 79th class, 80th class, 81st class, 82nd class, 83rd class, 84th class, 85th class, 86th class, 87th class, 88th class, 89th class, 90th class, 91st class, 92nd class, 93rd class, 94th class, 95th class, 96th class, 97th class, 98th class, 99th class, 100th class.

Net total sales, 29,753. Net average sales, 29,753. GEORGE B. TSCHUCK, Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 4th day of October, A. D. 1903. M. B. HUNGATE.

Two more weeks of the active foot a season. Watch the casualty list.

This is the time of the year when Tax Commissioner Fleming is not envied of his job.

Politics has been shelved now for a few months at least. All together then for the progress and prosperity of Omaha and Nebraska.

Really, the World-Herald would much rather be in a position to keep telling the public "I told you so" than to wage a successful campaign for its own candidates.

Another reason why the extra session of congress is not more popular with the members is that the congressman's pay is the same whether he spends his time in Washington or at home.

Complaint is made of the pirating of American trade marks by Japanese manufacturers. The Japs are known among their neighbors as the "Yankees of the east," and they are learning fast.

As the lone democratic congressman from Nebraska the new member from the Second district should cut a wide swath in the democratic house caucus whether he gets into the Congressional Record or not.

To arrest a prize fighter on a charge of vagrancy is an insult which should be resented by the fraternity. As if prize fighting were not a legitimate occupation so long as the dear public is willing to have its pockets tapped at the box office.

Any cheap grafter who wants notoriety can easily get it by making a confession that he was a side partner with Pat Crowe in the famous Cudaby kidnapping. People hereabouts, however, will pretend they are from Missouri and insist on being shown.

After a careful investigation of the costly plumbing at the county hospital the committee of experts reports that the county was not cheated on the work for which it has paid fancy prices, but that the plumbing ought to be torn out and new plumbing put in.

Treason! Treason! The World-Herald prints a communication which says: "As to John O. Yeiser, no particular significance is to be attached to his defeat." If Yeiser's defeat is not the worst setback encountered by the Goddess of Reform in many moons it will take three supreme court reports to convince Mr. Yeiser differently.

When the democrats in congress have to go to Mississippi for a floor leader in the house they confess to a deeper death of eligible timber in their ranks. Think of the democracy of this country following the leadership of Mississippi, the pioneer in negro disfranchisement and the seat of densest ignorance and illiteracy among both whites and blacks!

The opposition press said just as mean things about President McKinley when he was alive, as they are now saying about President Roosevelt. When they try to draw invidious comparisons between the two it will be well to recall their vicious onslaughts upon McKinley, and to remember that McKinley, if alive, would still be the target for their poison shafts.

In the unanimous selection by the republican caucus of the Hon. Joseph G. Cannon of Illinois as speaker of the house of representatives The Bee finds special gratification. The Bee was the first newspaper of prominence to champion the candidacy of Mr. Cannon for the speakership as soon as it became known that Speaker Henderson would not be again in line for that honor.

THE MEETING OF CONGRESS.

The fifty-eighth congress will meet in extra session today in accordance with the proclamation of the president. It is the understanding that the message, which will be communicated to both houses tomorrow, will be confined to recommending the necessary action to give effect to the reciprocity treaty with Cuba, already ratified by the senate.

But while this will be the chief subject of consideration at the extra session it will not necessarily be the only one. There is likely, for instance, to be some attention given to the Panama situation, Senator Morgan and other advocates of the Nicaragua route being pretty sure to have something to say concerning the change in conditions which appears to assure the construction of the Panama canal by the United States. As to the tariff and the currency it is settled that the republicans will not consider at this session any propositions relating to those questions, though it is expected that the democrats will discuss the tariff in connection with consideration of the reciprocity treaty.

