THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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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 July, 1904, was as follows:

1	29,750	17	29,300
2	31,170	18	30,250
3	28,750	19	29,000
4	30,450	20	30,070
5	29,900	21	29,850
6	29,920	22	29,620
7	29,770	23	29,850
8	29,800	24	27,950
9	31,240	25	29,625
10	28,320	26	29,450
11	30,100	27	29,580
12	30,780	28	30,600
13	29,650	29	31,700
14	29,790	30	32,680
15	29,820	31	27,850
16	29,800		

Total.....927,205
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Net total sales.....917,007
Daily average.....29,582

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of August, A. D. 1904.
(Seal) M. B. HUNGATE,
Notary Public.

War is not without its compensations. Reed Smoot has escaped lots of notoriety because of the activity in the Orient.

The Howell water board has cost the taxpayers of Omaha more than $6,000 by this time. What has the city got for its money?

We apprehend that the return of David E. Thompson will make much more of a stir in political circles than the return of David H. Mercer.

If the yellow journal reporters persist in their efforts to force an interview, Mrs. Maybrick may yet sigh for the peace of that British prison.

If Bulloch county, Georgia, was named in honor of an ancestor of President Roosevelt, recent events would indicate that the honor was all on one side.

The czar will willingly permit Germany to express itself by proclamation any way it wishes so long as Russian warships can get coal from German vessels.

Russian officers must have long-range glasses, for they claim to be able to give an exact account of Japanese losses before they can even make an estimate of their own.

The dispatches say that St. Clair McKelway of the Brooklyn Eagle spent the night with Judge Parker. The democratic candidate may find his voice at any time now.

Eastern democrats do not positively indicate whether they would rather elect Judge Parker or be in a position to say "you're another" to the democrats of the west.

The sympathy of the public will certainly go out to those Chicago packers who, in addition to the strike now in progress, are threatened by a strike of the strike breakers.

The battle of Manassas is to be fought over again by the national guard, but the railroads will make more out of the battle than mere glory. The transportation of the Texas militia alone will cost $75,000.

The Russian volunteer cruiser Smolensk may not have cut the cable, but keeping away from port has had the same effect upon its active career. It is a wise commander who knows when not to receive orders.

The Teller County Bar association has demanded that two of its members recently deported be permitted to return. As the deporters stand in need of the services of lawyers the demand will doubtless be granted.

Whether the thing uppermost in the minds of the Knights of Ak-Sar-Ben is the horse show, the electrical procession or the carnival ball has not yet been divulged, but we suspect that the horse show occupies top of column.

William Randolph Hearst is not going to be second to any democrat in his appetite for office. He is now in the hands of his friends for governor of New York and the republicans are putting nothing in the way of his getting the nomination.

Rough riders must look to their laurels when a team from New York is permitted to walk off with the honors of the national rifle contest. The west cannot afford to be beaten at what has for many years been considered its own game.

If the action of the Oklahoma bank, which took all of the Philippine certificates of indebtedness, is to become common, Wall street may be left entirely to the men who practice "high finance," and the lambs who would do so if they could.

A NEGLECTED ISSUE.

A leading Parker organ in the east is appealed to by one of its readers to use its influence to have the candidate "strike a true note on the question of the Panama republic outrage." The writer of the appeal remarks that the democrats in congress were "too cowardly or opportunist to vote as they talked against any ratification of this bargain with unholy forces and their platform on the subject is cowardly, too." He wants an expression from Judge Parker that will be a rebuke to the republican party "for its base surrender to commercialism in this conspicuous instance."

