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PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

ally Bee (without Bunday), One Year. 44.
ally Bee and Sunday, One Year. 6.
lustrated Bee, One Year. 2.
unday Bee, One Year. 2.
aturday Bee, One Year. 3.
wentieth Century Farmer, One Year. 1. DELIVERED BY CARRIER. Bee (without Sunday), per copy... Bee (without Sunday), per week... Bee (ncluding Sunday), per week... Sunday Bee, per copy.... Evening Bee (without Sunday), per week Evening Bee (including Sunday), per

laints of irregularities in delivery 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—2228 Park Row Building.
Washington—561 Fourteenth Street.
Washington—561 Fourteenth Street. CORRESPONDENCE.

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 accepte THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebruska, 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 December, 193, was as follows: .30,220 ..30,870 ********** 19.....31,020 ...30,670 27.020 .80,300

.30.340 ..31,110 ..31,500 30,40030,750 ...30,400 29.....30,58027,010 .,30,890 .31,160947,356 Less unsold and returned copies.... 10,421

......936,934 Net total sales. Net average sales. 30,220 GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to efore me this list day of December, A. D. 903.

M. B. HUNGATE,

(Seal.) Notary Public.

The Russian bear seems to be giving the Wall street bull much valuable assistance.

own weight.

Come on with the flouring mill-the more the merrier and the better for the grain market.

The Irish, it appears, are still a very long way from forgetting that Ireland

There was a time when the Chicago

The school board's compliments to the police board, with the information that it can quickly find use for all the license money the latter will release.

If any genius has a certain and unfailing recipe for removing the wreck boodoo from railroad tracks he can sell it for a sum that will make Rockefeller's tegic purposes, declines to accept the bank account look small.

Visiting implement dealers attending their convention here are assured of Omaha's cordial greeting and invited to avail themselves of all the facilities the city affords for entertaining guests.

Contracts for supplies for the county poor farm have been awarded and the only thing the commissioners now have to look after is that the county shall get the quantity and quality of supplies it pays for.

Advisory board has been formerly exercised its sessions are likely to be less interesting than ever.

tell.

but the aggregate liabilities show con- gard to trade with Asia may prove to siderable increase. The explanation is be somewhat extravagant. easily found in the bigger combinations conducting industrial enterprises on larger scales than ever before. The ones of a decade or two ago.

the lives of five persons, is another samcrimes is materially weakened.

to jeopardize life and property in serious consideration. electric light company.

AMERICAN INTERESTS INVOLVED. was considered and while nothing of

this country. It cannot be clearly foreseen what

effect a war in the far east would have upon our trade in that quarter of the it would mean a sudden increase of that those lines of trade in which of joying an increase would not be intercerned in the development of American what proportion has been squandered or markets in the Orient. They are confident in asserting that a war between contrary would stimulate consumption would imply the withdrawal of a great Russia would place an embargo upon the export of wheat to European countries, and especially Germany, increasing to this extent the demand from those countries for the American product. There would also necessarily be an increased demand for our meats. interests of a far eastern war.

As to ultimate results a question is of which there can be no definite conclusion The very general opinion seems favor of the latter, Russia would be compelled to keep herself within the great majority of taxpayers. bounds observed by other powers havthe conflict have a different issue, nothing but the intervention of a power able to cope with Russia could prevent the extension of her authority at least as far as the Yellow river and a domination which would enable her to contheater manager was much envied, but trol the commerce of a vast region. just at present no one begrudges him his That she would do this in her own in-

terest is of course not to be doubted. The large concern of the United Remaining a silver advocate, Colonel States, in a commercial way, in the far bridges in Douglas county worth half Bryan intends to break this present eastern situation seems to be fully und the amount drawn out of the treasury golden silence just as soon as he can derstood at Washington and the administration can be depended upon do whatever shall be deemed wise and expedient for the safeguarding of American rights and interests in the event of war.