It seems to be practically arranged that there will be no issue or controversy between the senate and house as to the method of procedure on the treaty. It is the understanding that whatever form the house shall decide upon will be accepted by the senate and the indications are that there will be no great delay, so far as the house is concerned, in disposing of the treaty. In his speech to the republican caucus which nominated him for the speakership Mr. Cannon undoubtedly voiced the sentiment of the house republicans in saying that "our policy should be to consider and enact proper legislation covering the convention for reciprocal trade between Cuba and the United States," so that it is safe to assume that not much time will be occupied by the house in passing the required legislation. In the senate a prolonged discussion is not unlikely, some senators having expressed the opinion that the whole tariff question will be opened by the Cuban measure and that it will be well into the regular session before action on the matter is taken by the senate.

As to the treaty, it may be of interest to state that it provides that all of Cuba's exports may enter the United States at a reduction of 20 per cent from the present rates of duty. The United States exporters are to enjoy the same percentage of reduction on goods going into Cuba, with reductions of 25, 30 and 40 per cent on certain classes of articles. The larger discounts are on machinery of various kinds, manufactures of steel, whiskies and brandies, manufactures of cotton and knitted goods and a number of other articles. The president of the United States is authorized to proclaim the existence of the new rates as soon as congress takes the necessary action to make them operative.

HANNA AND THE PRESIDENCY. The signal victory achieved by the republicans of Ohio in the late election, under the leadership of Senator Hanna, gave opportunity to the opponents of President Roosevelt to attempt to create a presidential boom for Mr. Hanna. It is needless to say that they had not the slightest reason to think that the attempt would be approved or countenanced by the Ohio senator, knowing as he did that he had repeatedly declared that he was not seeking nomination for the presidency and that he had pronounced unqualifiedly in favor of the nomination of Mr. Roosevelt by the next republican national convention.

Again Mr. Hanna has stated in the most definite and positive terms that he is not a candidate for the presidency and the Cleveland Leader, which enjoys the confidence of the senator to a greater degree than any other newspaper and therefore may fairly be assumed to speak with authority, says: "While Mr. Hanna may be pleased by this expression of confidence in him—and he would be more than human if he were not pleased—it may be accepted as the solemn truth that he has done nothing to encourage the exuberance of his friends and admirers. On the other hand, he has discouraged the talk connecting his name with the presidency. There is no reason, moreover, to believe that he will, by word or act, do anything to put himself in the place which is now almost universally conceded to Theodore Roosevelt as the leader of his party in next year's campaign." After referring to the persistent attempt that has been made to array Mr. Roosevelt against Mr. Hanna the Leader adds: "Mr. Roosevelt seems to be absolutely assured of the nomination as his own successor. Nothing, apparently, can defeat his nomination. Nobody who knows Mark Hanna has ever questioned his word. If, as is generally understood, he has given even a tacit pledge to Theodore Roosevelt not to seek the presidential nomination, that pledge will be kept. That may be depended upon."

As we have heretofore said, no greater injustice could be done Mr. Hanna than to imply that he may not be sincere in declaring that he is not seeking a presidential nomination and in his public expressions favorable to the candidacy of President Roosevelt. The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger says that no republican of prominence who has spoken on the subject believes for a moment that there will be serious opposition to the nomination of Roosevelt, or that any other name will be presented to the convention. And it is not to be doubted that Senator Hanna will be among the most earnest supporters of the president in the next republican national convention.

It is not to be expected that the scramble for supreme court commissioner vacancies is to be as intense now as it formerly was. Under the new law passed by the last Nebraska legislature, extending the terms of the commissioners, six of them were to be appointed for only one year and three for two

years, and the entire commission to expire by limitation in 1905, unless the legislature comes to the rescue again. The privilege of wearing the title of judge for the rest of their days will be worth more than the emoluments of the position for appointees who can draw their pay only from now until next April.

THE ILLINOIS DECISION.