It is pretty safe to say that he will be disappointed, that the newspaper addressed will not heed the appeal to its influence and that the democratic candidate for the presidency will say nothing in regard to the Panama matter by way of rebuking the republican party. The opportunity to administer such rebuke was at the St. Louis convention and the representatives of the democratic party there assembled declined to improve it, although urged to do so by a few leaders like John Sharp Williams of Mississippi, who as temporary chairman of the convention denounced the course of the administration in regard to Panama as "shameful." The draft of the platform adopted by the subcommittee of the committee on resolutions did, it is true, express disapproval "of the methods by which, in disregard of the usages and obligations of international law and treaty obligations, the canal route has been acquired," but the full committee rejected this and substituted for it the simple declaration that "the democracy, when entrusted with power, will construct the Panama canal speedily, honestly and economically."

The full committee did not follow the counsel of Mr. Williams and a few others who thought political capital could be made out of assailing the action of the republican administration because a majority of the committee knew that such advice was not in accord with the general sentiment of the party. When Senator Gorman undertook to unite the democrats in the senate in opposition to the ratification of the Panama treaty he was summarily turned down and virtually lost his position as the leader of the minority in that body. He found that the democrats of the south were practically unanimous in favor of sustaining what the administration had done, that section being as deeply interested as any other in the construction of an isthmian canal.

Judge Parker is undoubtedly well aware of all this and if he does not already know it he probably will learn before he writes his letter of acceptance that a very great majority of the American people believe that in recognizing the Panama republic and in not permitting Colombia to inaugurate civil war on the isthmus our government was fully justified by the circumstances. It can be very confidently assumed, therefore, that the democratic candidate for the presidency will say nothing to offend the practically unanimous public sentiment on this subject, so that what seemed a few months ago a promising democratic issue may be regarded as dropped.

THE WISCONSIN SITUATION.

While the democrats profess to regard Wisconsin as a doubtful state and are proposing to make a vigorous effort to carry it for the national ticket, republicans feel confident that the state is absolutely secure for Roosevelt and Fairbanks, both republican conventions having declared for them. It is recognized, however, that the factional fight is a serious matter in its bearing upon the election of a governor and other state officers and a legislature. It is quite possible, if not indeed probable, that the democrats will win on the state ticket and perhaps also carry the legislature, which would give them a United States senator to succeed Senator Quarles, whose term will expire next March.

The question of the regularity of the two republican conventions is to be decided by the state supreme court, but it is stated that Governor La Follette, should the decision be against him, proposes to disregard it and remain in the field as a candidate for re-election. If such is his determination and he should persist in it the outcome would depend on La Follette's ability to consolidate the anti-monopoly elements of both parties. La Follette's efforts to protect the people against the aggression of corporations make him a formidable candidate even if his nomination should be pronounced by the courts as irregular.

AMERICAN PASSPORTS.

It appears that the Department of State is again endeavoring to open negotiations with the Russian government for the unrestricted recognition of American passports. It is reported to have transmitted to the ambassador of the United States at St. Petersburg the joint resolution passed by congress at the last session relative to Russian discrimination against Jewish citizens of this country, particularly those who came here from Russia and have become citizens through naturalization. In respect to these Russia's policy of discrimination is rigidly enforced and that country has hitherto declined to discuss the matter. Whether or not it will now be disposed to enter into negotiations, with a view to at least modifying its policy, remains to be seen. It is said that while under ordinary circumstances it is not probable that Russia would even yield to the extent of discussing a question affecting the internal policy of the empire, and while a compliance with the American wish would probably entail a change in Russian laws, the more liberal policy recently manifested toward the Jews of Russia seems to create at least the room for hope that the American ambassador may now succeed where his predecessors failed.

While it is admitted that the Russian government has an unquestionable right to adopt whatever policy it sees fit regarding passports, yet there is nothing unreasonable in asking that it shall not make any unfair or unjust discriminations in the matter, as it is alleged to have done. Of course there is nothing to be done if Russia declines to change her policy, but the effort of our government to bring about a change will have the cordial support of the American people.

THE CONGRESSIONAL PRIMARY.

