### THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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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.
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month of February, 1905, was as follows: 15.....27.620 1.....27,650 16.....27,580 17.....28,500 ..........28,000 18......30,650 .....30,300 .....80,100 21.....27,650 .....27,800 23......27,540 .....27,730 .30,430 26.....30,150 .....27,600 28.....27,720 ...27.850 799,530 Less unsold copies ...... 10,461 GEO. B. TZSCHUCK Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this lst day of March, 1905.

(Seal)

M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

Now for a municipal spring house cleaning that will put our streets, parks and public buildings in the pink of con-

Judging from the closing prices on 'changes yesterday, there are more spring lambs in the meat market than on the street.

A Denver newspaper declares that city determined to be a fireproof town. A little graft-proofing would seem to be equally in order.

Since England has made a treaty with the Mad Mullah those who are interested in British politics might keep an eye out for signs of a real war.

A pertinent question: Is the attorney for the school board, in working up opposition to the Omaha charter bill, acting for that body or is he inspired in behalf of his paving contractor clients?

doubtless be paid in medals and ribbons.

Perhaps the real intention of those Congregational ministers in the matter of the Rockefeller donation is to avoid taking unfair advantage of the illness of Dr. Harper.

It is now announced from Washington that the government is unable to kill the boll weevil. Still there are a number of experts who would like to continue to draw a salary while trying to exterminate the pest.

Kouropatkin's decision to remain with the Manchurian army may indicate his devotion to the czar, but it may also be evidence of a preference to trust to the mercy of Tokio rather than to that of St. Petersburg.

should be satisfied with the course of in which the school district of Omaha Venezuela. Foreign investors in all coun- would be left" by its enactment, lends tries have a way of thinking that when countenance to a number of bogies conthey are satisfied no others should have jured up for the school board members any cause to complain.

The refusal of the Standard Oil com- in them. pany to transact business in Kansas is evidence of the position assumed by too many corporations—that of superiority treasurer ex-officio city treasurer as to the laws supposed to govern all pec- well as ex-officio treasurer for the school ple and corporations with equality.

Andrassy has falled to form a cabinet of the revolutionist, Kossuth, would have statesman is seeking the combination.

On the petition of a judge of the district court, who found extenuating cir- the school board certifies to the city cumstances in the case, Governor Folk has pardoned a man convicted of robbing be raised by taxation and the council ina train. Such circumstances in such a cludes a levy for the school fund along crime could only occur in Missouri.

San Francisco police threaten to unof Mrs. Stanford but still assert they of conspiracy to impute crime to others.

If American soldiers had been ready to stop fighting every time the commissary department ran out of bread history would have been much different. Yet this is the strongest argument for declaring peace that one Russian newspaper can find.

Omaha had to fight for years and carry its fight clear up to the supreme court of ahead of the fiscal year for the city and the United States to get a decision to the board finds no difficulty in anticicompel the railroads to construct via- pating its revenues, it should encounter ducts to protect their own property, no more embarrassment on this score Without the compulsion of law these than any other city department. As by the city treasurer's office without viaducts would never have been built. soon as the public business was re-If Omaha business interests never de- adjusted to the new dates for tax paymanded anything but what the rail- ments everything would go along as roads wanted. Omaha would still be an smoothly as before.

NO DANGER TO THE OPEN DOOR. It is most natural that in considering conditions in the far east there should view that the Japanese will take advanother nations, while others express the belief that she would put no barrier in .120 the way of trade interests of other nafully the open door policy and faithfully

adhere to it. A foreign correspondent of an eastern paper suggests that Japan would pledged solemnly to the policy, "but hisknows no law and no oath of fidelity to engagements." This is very true as apperfidy is traditional and notorious. There is no warrant, however, for assuming that Japan would play a decepworld. She has always kept faith with the nations, always met her internarights of other countries. What reason, therefore, is there to think that she will not continue to do so? The correspondent says: "What the United States, Britain and France have to do is to consider the expediency of getting China to open other trading ports at the earliest practicable moment where they would have treaty rights such as they have in the ports opened last year. It is inconceivable that Japan would disturb China's existing trade treaties with Washington or London at any rate, and it is probable that she would urge Peking to extend to American and British trade further privileges of the same kind." He points out that Tokio is grateful to Washington for its attitude throughout the war, to the American financiers for co-operation in the loans while yet the issue was in doubt, and above all to the whole American people for sympathy and the moral

support it involves. He suggests that if American trade does not get the benefit of this gratitude while yet it is warm and undiminished by possible friction over a Japanese exclusion act, such as California proposes, an invaluable opportunity will be lost forever. "Not all observers," he remarks, "of Japan's probable commercial program for the next decade feel certain that she will remain absolutely faithful to the open door arrangement."