Attorneys for the railroads involved in the litigation brought to test the right of the city of Omaha to make an independent assessment of railroad property within the city's jurisdiction for municipal taxation are putting great faith in a decision very recently handed down by the supreme court of Illinois, upholding the plan of tax evasion by a pretended distribution of terminal values as practiced in that state. Whether the constitution of Illinois is as explicit as the constitution of Nebraska regarding uniformity of valuation and taxation in each taxing district, we are not satisfactorily informed, but a reading of the Nebraska constitution ought to convince anyone that the intention of its framers was to provide against discrimination as between taxpayers without respect to the corporate character of the owners or the kind of property taxed. If the decision of the Illinois supreme court can be twisted into an endorsement of wholesale railroad tax-shirking it ought not to be followed by any other court, but ought to be rejected at once as bad and vicious law.

The natural consequence of the Illinois decision in taking out of the area of municipal taxation property values enjoying the benefits of municipal government and of the expenditure of money raised by municipal taxes on adjacent property is pointedly depicted by the Chicago papers. "The Chicago News, for example, while calling for a revision of the statute to patch up the hole through which the railroads have crawled, declares recent investigation discloses that while the railroads have been increasing their real estate holdings in Chicago their taxes for years have remained about the same. A railroad buys a valuable tract of land and lists this tract as an addition to its 'right-of-way,' and from that time forthwith the tract, no matter what it may be used for, remains 'railway track' and is not assessable for purposes of local taxation. The purchase of property by a railroad is therefore equivalent to wiping it out so far as the city's right to municipal revenues from it is concerned. In this way it shows many large tracts of land, including some of the most valuable realty in Chicago, have disappeared from an assessor's books, although all this property was taxable as real estate and paid taxes as such until the railroads bought it, whereupon immediately it became something else and escaped city taxation altogether.

The absurdity of the logic on which the Illinois decision is based can best be illustrated by imagining a railroad buying all the property in a city and labeling it "right-of-way," and thus depriving the municipal government altogether of its revenue from municipal taxes so far as the real estate is concerned. If the law is "concentrated essence of common sense," as some jurists still insist, it will have to abandon actions like these so repugnant to common justice.

Final figures in the judicial district elections throughout Nebraska show that the republicans have been successful in regaining a large number of the positions on the district bench. Some of them have been in possession of the populists and fusionists ever since the rise of the populist party twelve years ago. Nothing could be more significant as to the deep-down change in political sentiment of the people of this state.

Omaha's High school debaters have been out-talked by their Chicago competitors, but that should not discourage them. We have had several brilliant examples of what practice and experience will do in developing Nebraska oratorical talents—in one instance even capturing a foredoomed presidential nomination as the prize.

We may be sure that the threatened suit against the Cecil Rhodes estate is being spurred on by hungry lawyers, who will be glad to get a small share of the late South African millionaire's money. It is a mighty poor attempt to break a will that cannot command legal talent in those days.

The story from Washington to the effect that Jim Hill proposes to consolidate the Northern Pacific and the Burlington into one great property known as the Burlington system is suggestive of great possibilities. For the present, however, we shall wait to see what we shall see.

The plan now is to incorporate the new Omaha Chamber of Commerce when one hundred memberships have been subscribed. It may be all right to incorporate with a hundred memberships, but the whole five hundred ought to be taken before the organization gets down to business.

From Grove to Gay. St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Governor Mickey of Nebraska believes that a public officer should have rational amusement. When he tires of executive affairs he dons a pair of overalls and spends a few days in the country feeding a steed thrasher or plowing on the handles of a low-geared prairie plow.

A Future Certainty. New York Tribune. One cent postage per ounce for letters in every part of the United States and 2 cents per ounce for letters between countries in the postal union would be immensely popular and gratifying. Those deals ought not to be impossible of accomplishment in this century of swift strides of progress.

Justice Brewer Endorsed. Philadelphia Press. The ends of justice, the good of society, the enforcement of the law and of all legal obligations would be promoted and aided by the curtailment of the privilege

ROUND ABOUT NEW YORK.