The republican primary for this, the Second congressional district, will take place one week from next Saturday under the direct supervision of Thomas W. Blackburn, chairman of the congressional committee. The procedure is unprecedented and revolutionary. Nowhere in the United States has a congressional committee usurped the powers and prerogatives of the respective county committees charged with the conduct of primary elections and caucuses in each of the respective subdivisions of a congressional district. In no instance that we can recall has a congressional committee in Nebraska attempted to force upon the party a candidate by main force.

The function of congressional committees everywhere and at all times has been to help to elect the candidate nominated by a party. In this instance, however, Mr. Blackburn has started out to foist a candidate upon the party, willing or unwilling, and to employ the machinery always heretofore entrusted to county committees to carry out his personal will in spite of all remonstrances.

Mr. Blackburn and the committee, which he carries in his pocket, have ordained that W. F. Gurley shall be the nominee of the republicans of this district and the machinery to carry out their decree has been set in motion to carry out this program. "You can lead a horse to water, but you cannot make him drink." If the republicans of Omaha and Douglas county are allowed to voice their sentiment at the coming primary we feel sure they will register a protest against the high-handed methods pursued by the congressional committee. Not only that, but they will see to it that such an autocratic scheme shall never again be put in operation in this district.

MARK THE CONTRAST.

The Howell red line water works primers are becoming more interesting as the days go by. The comparison between the water works of Cleveland and Omaha shows that Cleveland has a population of 400,000 and owns its own water works, while Omaha, with only 115,000, does not own its water works. Cleveland sells Lake Erie water at a much lower price than Omaha sells Missouri river water. Cleveland has expended more than $8,000,000 on its water works and pays no water rent, while Omaha is compelled to pay $92,800 a year to the corporation that owns the water works.

Per contra, Cleveland pays more than $30,000 a year in rental for housing its city officials, while Omaha does not pay a penny of rent. That shows that Omaha is away ahead of Cleveland, providing always that we do not take into consideration the fact that Omaha pays $22,000 a year in interest on the city hall bonds and more than $10,000 for fuel, janitors, elevator men, etc., while Cleveland does not pay a dollar in interest on city hall bonds because it has never owned a city hall.

Come to think of it, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Detroit and all the other cities of America that own their own water works do not pay a penny for hydrant rentals, but they do pay hundreds of thousands of dollars of interest on water bonds.

Railroad traffic managers are said to be very much perplexed over the violation of the western pass agreement entered into about two years ago to conform with the interstate commerce law. The discovery has been made that free transportation is being issued quite generally through western territory with a view to influencing and controlling traffic. In other words, the discovery has been made that the railroad managers do not keep faith with each other, but are trying to beat the devil 'round the bush under the plea of necessity. At a meeting of the traffic managers just held in Chicago it was said that during the period when traffic was heavy and all the roads had as much as they could handle all the big shippers and their friends paid their fares, but as soon as traffic began to fall off the traffic managers began to break over the line and that very few of the big shippers paid their fares when they rode on western railroads. This is only the old story that competition beats combination. A railroad traffic manager is expected to get the business away from his competitors if he can, even if he has to violate the interstate commerce law and break the anti-pass agreement.

The Chicago pneumatic tube mail service, the longest system of its kind in the United States, was formally opened by the postmaster general and many dignitaries with a great deal of pomp and ceremony on Wednesday. It would have been a good deal more satisfactory, however, to have had less pomp and ceremony and to have had the pneumatic tube system of Chicago controlled by the government and operated as part of the postal system, just as are the systems of London, Paris, Vienna, Berlin and all the great cities of Europe. Uncle Sam expended nearly $15,000,000 last year on public buildings and it would not have been a great strain on his credit to have expended $1,000,000 on a pneumatic tube system for the second largest city in America, instead of allowing this service to be monopolized by a private corporation.

The threatened intrusion of rival telephone companies into the territory monopolized by the Bell company will do some good to Omaha after all. It is now confidentially whispered that the telephone company has decided to make a reduction in its rates in Omaha, but, in order to justify councilmen who voted against the proposition to submit the question of a franchise for an independent company to the people of Omaha, the impending reduction is to be made through an ordinance, so as to place these councilmen in a position to claim that they did it. There are more ways than one of skinning a cat.