PACIFIC COAST EXPECTATIONS. A Pacific coast paper, while admitting the United States for military and straview that it will be the gateway to Asia for the trade of this country. It rethe Pacific ocean directly across from Asia and that no artificial waterways are needed or will be used for the carrying trade between this country and our neighbor across the water. That trade will be through the American ports which front on the Pacific. The value of the Panama canal to the United States, it goes on to say, "will not be its importance from a commercial standpoint. It will be of fully as much advantage to our commercial rivals as to more ornamental than useful from ourselves. Its real value to this country the time it was created by the charter is as a portion of our national defenses, of 1807, and now with less of the power the strategic channel through which our fleets on the one ocean can be reinforced

from the other in case of emergency." Undoubtedly a considerable portion of Charles M. Schwab has not yet finished our commerce with Asia will be done telling all he knows about the devious through the ports on the Pacific, but if ways of the Shipbuilding trust. It is that trade shall in the years to come to be feared, however, that there are amount to what some think it, a great several things about that gigantic deal of it will go through the isthmian scheme of plunder he does not want to canal. That waterway will certainly be very important from a military and strategic point of view, but its commer-Business failures in 1903 were fewer cial value to this country will also be in number than for several years past, great. Pacific coast expectations in re-

NO NEW TRUST LEGISLATION. It appears to be understood at Washlittle failures nowadays match the big ington that no further legislation will be asked for at this session of congress dealing with the trust problem. It is The granting of a new trial to the stated that for the present it is deemed Ohio murderer, Knapp, who stands best to give a fair trial to the publicity self-confessed as the extinguisher of remedy to curb and regulate the corporations subject to investigation by the ple of miscarried justice that tends to bureau of corporations. The work alpromote mob violence and law defiance. ready done by this bureau is said to be When such a degenerate can prolong very satisfactory. It has encountered no his life by the aid of judicial red tape serious obstacle thus far in its aim to the effect of our appeals for law ob- get all the data needed. The corporaservance in the face of exasperating tions of the country have responded to the demands made upon them promptly The quarrel between the mayor and stated that the president will not ask council over the appointment of the congress to add in anywise to the prescity electrician, or rather the refusal ent law and it is believed to be doubtof the mayor to appoint as city elec- ful if any of the numerous bills relating cations reaching into the legislative trician a man selected by the electric to the trusts introduced since the assemlighting company, should not be allowed bling of congress will reach the stage of

Omaha. If the mayor nominates a man In his annual message President who is not competent or notoriously Roosevelt referred to the legislation of unfit for the position it is the duty of the last congress in regard to corpora- pire state congressional delegation to the council to reject him. If the mayor tions and the fact that he did not sugnominates a competent and reputable gest or recommend further legislation intimates in words scarcely less misman for the position it is the duty of implied that he believed what had been takable that there is neither factional the council to confirm him regardless done was sufficient for the present. He nor personal disturbances in New York of the interests or pressure from the expressed full confidence in the value to prevent President Roosevelt having

At Tuesday's meeting of the Washing- he regarded the policy of publicity as politician Senator Platt has always had ton cabinet the far eastern situation ample under existing conditions and the reputation of heeding the voice of an official nature was given out, it is think there can be no doubt that this is chance for him to go wrong as to what in accord with intelligent public opinion, the rank and file of New York repubtration circles that this government's which is certainly not favorable to a relations to the controversy between warfare upon corporations that would Russia and Japan are purely commer- unsettle and disturb the business of the cial. It is stated that in the event of country. Little is now being heard of first in tendering President Roosevelt war between those nations the United industrial consolidations and those which States would make efforts to protect its have been effected appear generally to commerce in the far east and it is be pursuing legitimate business methods. pointed out that this would be a dell- All are now subject to a measure of nacate and difficult task, since both Russia tional supervision which is being faithand Japan are on friendly terms with fully applied and with evident good ef- sas, but we apprehend Nebraska repub-

WHAT CAN WE SHOW FOR OUR MONEY! The records in the county court house world. The general impression is that show that about \$1,800,000 has been contributed by the taxpayers of Douglas business for the Pacific coast in cereal county during the past twenty-five years Communications relating to news and edi-communications relating to news and edi-products and for the Mississippi valley for the construction of roads and they will hold their national convention in meat products. It is also thought bridges. The question that naturally suggests itself is, What have the taxlate the United States has been en payers to show for their money? What proportion of the enormous sum colrupted and would no doubt continue to lected from them for the construction increase. This appears to be the view and maintenance of roadways and ganizers. taken by the exporters directly con- bridges has been honestly expended, and