Hipples on the Current of Life in the Metropolis. Strange things happened in New York last week. Election results might be placed in the list, but it is more comforting to forget them. The subsequent celebration without the assistance of booze, vouchered for by the Run, deserves high rank among the wonderful performances of a wonderful town. Admittedly the wonder of all was the arrival in part of a whale, presumed to be drawn thither by the announcement of a wide open town. The whale came inside Sandy Hook. Various observers estimated the visitor's length at anywhere from seventy-five to 150 feet and described him as a "hump-backed bull." He was seen by the soldiers at the Hook and by the crews of various tugboats and other vessels.

A Dream and a Nightmare. Again there is talk of an attempt to navigate the Missouri river between Omaha and St. Louis and both Omaha and Kansas City look forward to the early installation of large lines. Missouri river navigation has been a dream and a nightmare of a nightmare for many years, but it has amounted to little more since the days of railroads. The giddy old stream is too "uncertain, coy and hard to please."

Indifference to Grafting. Kansas City Star. "The American people don't mind grafting," remarked an experienced Philadelphia politician, "but they hate scandals. They don't kick so much on a jiggered public contract for a boulevard, but they want the covard and no fuss and no dust." Unfortunately, this politician wasn't far from the truth. The experience of almost every American city will bear him out. This peculiar attitude of honest Americans toward dishonest politicians is something attributed to indifference toward public affairs. The voters are "too busy," it is said, to pay the attention to the municipal government. But this explanation reduces simply to the Philadelphia boss' statement that the people "don't mind grafting."

Proof of Pushing Citizenship. Philadelphia Record. The most interesting and far-reaching result of the late election in New York is shown in the majority vote cast in favor of expending \$100,000 for the purpose of enlarging and deepening the Erie canal. That bespeaks the generous and undaunted spirit of the people of the Empire state. The bulldog attitude toward municipal government, but this explanation reduces simply to the Philadelphia boss' statement that the people "don't mind grafting."

SECURING ELBOW ROOM.

Wise People Moving Away from the Crowded Sections of Cities. Boston Globe. The increase of the rural districts of the country, relative to the cities, is constantly growing. The inevitable tendency of the trolley and railroad is effecting this result steadily, and all the facts of the last census confirm it. The increase in the percentage of city population was not nearly so great between 1890 and 1900 as between 1880 and 1890. The former decade the advance of city life was from 29 to 32 per cent, and in the latter from 29 to 33. The total of urban population, according to the census of 1900, was 23,372,252; that of semirural and rural population, 8,308,480, and that of distinctly rural population, 30,683,732, or 52 per cent of the total.

These signs of disintegration in cities are what might be expected, with the great distributing tendency of the railroads and the enhanced power of locomotion everywhere. The cities of the Middle Ages were built up partly by force and partly by accommodation. They are no longer in any sense models for the times. The only excuse for congestion is the property interest. But too much compactness is in the end defeat its own purpose. The tendency of our cities is to separate into smaller aggregations. Distance does not matter as it once did, and all other considerations constantly work for more air and elbow room.

ENLARGING ERIE CANAL.

Decline Vote of the Empire State in Favor of the Waterway. Chicago Tribune. New York has decided by a majority of 250,000 to build its 1,000-ton barge canal from Buffalo to the Hudson river. This is a fortunate one for the farmers of the great lake basin, for from any point on the great lakes to New York City will be considerably lowered when the canal is built. The canal will act as a freight regulator, even if it does not act as a freight carrier to any great extent. And the canal's regulation of freight rates means the end of the consolidation of interests of a gentleman farmer, because the canal will be state owned.

New York City gave the overwhelming majority for the canal largely because of the support accorded by the metropolitan press to the project. New York hopes by means of the canal to bring back to itself by cheap rates much trade that other seaports have been gaining. The state was against the canal with the exception of Erie county, where Buffalo is situated, and the neighboring county of Niagara. Buffalo probably will benefit more in proportion to population than any other city.