According to the Chicago Tribune, the next Illinois general assembly will be asked to authorize the city of Chicago to regulate the price of gas, so that consumers may have it for less than $1 a thousand cubic feet. If Chicago only had a marooned sea dog like Howell it would not need to go to the legislature to fix gas rates. All it would have to do would be to reduce them by order of the mayor and council, contract or no contract.

Why can't the people of Omaha be trusted by the council to decide for themselves at the next fall's election whether the city is to invest in a municipal electric lighting plant? It will cost nothing to submit the question at the general election and a submission of the question will enable the councilmen to redeem the pledge on which they were elected. And why not also submit the proposition of the independent telephone companies?

A year ago Denver decided that it needed an auditorium, but would not take the trouble to raise funds as other communities had done, so it voted bonds to have the building constructed by the city and promised to erect the structure in less time than it took other towns to talk about it. Now a property owner has enjoined the prosecution of the work and the house may have to be built by popular subscription after all.

The government is preparing to open the Sioux reservation which lies just west of the Rosebud reservation now being settled. It is to be hoped some plan, not so expensive to prospective settlers as a land lottery and not based upon principles heretofore condemned by the government, may be devised for disposing of this property.

Irony of Civilization.
Philadelphia Press.

The Thibetans object to the bill Colonel Younghusband has rendered for carrying the white man's burden. To be invaded and then to have to pay the costs of the invasion is surely the irony of civilization.

Deucedly Clevah, Dontcherknow.
Chicago Chronicle.

"England is anxious that the United States should move in the neutrality dispute at Shanghai," says a London dispatch. Aye, aye; trust Mr. Bull to get his chestnuts out of the fire by other hands than his own if possible.

A Public Enemy.
Boston Globe.

James J. Hill, the railroad magnate, is quoted as predicting a big fall business. How much better that is than crying poor mouth just because this is presidential year. The man who cries calamity to help elect his candidates is not only a public nuisance, but he is a public enemy.

"Things Would Be Different."
Philadelphia Record.

The Czar of Russia in the delirium of his happiness over the birth of a male heir to his throne has abolished corporal punishment in his realm. If he could prevail upon the Japanese to also abstain from the infliction of corporal punishment on his subjects "things would be different."

Poor Little Alexis.
Boston Herald.

The czar of Russia has issued a manifesto saying that in the event of his dying before the czarowitz attains his majority the emperor's brother, Grand Duke Michael, is to become regent, the empress assuming the guardianship of the czarowitz. Poor little Alexis! He will never have a chance to play hookey nor go bare-footed before the frost is out of the ground, nor eat his fill of green apples, nor do anything else the average boy has to do before he can become a man.

Aid to Forest Preservation.
Cleveland Leader.

The Department of Agriculture at Washington, in addition to widespread and carefully considered experiments in the line of reforestration, is about to inaugurate a system of wireless telegraphy to aid in the preservation of timber now standing. In the great west forest fires destroy every year far more valuable timber than is cut for the uses of mankind. By the establishment of wireless telegraph stations at the danger points of the northwest it is believed that early advices of fire can be given in time to adopt successful means of prevention.

POLITICAL SNAPSHOTS.

Chicago Inter Ocean: If Judge Parker is not to make speeches during the campaign, he should at least send out a prepaid telegram once in awhile.

Chicago Tribune: It would not be entirely surprising if the populist party, which but yesterday was deemed moribund, should, in this election, regain some of its oldtime vigor.

New York Tribune: The Hon. James K. Jones dropped into democratic headquarters and announced emphatically, "We are going to win!" Mr. Jones finds it hard to break away from the prediction habit.

Kansas City Journal: If Parker and Davis are sure of election, why are democratic editors so insistent that Senator Fairbanks shall resign? Do they want to deprive the poor man of office altogether?