> stolen? The detailed exhibit compiled for The Russia and Japan would not impair the Bee shows that the levy for road taxes commerce of this country, but on the from 1880 to 1903, inclusive, aggregated \$1,154,275. Deducting therefrom 10 per of American imports, especially in the cent for delinquent taxes, we have belligerent countries. It is argued that \$1,038,848. Assuming that 20 per cent if Russia is called upon to gather in of that amount is chargeable to the cost all her resources and sinews of war it of maintenance, there still remains more than \$800,000 charged up to the original export competitor in the grain market, cost of grading public roads in Douglas county, including the grading done in the cities of Omaha and South Omaha.

A liberal estimate of the cost of grading done in the cities of Omaha and South Omaha at the county's expense would be \$300,000, which would leave haif a million dollars as representing Advancing prices for foodstuffs reflect the cost of grading of the county roads bright side to the picture. the expectation of what will be the outside of the two cities. This stuimmediate effect upon our commercial pendous sum of money is fully five times as much as all the work of road grading done in this county could be done by hand labor, whereas at the present time nearly all the grading is That Omaha postoffice plum ought to to be that if a trial of strength between done by machine. For all that, there be ripe enough now to fall soon by its Russia and Japan were to result in has been a waste of road funds that no one can explain satisfactorily to the

The amount of bridge taxes levied in ing treaties with China, while should the past twenty years will exceed \$750,-000, exclusive of the tax levied to pay interest upon the Union Pacific bridge bonds, which within itself would aggregate half a million dollars. Deducting 10 per cent from the tax levy, the expenditure for bridges in Douglas county within the past twenty years would aggregate \$675,000.

Can anybody explain what we have to show for our money? Are all the for their construction? Is it not high time to call a halt on the excessive levies for reads and bridges?

Just now, when every city is taking extraordinary precautions against conflagrations through defective electric wiring, the refusal of the city council to réceive reports or communications the importance of the Panama canal to from the city electrician de facto, because there is no such office on the satute book as an acting city electrician, will scarcely commend itself to the public in general and the business people marks that the United States fronts on of Omaha in particular. If there is no such position as acting city electrician the man in charge of the office of city electrician, who during Mr. Schurig's in cumbency as city electrician was employed in the work of inspection of elecposes the acting electrician until the council sees fit to confirm the nomination for city electrician submitted by the mayor for its approval. If, in the meantime, any loss of life or property by fire generated through imperfect electric wiring should take place the responsibility will rest primarily upon the council.

> The proposition to procure \$1,000 accident insurance policies for members of the fire department at an average cost to the city merits favorable consideration. If the surplus in the fire fund would permit policies for \$2,500 for each fireman it would not be considered an extravagance. In view of the fact, however, that there will be a shortage of the fire fund it would not to take out a \$2,500 policy and make him pay one-half of the premium, which would only amount to \$1 per month. With every fireman insured for \$2,500 periodic appeals for contributions for the relief of families of firemen who have lost their lives in fire fighting would be unnecessary.

A Missouri grand jury is looking into charges of corruption with reference to the selection and sale to the United States of sites for postoffice buildings in a half dozen Missouri towns. There have been persistent rumors of crooked work in connection with the contracts not only for real estate but also for construction by virtue of appropriations for new federal buildings. If the grand jury in Missouri succeeds in getting a Hen on the graft it should be followed and unreservedly. In view of this it is up all over the United States and traced down to the fountain head, which is probably in the vicinity of one of the departments at Washington with ramifihalls in the capitol.

Senator Platt of New York gives assurance that there is neither factional of the work to be done by the new the undivided and cordial support of perous.

bureau and conveyed the impression that his own state for renomination. As a should be given a thorough trial. We the party majority find there is no

Kansas republicans want to be the a substantial block of votes for the presidential nomination by holding their state convention to select national delegates on March 9 next. This is a laudable ambition on the part of Kanlicans will be able to go Kansas one better by holding its convention ahead of the date set in the Sunflower state and instructing Nebraska's delegates for Roosevelt in no uncertain tone

they should make sure that the hall to be placed at their disposal is equipped with an asbestos curtam as a protection against fire from the friction between the reorganizers and the disor-

Will Bryan Approve.