The big ditch, it is estimated, will cost \$101,000,000. If experience is a good teacher the actual cost will be double that. But the \$200,000,000 will be money well spent, especially in the opinion of the western farmer, who will enjoy the canal's benefits without having to put up a cent either to build or maintain it.

NEW STANDARD OIL TAXES.

How Easily a Monopoly Levies Toll on the People. Chicago Tribune. The Standard Oil company has added 1 cent a gallon to the wholesale price of kerosene. This means that the consumer will have to pay 15 cents a gallon more. The company has also raised the price of paraffin candles 1 cent a pound. One raise will add \$10,000,000 to its yearly revenues and the other will add \$2,000,000. A corporation which has the monopoly of a great industry has suddenly given orders that the public must pay it \$11,000,000 more a year than it has been paying.

Neither congress, nor a state legislature, nor a city council can impose new taxes in the easy, stealthy way in which private corporation can do it. The public body, large or small, does not levy taxes without giving the people due notice of its intentions. There is discussion. There is an opportunity to protest. Whatsoever is done is done in the daylight. There is no public when a private corporation levies tribute to the amount of millions. The directors meet in a secluded room and formulate their edict. Sometimes it is one man, the master of the directors, who orders them to add to the volume of taxes. Probably in the case of the Standard Oil company Mr. Rockefeller is the sole arbiter of taxation. In a way Mr. Rockefeller is a greater man than President Roosevelt. The one can impose a tax and the other cannot. In theory the people who are taxed by the Standard Oil company can defend themselves by not using its products. In practice they cannot get along without the product and have to pay the tax, no matter how unjust it may be. The Standard Oil people will contend that their new taxes are just, but no man is a good judge in his own case.

A concern which has a monopoly of one of the necessities of life cannot safely be intrusted with a power to tax at its own discretion. It is sure to exact from consumers more than it ought to, and is likely to exact "all that the traffic will bear."

TALK OF THE STATE PRESS.

Stanton Ticket: One by one the planks have been torn from the populist platform and used for democratic kindling wood.

Wayne Herald: While the election of a few democrats in Wayne county won't necessarily cause a harder winter, higher priced fuel, shorter crops next year nor preclude the production of butter and eggs, yet it would have been better if voters had held them on the shelf, as comfortably as possible, and made a republican victory sweeping and complete.

Ekamah Journal: The lying and contemptible attacks made by the Omaha yellow journal on W. G. Scarra costs Judge Dickinson many votes in Burlington county and added to Scarra's strength many fusionists who were disgusted with such a campaign. The World-Herald's attempts to ape the Chicago American and other eastern yellow hags cost the fusion ticket many votes in this state.

Hastings Tribune: The people of Nebraska refused to believe that Judge Scarra was a man selected by the railroads because they could manipulate him at will and would find him a willing tool in their hands. The people have done their part. The remainder of the demonstration of ability and integrity rests with Judge-elect Scarra, and there is no doubt that he will proceed to show that the confidence of the people was not misplaced.

Lyons Sun: Many of the state papers are justly denouncing the methods of attacking candidates by belated circulars, deliberately sent through the mails just before election. So far as the Nebraska Anti-Saloon league circulars are concerned, it is to be said that they were not the act of the league, and the perpetrators of the cowardly deed took pains that the league should know nothing about it. It was the dirty work of just three men who pretended to act in the league's name. In work, of course, hurts the league, and the league ought to take care to protect itself from such abuse.

Papillon Times: A great many bad things have been said and are being said about Omaha, but at the same time there are many good things to be said. The country of the Nebraska metropolis that is destined to be the great city of the west. There are enough hustling business men in Omaha to make it such. Omaha is soon to be a great grain center, the plans now under preparation being to make the city second only to Chicago in the grain business. Not only Omaha, but all of Nebraska will profit by such enterprise. With an electric railroad connecting Omaha and Papillon this place will be a suburban residence place for the great city and in time will rank with the beautiful and prosperous suburban towns adjacent to the larger cities of the east.