Minneapolis Journal: Old, nothing! Henry Gassaway Davis led the german for three nights successively at White Sulphur Springs! The telegraph, however, does not state whether he was a bit lame and cross the morning after.

San Francisco Chronicle: The calamity howler is becoming discouraged over the outlook. The consensus of opinion that there will be a good fall and winter business deprives him of the opportunity to use depression as a political weapon.

Pittsburg Dispatch: Tom Taggart expresses himself as pleased with the news from the doubtful states. That is, they remain confidently doubtful and carefully conceal their ultimate design of going for Roosevelt. To a democrat there is always hope where there's life.

Philadelphia Record: Mr. Parker would take hold of the right arm of the handshaker at the elbow and hold it firmly with his left hand, which has a stout grip. Then grasping the outstretched hand with his own right hand he would shake vigorously, not only the hand, but the forearm, the upper right arm being held with the strong left hand grip. The caller could not have got away if he had wished, and he did not wish to.

ROUND ABOUT NEW YORK.

Ripples on the Current of Life in the Metropolis.

Hon. Paul Morton, secretary of the navy, whistled for a switch at the Brooklyn navy yard last Monday. He pulled in on the cab of the Dolphin after a tempestuous run among the marines along the coast, feeling a trifle glum under the gills. It seems the trip did not agree with him. Neither did his meals. So when the Dolphin halted at the station the secretary pulled his sealegs together and joyously hobbled onto terra firma. Mr. Morton has rocked over the prairies of the west in everything from a prairie schooner to a palace car, but the prairie roll isn't anything like the rise and dip of a dispatch boat on Atlantic swells. Members of the secretary's party noticed that he kept to himself during the early part of the voyage, but the skipper of the Dolphin says:

"What he didn't keep to himself was a plenty."

Remarkable stories that tax credulity yet hold the ear were told by the captain and chief officer of the Oriental Steamship company's liner Satsuma, which reached New York from the far east last Saturday. According to the chief officer, the Satsuma had on board the sacred cat of King Khoulalonkorn of Siam, for the return of which a reward of $1,000 is outstanding.

This veracious mariner declares that when they were about to sail from Singapore they heard a great commotion in the harbor. It was learned that the sacred cat of the king had escaped, and in the chase had been reported as seen at the dock. That night a junk came alongside of the Satsuma, and a Chinaman offered a cat for sale. As the ship was being overrun with rats, the cat was purchased for 50 cents. It was seen at once that this was no ordinary cat, and the chief officer of the ship avows that the Chinaman from whom he bought the cat confided that it was the king's cat, and that its disposal was necessary on account of the relentless chase. The officer says further there would be high doings in the Siamese king's court if it were known that his precious pet has brought into the world five more sacred cats, all of which are enjoying perfect health, and may be seen any day gamboling on the deck of the Satsuma.

Miss Margaret Dougherty, of Rochester, whose scalp was torn from her head by her hair catching in an automobile in front of the Casino in Central park, is recovering from a remarkable operation in Presbyterian hospital. The day after the accident a policeman passing through the roadway came upon the scalp, the hair from which had been cut off. He placed it in a newspaper and took it to the hospital. It was decided that night to graft the scalp to the head, and the next day the operation was performed by Dr. F. Tilden Brown.

At the time the operation was performed the young woman was in a critical condition. She was unconscious during the operation and long after it. Later, however, she began to mend, and since then she has shown improvement daily.

For the last week the physicians have been looking for signs of returning vitality in the scalp and signs of hair, and now they announce that they see evidence of vascular activity in the cuticle and a healthy glow in the once detached scalp.

No fears are now expressed for the life of Miss Dougherty. It is expected she will leave the hospital within a month or six weeks.

Criminologists have stopped making Sunday visits to Coney Island. For several Sundays they have gone home with few notes. Last Sunday they didn't even open their note books. More than 300,000 persons, according to the old residents, went to New York's big playground that day. These 300,000 were not all of the very pious kind. In fact, they were of all sorts, conditions, races and degrees. They found Coney Island as reasonably "wide open" for amusement, food and drink as it has been this year. Yet up to 8 o'clock Sunday evening there had been but five arrests.