Washington Post. All that now remains is for Mr. Bryan to approve the declaration of general amnesty to gold democrats, issued at Omaha, by his lieutenant, Representative De Armond.

Genesis of a Dream.

Baltimore American. General Weyler is to publish a book in which he will explain why he did not invade the United States. The world has long been curious to know his reasons for failing to do so when the prospect was so encouraging.

Bright Side of the Picture.

Chicago Tribune. Out of Chicago's calamity there has already sprung a universal demand for absolute safety in theater construction and management, and nothing short of that will be tolerated hereafter. This is the only

> Political Hot Air. Philadelphia Press.

The talk about taking the republican national convention from Chicago bepresented which is certainly of great in. duplicated for today. To be sure, a cause hotels rates are to be high is probterest to this country, but in respect large proportion of this grading was ably not very serious. Such talk is heard every four years, but it never really amounts to anything-not even scaring the

Can Courts Stop Courting?

Chicago Post. Speaking of government by injunction what could be worse than the mandamus and injunction proceedings planned by Nebraskan authorities to prevent the gentle schoolmarm from wedding the clusive farmer of her choice before the school term expires or his ardor dies out?

Epidemic of Disasters.

New York Tribune. The ratiroad wreck microbe is certainly abroad in the land. The railroad managers should find some antitoxin to stay ravages. He attacks the brains of engineers and makes them misread dispatches and eats out the supports of cars and tumbles their loads in front of express trains. Just now the disease is epidemic and special precautions are in order.

Great Graft in Text Books.

Boston Transcript. with the school scandals in New York is that 70 per cent of the millions expended and that the average life of a book does not exceed two years. In such circumstances it is not strange that every Boston and Chicago text book house has a New York office and that every publishing firm in the country is offering inducements to accomplished hacks to turn out new books as fast as they can dictate. Meantime the public pays the printer.

Indianapolis Journal. The Bryan democrats of Lincoln, Neb. preface their silly invitation to the faith ful to attend a banquet there by calling attention to the honors conferred on Mr. Bryan abroad, evidently construing the atentions as an indorsement of his principles They were nothing of the kind. Mr Bryan would have received no honors abroad but for Américan officials, all republicans, who treated him politely because he had been twice a candidate for president and was a stranger in a strange land. When Mr. Bryan went abroad he very wisely left his principles behind him.

Contracts Made Under Duress. Philadelphia Press.

The decision of Judge Atcheson of the to the effect that railroads cannot shield themselves by any printed conditions from liability to pay in full for goods lost or destroyed in transit is an important one. The individual who ships his goods is confronted with a similar situation whatever road he may seek to patronize, and he must either submit to the printed conditions on the waybill or not ship. makes his submission to the conditions practically "under duress," or compulsory, which fact plays an important part from the legal standpoint. No shipper submits be inappropriate to require each fireman to those conditions from choice, and the contract is thereby seriously weakened, if not totally invalidated.

PROSPERITY AND TRUSTS.

Stoppage of Balloon Financiering Puts Business on Sound Basis, Phliadelphia Press.

The stoppage in the work of organizing trusts during 1903 helps greatly in putting the business of the country on a thorougly sound basis. The men who have suffered the most sought to get others to invest in the inflated stocks of wind-blown corporations and failed. To some extent they did succeed, but to a much larger extent they were disappointed. Their stocks. founded principally on wind, have declined enormously and in many cases have been

wiped out altogether. Fortunately, those who lost for the most part had the money to lose. Business sufered some, but it was merely the subsidence of a "boom." There has been no such de cline in trade as has distinguished Germany and Great Britain in the last two Germany is contending with a Britain and about all of the European countries have been increasing their indebtdness. But the opposite has been the

Prices have been recovering somewhat of late in Iron and steel, which suffered more than any other industry. But prices have not been low enough to take away all profit. while in other industries there has been a fair degree of prosperity. That promises now to increase. The high price of cotton and of farm products in general is cheering to the farmers and helps all other lines of trade. The new year starts out well and there is the great satisfaction of know- date of his retirement. He entered the army ing that no other nation is etqually pros-

THE OMAHA PROGRAM.

Some Comment on the Voices Raised at the Jacksonian Feast. Philadelphia Record (dem).