Norfolk News: If the fusionists of Nebraska have one lesson more emphatic than another to learn as the result of the recent election it is that for them to endeavor to prejudice the voters by rotten insinuations and campaign backbiting attacking the principles of the republican candidate and his personality is an utter failure. They had to head their ticket the strongest man in the party—a gentleman whose fitness for the position, whose personal character and integrity were never once questioned by the republicans, and whose name was well thought of by everyone, but his supporters were not satisfied with this. They must needs appeal to the prejudices of the people. They must attack the republican candidate. They began with the idle bluster early in the campaign that what was wanted was a nonpartisan election—favorable to their candidate, and in the face of public sentiment, emphatically expressed, they must needs resort to dirt slinging. Their energies were later exerted to thrust the bible in as an issue, securing the aid of several ministers of the gospel to make their efforts the more certain. They sought to rake up some old records of Judge Barnes in his former home which were presented in a circular, and finally they induced the officers of the Anti-Saloon league to issue a note of warning against the republican candidate, and through it all that old favorite campaign slogan of "railroad tout" rattled its dry bones around seeking whom it might influence. On some of these matters the republicans assumed the defensive, but none during the campaign were they the aggressors in anything calculated to lower the fusion candidate in the estimation of the people. They waited their opportunity at the polls and their answer to the fusion attempt at misleading the public is now registered to the tune of about 10,000 majority for Judge Barnes. Perhaps they will learn the lesson that the results convey, and perhaps they will not. Anyway it is evident that the people of the state can depend upon to support a party conducting a clean, honorable fight.

Thomas Walsh, aged 14, employed in a rope factory in New York, met with a peculiarly horrible accident which undoubtedly will cost his life. His body was perforated by a thousand steel needles in the machinery. Walsh's duty was to watch the machine which separates the hemp into strands and regulate the movement of the hemp. As he bent over to pick up a piece of hemp the machinery clutched his clothes and he was drawn into it shrieking for aid. There were 1,000 steel needles moving up and down and his body was pierced by them. The machinery was stopped, but it was found necessary to take it apart before he could be released. So acute was the pain that the boy prayed for death after reaching the hospital.

This is a Sherlock Holmes story as the Broadway Digest says: "When I read the physician's prescription I found next therein a proprietary preparation of which I had never heard. I had something just like it, but I wanted to be sure to put up just what was specified. As I was not familiar with the compound, I telephoned to two or three other druggists, and they said they did not know it either. Then I called up the doctor's office to ask him about it. The doctor was not in, and the maid said she did not know when he would be, so I asked her to look upon his desk and see if there was not a sample of the compound he had prescribed. The physician told me the name of the manufacturer, so I came home in a minute or two and told me exactly what I wanted to know. How did I happen to think of that? Why, I knew that some firm or other had been 'sampling' the doctor and that there was every chance in the world that the compound would be found on his desk."

The man who was hit by a trolley car in upper Broadway refused to enter a complaint against the motorman, taking all the blame upon himself. "I was one of those openwork accidents," he said. "What do you mean? The subway ditch?" he was asked by the policeman who picked him up. "Not a bit of it. I turned around to look at an openwork stocking that a pretty girl was exposing and the car struck me. Blame it on the stocking."

PERSONAL NOTES.

Secretary Moody says 80 per cent of the men in our navy are native born Americans.

If the sun spots are responsible for these beautiful November days then bring on your spots. Certainly nobody would want the luminary to change them.

Admiral Howies is to receive \$25,000 a year from the private shipbuilding concern with which he is to be connected. As chief constructor of the navy his salary was \$3,500 a year.

Bill Devery will be encouraged to keep up the fights in New York. The time is coming when the people will rally with enthusiasm to the standard of a true reformer.