"I would like to buy a good quarter cigar," remarked a man on entering a wholesale cigar manufacturer's shop. "I want to try one before I buy a box, as I've been endeavoring for some time to find a cigar to suit me."

"I'm sorry I can't sell you one in here," replied the proprietor. "It's against the law. I could sell you one on the sidewalk, but not in here. However, I'll give you one, and if you like the flavor you can buy them by the box."

Taking a box of cigars from the shelf the man opened it, shook it so that all the cigars were visible, and took one from the bottom row. Another shake sent the rest back to their original places. The customer put the cigar in his pocket, remarking that he would give it a fair trial after dinner, and walked out.

"Did you notice where I took the cigar from I gave him?" said the cigar man to a friend. "I took it from the bottom row. If he comes back, I'll give him that same box. There are many men who come in here, knowing we do not sell cigars singly, and walk out with a free smoke; but when one does come back, we feel justified in giving him the box from which he took the sample. Besides, not one smoker in a hundred counts the number of cigars in a box when he buys it."

Chinese industry in the city is not altogether confined to the laundry shop and the tea store. On a down-town street an enterprising Chinese firm has a large cigar factory, where seventy-five Chinamen daily roll cigars. Reading the name of the firm one would expect to meet Spaniards or Cubans there. Miguel, the Christian name of the senior partner, is certainly not Chinese. But the expectation is quickly dispelled when several brisk, smiling Chinamen confront one. They are the firm. The product of the factory is not sold to Chinamen, but to American stores all over the country. American traveling salesmen are employed. The factory is clean and redolent with Havana odor, and the cigars are symmetrical. As to their quality, no affidavits pro or con have been received from those who have made the test.

"Big Bill" Devery, formerly chief of police in New York, is now a business rival of Bishop Potter. He has opened a saloon and will sell whisky at "a dime a throw—just the same as the bish," he explains. Mr. Devery even goes the length of saying that when a man needs a drink real badly he can have it on credit. His refectory is to be at Rockaway Beach, and it is to be known as "The Pump."

Troubles We Know Not.
Boston Globe.

For obvious political reasons the czar of Russia has been greatly relieved by the birth of a son, while the king of Italy is said to be in a state of anxious expectancy of an heir. Happily the people of this country can only faintly appreciate such a situation. Kingly dynasties hang on slender threads, but the government of the people rests on a surer foundation than the chance of birth.

Real Strenuous Living.
Cleveland Plain Dealer.

When the Port Arthur citizen takes his daily walk abroad he continues to keep close to shelter, and then when he hears the hoarse shriek of a shell overhead he scoots for his bomb proof burrow and dives in head first.

Do You Wish the Finest Bread and Cake

It is conceded that Royal Baking Powder is purest and strongest of all baking powders, absolutely free from alum, ammonia and every adulterant. "Royal" makes the best and most wholesome food.

ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., 100 WILLIAM ST., NEW YORK.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Mark Twain has decided to remain permanently in New York City.

The old reliable grapevine system of newsgathering is left at the post by Che Foo and its junks.

Old Turkey is as exasperating and as dilatory in paying the claims of American citizens as is our own congress almost.

Director George E. Roberts of the United States mint is in Denver inspecting the new mint in that city. He has spent the last month in Alaska on a government mission.

James Dean of Freeport, L. I., has probably the greatest private collection of war relics to be found anywhere in the country. His armory occupies two large rooms in his dwelling.

The surprising news comes from Pittsburg that a councilman was offered a bribe, and not only refused it with scorn, but divulged the secret. The day for small offers from corporations has gone by.

A Kansas City woman seeks a divorce from her husband because he never kicked against any request she made. This modifies the envious charge that the Kansas Cityans are knockers.