Not much light on the course of the dem o do the party harm just at the present ing. noment, the country will not turn the federal government over to it.

specifically condemned and populism repudiated by name; we have much sympathy But the party will have to make it entirely clear that it is now firmly commited to sound money and it will have to show an aggressive policy in other directions or The principal other direction is the tariff. won't have time for any discussion." On that subject Senator Newlands predicts that it will be an issue this year, but he says it must not be any such issue as Mr. Cleveland raised in 1888. The senator desires a protective tariff, but it must not be more protective than its beneficiaries need, and especially the tariff must be ing high wages.

This is a pretty good republican speech; It does not sound much like a democratic speech. The tariff does not maintain high wages, because high wages do not increase the cost of production. If they did we could not pay high wages and scare the manufacturers of every country in the world by our growing power of competition. The American manufacturer pays high wages, gets the most efficient labor in the world and his labor cost is generally lower than that of European manufacturers. Senator Newlands desires the tariff reduced-where it is to be reduced at allon a sliding scale, a few per cent annually. Mr. Newlands' protective standards the in all." excess might as well be taken off all at once as to be pared off during a series of

this sort of doctrine the country will not in the Tombs court. take the government out of the hands of Senator Hanna and his associates. If the manufacturers of this country need any protection it is very little and that a diminishing quantity. The beneficiaries of a tariff always say that its removal will destroy them-and it never does. A conprovide a revenue and a tariff so levied cent?" asked the astonished magistrate. will afford all the protection from foreign ompetition that any manufacturers need more than most of them need.

It is true that the democratic party was beaten in 1856, but it tried the contest again on the same issues in 1860 and won. republican party passed the McKinley tariff and was defeated in 1890 and 1892 and it would probably have been defeated again in 1896 if the democratic party had not adopted silverism, populism and Bryan,

ONWARD AND UPWARD.

One of the statements made in connection Strides of the United States Shown by Comparative Figures.

Philadelphia Ledger, National progress and prosperity are strikingly epitomized in the statement of the new Department of Commerce and Labor for 1903. The estimated population of the country is now 80,372,600, nearly sixteen times greater than it was in 1800. Without repeating the bewildering figures representing the present wealth of the nation, it is sufficient to say that if this wealth were equally distributed every inhabitant would possess \$1,235, or four times the per capita wealth-\$307-in 1850, a fourfold increase. The improved condition of the population is illustrated further by the per capita indebtedness of the country, In 1870 it was \$60.46. The country was then carrying the enormous debt of the war. The recovery has been such that at the close of 1903 the per capita indebtedness was only \$11.51. The per capita interest on the public debt in 1870 was \$3.08. It is now reduced to the trifling sum of 32 cents. The country is abundantly supplied with the circulating medium. In 1860 the per capita circulation was \$13.85. It now stands at \$30.21. The increased prosperity of the people is reflected furthermore in the deposits of the savings banks, the chief depositories of the wage earners. Since 1879 these deposits have increased more than United States district court at Pittsburg five-fold. The precise figures are: 19.3, \$2,935,204,845; 1870, \$550,000,000. The number of savings bank depositors in 19:3 was 7,305.238. In other words, one-eleventh of the population are savings bank depositors and are therefore, in some sense, capitalists, without taking into consideration the depositors in other financial institutions. This is a remarkable showing, an unerring index of the general prosperity of the American people.

PERSONAL NOTES.

It is impossible to account for the fact that 1903 was the wettest of the last fifty years in Great Britain by saying that King Edward reigned every day of it. A scientist now tells us that there is fungus in sugar; another, that there is a

good deal of arsenic in every egg.

eating eggs is the price. Ezra S. Brudno, a Russian Jew, now esiding in Cleveland, will shortly publish a book describing Russian Jewish life and the massacre at Kieff, which was the forerunner of the Kishineff affair.

yet the only thing that keeps us from

Daniel J. Sully, the New York cotton king, who has violated tradition by staying in a bull market for months and making \$8,000,000 to \$10,000,000 profits, has decided to become a banker in a general way in 1904. Ex-United States Senator Murphy on New Year's day retired from business. selling all his interests in his brewing ompany at Troy, N. Y. He has had a half interest in the business for fifty years. Lewis P. Abbott, for thirty years a member of the Boston Fire department, a part of that time holding the office of district chief, retired on a pension of \$1,000 yearly growing deficit, which has to be met in on New Year's day. He has missed but part by increasing the debt. In fact, Great four fires in his district during his term of service.