A New York farmer shot his wife because she laughed at him when he failed to catch a hog he was pursuing. Some men get exasperated because their wives don't laugh at their jokes.

President Koeh of the German Reichsbank, Germany, has just celebrated the semi-centenary of the beginning of his official career. Emperor William conferred on him the Order of the Red Eagle of the first class.

Indiana has just come into possession, through a purchase made by State Librarian Henry, of a valuable set of autographs. Letters that is intended to be the nucleus of a great historical collection that the state will make.

These are stirring times in St. Louis. Between bank runs, fair preparations, boodle hunts and carriages, the old town is humming day and night and inventing new thrills every hour. There is no rest outside of the graveyards.

John Palmer, a full-blooded Ponca Indian, who has been admitted to the bar in Oklahoma, will be one of the speakers at the next session of the Oklahoma Bar association. Palmer is located in Pawhuska and is considered one of the best orators in the territory.

Bishop Restarick, missionary bishop of Honolulu, thus tells of his first sight of a volcano in the Hawaiian islands: "A friend took me to the foot of an immense mountain and, lifting his hand impressively, exclaimed: 'That crater is 4,000 years old. I didn't mean to doubt him, but naturally I asked: Why the 13? Oh,' said my friend, 'I've been here that long. It was 4,000 when I came.'"

PASSING PLEASANTIES.

She—How do you pronounce e-m-b-o-n-o-p-e-n-t? He—It's easy enough to pronounce that. She—How? He—Fat.—Philadelphia Press.

"Prof. Langley would better have invented his money in a theater." "Why so?" "A theater has wings and flies."—Kansas City Journal.

"A man that walks right up to do his job of reforming the whole world," said Uncle Eben, "very often fails at so simple a matter as breaking his pipe or chewing tobacco."—Washington Star.

Kind Lady (pityingly)—How long, my good man, have you been a tramp? Her good man (sighing)—Since I bought United States Steel.—Life.

"What do you think is the trouble with him?" asked the anxious wife. "My dear madam," replied the doctor, who was not so puzzled that he did not know under what general head to put all his troubles, "speaking generally, I should say he is suffering from a cold." "You mustn't jump at conclusions, my friend," as the old cat remarked to the puppy, when he made a leap for her tail.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Wife—Who was that gentleman you just brought home? Husband—Why, that was Spooner, the famous composer. Wife—Who was Spooner? Husband—Yes, he manufactures a famous brand of soothing syrup.—Chicago News.

The reporter was indignant at having been asked to write a column on "The new 'You tell me Mr. Spooner isn't in?'" "You're a liar!" "You're the dignified and imperious butler." "Well, young man, you haven't any soap on that."—Chicago Tribune.

"How's your mother?" asked the neighbor. "Worried to death," answered the boy who was swinging on the front gate. "Father's hunting in the Adirondacks, brother Bill's gone to a political convention, and my mother's joined a football team and the dressmaker just told mother she'd look like a fright in mourning."—Washington Star.

CHESTNUTS.

W. J. Lampton in New York Sun. Pahaw I don't like 'em cooked. Gimme my chestnut raw. They tell of the chestnut. Of the red and yellow hills. Where the trees grow. Where the sharp frost falls On the breeze. And the sun is open. And they drop on the ground. Among the leaves. And the birds 'em tries to keep. Them there asleep. Till the spring. And the birds 'em tries to keep. The raw ones tastes like the keen air. And the purple haze. The fall days. Wear. And the whonny' about. Of the boys and girls goin' out. Natin' all day in the woods. To bring back the goods. At night. That's right. Them that the raw ones tastes like to me. See? Gimme mine raw. These here cooked ones. Tastes like the town. Long and brown. And big builder for hills. And a sewer for air. See. No cooked chestnuts for me. Gimme mine raw. And let me chew. On 'em slow and steady. And shut my eyes and see. The trees and the woods and the country. They taste like so much to me.

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