A business man, who is on the verge of nervous prostration, has been ordered by his physician to go into the country for a month and do absolutely nothing with his mind. As a part of the regime the doctor has prescribed the reading of a dozen popular novels.

The insurance companies in which Prince John Obolensky, the new governor general of Finland, holds policies have insisted upon increasing the premiums by 50 per cent in consequence of his having accepted the post left vacant by Bobrikoff's murder, so probable do they consider it that he will meet a like fate.

Henry Mills Alden has just completed the thirty-fifth year of his service as editor of Harper's magazine and the forty-first of his editorial connection with the Harpers. He became editor of Harper's Weekly at the age of 26, and before that he had been a school teacher and an editorial writer for New York papers.

The Zurich publisher, Herr Schabelitz, died the other day. He was the man who never wrote to any one except on a postal card. He used that means of communication when he accepted the celebrated memoirs of Count Von Arnheim. "I reserve the right," he wrote on the usual card, "to correct your infernally bad grammar." To a budding historian he sent this message: "You are making the mistake of your life. You do not want to study history. You want to learn how to write."

THE NATION'S WEALTH.

Attractive Story of the Progress of the People Toward Prosperity.
Boston Transcript.

The census returns tell many a flattering tale, but perhaps none among them is of larger interest to more people than that which chronicles the steady increase of wealth in the country and the attractive outlook for an indefinite continuance of this process. The figures are almost fabulous, but they are the results not of guesses or estimates, but of sums in simple addition. Every ten years has been marked by a substantial increase of this wealth, sometimes in one direction or by the special stimulation and activity of one industry, and sometimes in another, but even in those decades that have included panic periods and experiences, marked by heavy shrinkage of at least nominal values, the substantial expansion has still gone on.

The officially recorded wealth of the United States in 1850 was $7,135,780,000, a tidy sum in itself, but when in 1860 a fresh inventory was taken it was discovered that our possessions had swollen to the amount of $16,159,616,000, an increase of 129 per cent. This was the banner period on the basis of percentages. It was the time of the development of our wonderful resources in the precious metals and of an unprecedented opening up of that great western country. In 1870 the increase shown was 86.6 per cent, upon somewhat inflated values, probably, but still very encouraging considering the waste and confusion that had characterized four years of that eventful decade. Since 1870 the average decennial increase has been 46.8 per cent, though the figures for 1900 showed only 45 per cent, but giving a total to our credit of $94,300,000,000.

Should the advance be no more than average for the next six years the balancing of accounts in 1910 will give us the amazing total of $138,000,000,000. It is said that a larger proportion of the wealth of the country than ever before is held in stocks and bonds, which naturally by this increase becomes more valuable unless the substance back of them has already been too generously anticipated. But as a rule the business of the country is not built upon mere expectations. All this merely takes into account the visible or material wealth and does not include the potential value of the workingman's capital, his labor, either skilled or unskilled. No doubt many have experienced apprehension lest this expansion of productive power should reach its natural limit before many more decades should come and go. It is not strange that such a limit should be suggested, because the earth itself can be measured in cubic terms and its weight calculated in ton, or even pound, units; but the prospect is so far ahead that we can leave all the problems that it would involve to the centuries beyond us.

The time for the serious restriction of opportunity is in the unexplored if not unimaginable distance. It is well at times to remind ourselves of all that lies in reserve. In the public domain, surveyed and unsurveyed, and still unappropriated, there are still more than 970,000,000 acres, or enough to sustain a larger population than that now inhabiting this country, if we accept the once popular contention of "Ten Acres Enough." But even now, as we advance farther and farther into the undeveloped resources of our country, there results a tendency not only to open up the new, but to find new possibilities in the old. The scientist is, after all, doing more than the settler, not only to add to our knowledge, but to increase the conditions of national wealth and the triumphs he has already scored are but skirmishes leading up to the grander victories that wait upon his further progress.

A SMILE OR TWO.

"Molly," he said, "if I should die first I want you to see that I'm cremated."