As earl marshall and premier peer Great Britain, the duke of Norfolk will be entitled to an escort of cavairy on the occasion of his forthcoming marriage This is his right for all state ceremonies, and for any other occasion which he may desire so to honor.

Colonel Jacob Kline, in command of the Twenty-first United States infantry at Fort incling. Minn., is to retire from the army within a few days. Colonel Kline's friends are endeavoring to secure his promotion to a brigadier generalship previous to the as a private and has risen to his prerank solely through merit.

ROUND ABOUT NEW YORK.

Ripples on the Current of Life in the Metropolis.

Twenty-two hundred man with shavels. were employed Saturday afternoon and peratic party can be obtained from the night and Sunday breaking the snow speeches of Senator Newlands and Repre- blockade in New York City. This was the entative De Armond at the Jacksonian official number of extra employes. Fully dinner in Omaha. The speech of the latter as many more, regularly employed by the is of some importance as evidence-hardly street cleaning department, were turned necessary—that the silverites recognize sil- loose on the drifts and by Monday morning verism as dead. Mr. De Armond was as all traces of a ten-inch snowfall had vansurnest a devotee of the white metal as ished from the business streets. The job any and he does not wish anything disre- cost the city treasury \$75,000. A still larger spectful to silver to be said now, but he army of shovelers, comprising the genus ecognizes that the less said in favor of it hobo of the Bowery, were marshaled by better. He wishes the party to assert Salvation Army officers in clearing side nothing offensively and to apologize for walks. They went abroad in parties of nothing, but "if it shall repudiate its past two and three and many of them netted -its recent past," or if it shall drive away individually over \$5. The average New elements "which left it in its recent past, York householder regards it as a sacred * * we shall go down to defeat." All duty to have his sidewalk cleared of snow. this is well enough, but if the party can The price here for a twenty-five-foot front do no better than to keep still about its is 50 cents and corners with a 100-foot exrecent past-its lapse into populism-and posure call for an expenditure of \$1.50. New give the impression that it is keeping still | Yorkers make an awful fuss over gas bills merely from prudence and not because the and telephone tolls, but they are glad to populistic elements have lost their power pay out these sums for a sidewalk clean-

A remark by one of his hearers caused We do not insist that silverism shall be John D. Rockefeller, jr., to dismiss the young men's Bible class of the Fifth Avenue Baptist church last Sunday without for good democrats who have gone astray, ceremony. Rockefeller had just finished talking about charitable giving when man arose and said:

"Mr. Rockefeller, just one word-"I beg your pardon, sir," said Rockethe country will hardly turn to it for relief. feller, "we are very late now and we "Just one word, Mr. Rockefeller," and every eye was fixed upon the tall man with long locks and drooping mustache; "I just want to say that perhaps as soon as

some of us cease taking from others we can give with better grace." Mr. Rockefeller turned to the orchestra. high enough to give assurance of maintain- and said: "We'll have the music omitted today; we're late. We will now hear the announcements for the week by the secre-

> Reinhardt Zollinhoffer unwound himself from a lamp post at the corner of Baxter street and Chatham square and thrust \$953 nto the hands of Policeman Jerry Sullivan. and the Southern is \$50,000. Smaller sys-"Have nuzzer drink," he urged, reaching up to his hatband, where yellow bills were fluttering plume-like above his head. He forced the policeman to accept \$200 more.

Policeman Sullivan led him to the Oak street station. There the sergeant and Sul-Ilvan pulled bills from Zollinhuffer's buttonholes and removed two wads of notes If the duty be too high even according to from his coat collar. There was just \$1,309 "Just keep it and rush the can," directed

Zollinhoffer, who went meekly to a cell and slept like a baby until morning, when If the democratic party shall put forward he was arraigned before Magistrate Ormen "How much money did you have?" arked

the magistrate.