"Mercy on us, John! Coal may be $10 a ton then!"—Atlanta Constitution.

"Eunice, did you pay $3 for that pair of gloves? You are shamefully extravagant."

"Why, mamma, how can you talk that way? I got a trading stamp with them."—Chicago Tribune.

"It is your duty," said the earnest man, "to assist in leading the world to higher things."

"Well," answered the beef packer; "am I not doing my best? Look at the price of meat."—Washington Star.

She—It must be awful to be buried alive—squeezed in a coffin and unable to move.

He—Yes, indeed; I tell you, Jane, there are worst places than this flat, if you only stop to think about it.—Leslie's Weekly.

"What a peculiar odor the perfume has that Miss Snawfer uses."

"Yes, it's made especially for her."

"Is that so?"

"Yes; it counteracts the smell of gasoline that she picks up from her auto."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"I suppose, Miss Auburn," said Mr. Kidder, "you are what might be termed a 'strawberry blonde.'"

"Not necessarily, Mr. Kidder," replied the Titianesque beauty, "I'll even take vanilla or water ice if there's nothing else."—Philadelphia Press.

Socrates was drinking the hemlock poison.

"Anyway," he muttered, "it beats that election whisky I drank last week."

Gulping down the chaser, he gave up the ghost.—Milwaukee Sentinel.

Nell—I wonder what Miss Ann Teek is doing with that translation of Virgil's "Aenid." Trying to appear learned, eh?

Belle—No; she picked it up in the book store today and the opening lines about "Arms and the man" attracted her.—Philadelphia Ledger.

A BIT OF W...AN.

Council Bluffs Nonpareil.

It is afternoon. I am sitting on the bleachers with someone's feet in my coat pockets.
There are about me eleven thousand fellow men, with their mouths open,
And pop bottles on the way to and from them.
Occasionally they shout.
I am stunned, deafened, confused by the mighty outpouring of sound vibrations.
But I do not mind it.
I am wedged between mountains of flesh, somewhat moist.
It is hot.
I am baked, parboiled, incinerated and perspiring.
But not so much so as the man next to me, whose collar resembles a rag.
He is fat.
For 5 cents I have protected myself against the adamantiness of the planks beneath me
By a cushion.
On the whole I am very happy.

A man has stepped to the plate.
He is a short, squat man, earnest, purposeful, with wide hands, a red neck and dirt on his pants.
I know him.
Last year he batted 236.
He is homerunful.
If he hits the ball I have won two bones from the man beside me.
It is a crisis.
The multitude, intense, surging, wild-eyed, holds onto its breath with both hands.
Suspense incarnates itself.
Hark!
The short, squat man has connected with the ball.
Like the spokes of a chariot wheel his legs revolve toward first base.
I yell.
I throw my hat, recently bought, in the direction of left field.
My back receives the castigations of many maniacs behind me, while
Pandemonium, lurid, deep-lunged, intense, stalks about the grounds with its coat off.
Hush!
Someone has turned off the cheering.
A thing called the umpire has brayed.
The short, squat man is out.

I hear cries about me.
They indicate rage, anger, fury, frenzy, disgust, hate, loathing, repulsion, passion, aversion, despair—what you will.
I join in them.
They reflect my sentiments to a T.
I dash my cushion to the ground.
I climb to my seat and yell, "Lynch the black-hearted robber!" "Run him off the grounds!" "Deseecate him!"
These, with other expressions and epithets, of which I am now ashamed.
I boil with rage.
The fat man next to me has pocketed my money.

Hair Falling?

Don't tell your friends of it. They would think it so strange. You see, they know Ayer's Hair Vigor checks falling of the hair, restores color to gray hair, and makes the hair grow. Then why don't you use it?

"A few years ago my hair got very dry and I could pull it right out by the handful. After using a few bottles of Ayer's Hair Vigor I got relief. My hair stopped falling and I received a new head of hair."—Mrs. G. Harrer, Milwaukee, Wis.

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