"Just \$1,300," said Zollinhoffer. That amount was counted out before the

ourt. "Do you mean to say he walked up and down the Bowery for four hours with all siderable tariff will have to be levied to that money showing and didn't lose a

He was assured that not only did Zollinhoffer keep all of his money, but he got drinks innumerable without having to pay a cent. The Bowery bartenders were so beaten in 1888. The republican party was utterly astounded when he stood before them fringed with \$100 bills that they didn't collect. He couldn't even get them to accept yellow bills as presents.

Zollinhoffer's adventure began directly after he drew \$1,300 from the banking nouse of Knauth, Nachod & Kuhne, He is a farmer of New Jersey and he came to town to collect a legacy from Germany. be magistrate dischar back to Jersey with his \$1,300.

New York's meanest man has appeared again. He is an individual who has captured the dog of Scharlean Ehrman, a blind musician. Depending on the dog in every way for protection and guidance, the poor man is now confined to his modest little home, spending his time listening for a knock on the door that may bring news of his lost friend. A few days ago he thought he had found his little guide when he received a letter in reply to an advertisement, saying that the dog had been found. He hastened to reply, and received an answer that he must send a large sum of money to the man who has the dog. The blind musician is now trying to raise the money to recover his missing pilot, without which he cannot make

"I have been on duty at theaters a good deal," said a New York policeman in discussing the Chicago fire, "and as to violating the law regarding filling up the aisles and so forth, that is done every night. When the captain of the precinct has all the free seats for himself and his friends that he wants, it is the wise cop who shuts his eyes to these little matters. If he does not and insists on the laws being obeyed, all the theater manager has to do is to call up the captain and tell him the cop is getting fresh and to send another man. The cop is called off and has to toe the mark so long that he becomes too wise to meddle the next time he sees the laws walked over. "As easy as lying" has become an ex-

pressive simile, and it is nowhere more significant than in the drug shops of New York. Ready money and a plausible tale are all that is needed to secure the most deadly drugs. There are many druggists on the east side who subsist wholly on that unfortunate band who are addicted to the use of opium, morphine, bromide of potassium, cocaine and all the deadly juices which give temporary surcease of pain and haunting memories. Not all, in fact, less than one-half of the cases which reach Bellevue are diagnosed as "drug cases," for the victims seem to know that an admission of the use of drugs means treatment which only the hardlest can withstand. They will eagerly admit that they are victims of alcohol, but they fear the drug ward as they fear death. It is customary to treat drug patients with a series of cold baths. Many of the victims emerge from the tub only to find their way to a slab in the morgue.

A PAYING INSTITUTION.

Ingenuity of the American People Reflected in the Patent Office. Colliar's Weekly.

Among all of Uncle Sam's projects there is no department which is, proportionately, as great a source of income as the patent office, and yet, at the same time, no branch of the government owes its origin to more beneficent purpose. In the earliest days of the colonies the now proverbial Yankee proclivity for invention was recognized as a possibly important factor in the improvement of conditions in the new world, and when the colonists had secured the right to enact laws for their own gov. ernment this question was one of the first to be considered. President Washington in his first address to congress, 1790, called attention to the matter and urged the expediency of giving effectual encouragement to the exertions of skill and genius in the production of new and useful inventions, in'i from this sugges ion came the present American patent system, which, as one writer on international law has said, "is generally recognized by the most profound students of our institutions, both at home

and abroad, to have contributed more than . any other one thing to the pre-eminer of this country in the injustrial art, and in manufactures." It is only within the archives of the patent office that one is able to obtain anything like a correct idea of the wide range of the inventive ingenuity of the American people; for up to the present time nearly 700,000 patents have been issued, while the receipts of the department are so much greater than its expenditures that the balance in the treasury on account of the patent fund now excreds \$5,006,000.

RAILWAY PRESIDENTS' SALARIES.

Generous Sums Paid to the Men at the Hend of Their Class.

New York Evening Post, Discussion was started in financial and railroad circles this week by a published statement that the new executive head of the Rock Island would be the highest salaried ratiroad official in the country. The management of the Rock Island has naturally refused to discuss the subject of the salary to be paid President Loree. The different amounts mentioned during the week ranged between \$75,000 and \$100,000. They were made thus large because of the importance of the position given up as the executive head of the Baltimore & Ohio and the belief that a high sum must have been named to "bid away" such an officer, One very well-informed railroad officer said this week that the new Rock Island president probably got \$20,000 as vice president of the Pennsylvania lines, \$35,000 as president of the Baltimore & Ohio, and was offered \$50,000 and a stock bonus to go with the Rock Island system. The only other railroad president known to have received such a bonus was F. D. Underwood, to whom \$50,000 salary and a stock bonus was offered to accept the management of

the Erie. It is commonly said that A. J. Cassatt of the Pennsylvania and James J. Hill of the Northern Securities each receive \$75,000 a year for assuming the responsibility of the roads managed, although in well-informed quarters it is thought that payment of that sum for a president is limited to the Pennsylvania. The regular salary paid to presidents by such roads as the Erie, the Lackawanna & Western, the St. Paul, the Northwestern, the Atchison, the 'Frisco, tems pay anywhere between \$20,000 and \$40,000.

LAUGHING LINES.

Mrs. Spenders—But I simply must hat silk ball gown.
Mr. Spenders—Now, my dear, you promised to economize.

Mrs. Spenders—So I will. I'll have this one cut lower, so I won't need so much silk.—Philadelphia Press.

"If you were offered three wishes, George, lear, what would they be?"
"Money, money, money,"
"Why, George, I thought you'd wish to have me. "Oh, I'd get you fast enough if I had the money."—Brooklyn Press.

Pedigree in a dog makes him valuable,

"Funny, isn't it?"
"What's funny?"
"Why, it's my experience that pedigree makes a man pretty darn near worth-less."—Chicago Poet.

One broiling July day Uncle Zeke, an aged "cullud german," who was pushing a barrow of bricks, paused to dash the sweat from his dusky brow; then, shaking his fist at the sun, he apostrophized it thus: "Fo' the Lawd's sake, war wuz yo' last Janoosry?"—New York Times.

Jack—You've heard about the escaping criminal who stepped on a slot machine and got a weigh?

Mack—Yes: that's old.

Jack—Well. even the bloodhounds couldn't get his cent.—Yale Record. Hewitt-I understand that the foreign noblemen are beginning to get worried.

Jewett-Over what? Hewitt-The way these United States senators are marrying all the American women.—Town Topics. "We had known each other slightly," said Miss Evvy Wafte. "but never to speak to until one day while out skating I fell down quite near him, and..." "Ah! yes," replied Miss Pepprey, "that broke the ice, of course."—Philadelphia

"There!" said Mr. Jenks, stopping suddenly. "I was going to get that piece of silk for my wife, and I forgot all about it until now. Never mind," he continued starting on again, "I'll get it when I get home, all right."—Somerville Journal.

Mr. Trucker—I think I shall give up my business, my dear. I might as well have some good out of my money.

Mrs. Trucker—Oh, not yet, Samuel. But when one of us dies I shall give up house-keeping and see a little of the world.—Town and Country.

"All I need is a fair chance," said the genteel beggar. "Two got plenty of confidence in myself if I could only get a start."
"You've got an unusual amount of confidence in yourself if you think you can persuade me to give you the start," said the hard-headed man.—Philadelphia Press.

THE FAMILY MAN AS A POET.

My poetic fancy wanders into thoughts of measured rhyme
And I see my songs go marching downward thro' the hails of time.
In an ecstacy of vision I sit down and try to write.
While my thoughts go soaring upward in a frenzy of delight.
But before I get them marshaled comes baby's pleading cry,
"Papa, take me: I'm so sleepy." And I take her with a sigh.

Presently she's soundly sleeping and I lay
her gently down;
Then I turn to my forsaken paper, forcing
back a frown.
While I thrust my nervous fingers into my
disheveled hair.
Vainly hoping that I'll find my scattered
thoughts regathered there.
When I quiet down to thinking and I turn
again to write,
Comes a childish voice and whispers,
"Papa, kiss me now good night."

All are sleeping now. The room's descried and I fondly count That I'm now at peace; so truant Pegasus again I mount. Now my fancy lingers, coming slowly, then returns again.

And the words begin to muster at the bidding of my pen.

But before a line is written comes another nervous shock.

And a voice calls sweetly downward.

"Don't forget to wind the clock." returns again

Council Bluffs, Ia.



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