We do not believe there would be the least danger to the open door from Japanese success in the war, but rather that it would assure the maintenance of that principle. In the first place Japan will desire to be on the most friendly relations with all the great powers and particularly with the United have their friendship if she should pursue a policy inimical to their commercial President Roosevelt is said to be look-interests in China. A course of that escape the vigilance of the Japanese. \$100,000 man to build the kind would inevitably subject her to the Panama canal, who, however, is to get hostility of all the commercial nations only \$25,000. The little difference will and it is not difficult to understand what this would mean for her. In the second place Japan would not attempt to influence China to adopt any policy that might imperil her future peace and security, as a departure from the principle to which China is fully committed would be very certain to do. Furthermore. Japan can get her share of Chinese trade in fair and equal competition with other countries and with this she will be satisfied. Russian success would mean an end to the open door. Japanese victory will assure the continuance of

# that policy.

SCHOOL BOARD AND CHARTER BILL Members of the school beard have allowed themselves to become unduly alarmed over the proposed new Omaha charter. The long statement issued by a special committee, who says it was ap-Foreign investors say the United States | pointed "to protest against the position that do not in any way constitute the dangers the committee professes to see

The proposed merger of city and county treasuries simply makes the county district precisely as the city treasurer has heretofore acted as ex-officio treasurer for the school district. The county in Hungary. It still looks as if the son treasurer is an elective officer required to give bond in double the amount of money to be called to save the government of the liable to be in his custody at any one emperor, although neither emperor nor time so that the pretense of irrespon-

sibility is not good. -As to the levy of school district taxes similar provision is made. At present council how much money it demands to with the levy of the other city funds. Under the new law the council would simply certify up to the county authoriravel the mystery surrounding the death | ties the requirements of all the different city departments, including the school cannot tell whether the persons arrested district, and the county would make the for the crime will be accused of murder or levy for both city and school district precisely as the city now does for the school district. In this respect the school board would be in no different position whatever from the water board, for example, which is to procure its revenue from taxation by certification in the

> same way. The change of the date of tax payments might, it is true, affect the school district, but as the fiscal year for the school board is now six months

be interest manifested by the commer of which one provides for a consolidated matter of tax collections, as it surely cial nations in the question as to what tax receipt while the other practically will, taxpayers will not be much conmay be the result to the world's trade nullifies this provision. But this conin Asia in the event of Japan being flict was brought about by an amend- to them on the books in the name of finally victorious. There is diversity of ment to the charter after its first draft the city alone or of the city, county and opinion on the subject, some holding the and is not insurmountable. Strangely enough, however, it has nothing to do in tage of every commercial opportunity particular with the school district, but that offers, regardless of the interests of affects the administration of the city and county finances as a whole.

The question that naturally arises is, Why has the school board waited so tions in the orient, but would accept long to ascertain how the new charter bill affects the interests of the school district, and why it should not have endeavored to have the charter framed or amended to meet its views in these remaintain the open door for a time, being gards rather than to seek at the last moment to defeat charter revision altotory shows that national necessity gether? The protest signed by the committee is evidently drawn by the attorney for the school board and this atplying to a nation like Russia, whose torney has been in constant attendance on the legislature, and especially upon the committees formulating the charter bill, as the paid lobbyist of a certain tive part and break her pledge to the paving contractor and other special interests. While interposing objections and suggestions on the paving clause, never tional obligations, always respected the once, so far as is known, has he offered advice for the school board, and in legal parlance he ought to be estopped from raising objections-now.

If the school board committee is in earnest in its desires to protect the school district from misfit legislation, but does not want to be used by contractors and other outsiders anxious to beat the charter, it will bend its efforts to correcting by amendment the two or three points where the charter bill is open to criticism in the interest of the to much needed reforms and greatly demanded economies promised by the new charter bill.

#### THE RUSSIAN ARMADA.

The Russian second Pacific squadron is steaming eastward as rapidly as conditions will allow and should make its appearance somewhere in the eastern waters, if ever able to reach them, within a few weeks. On paper the fleet commanded by Admiral Rojestvensky appears somewhat formidable, numbering with transports and auxiliary vessels, nearly a hundred ships. This is quite double the number of the greatest possible fleet Japan can muster, yet the comprises twenty battleships and cruisers, nearly all of them are old, only nine having been launched since 1900 These are the hope of the whole fleet, Opposed to them is Togo in command of a fleet of modern, effective fighting ships, manned by undefeated veterans of the Port Arthur campaign-gunners and

sailors unexcelled in the world. States and Great Britain. She could not Russians can take to reach eastern wathe enemy, amply provided with the means for giving battle should they run across the Russians. Unless all expert naval opinion is at fault, a meeting of the fleets of Rojestvensky and Togo could have but one result-the disastrous defeat of the Russian. These experts think it would be an altogether onesided fight and doubtless they are cor rect in this view. At all events the prospective sea battle will share in interest with the progress of events in northern Manchuria.

## THE CANAL COMMISSION.

Reorganization of the Isthmian Canal commission is now assured, but it has not yet been decided whether the number of commissioners shall remain as at present or be reduced, there being a juestion as to the authority of the presdent in the matter. As the act authorizing him to exercise all the powers of government for the zone through such ersons as he might choose, and in such manner as he might direct, expired with the congress, there is no provision of law whatever on that subject. Under this act the president vested the governmental power in the Isthmian Canal commission to be exercised under the supervision and direction of the secre tary of war, the commission being also charged with the work of constructing the canal. This was a matter entirely

within his discretion. The present commission was created by the Spooner act of June 28, 1902. which is the only act of congress now in force relating to the isthmus canal. It is urged that under the provision of this act which says that the commission was to be in all matters subject to the direction and control of the president, there is no doubt that he has power to remove any or all of the members of the commission, but whether he can reduce the number, the act providing for seven members, is another question. It was manifestly a rather serious mistake on the part of congress in failing to provide needed legislation for the government of the canal zone. That omission has admittedly left the president in a somewhat awkward position, but tof course government of the zone will continue and with a reorganized commission, having at its head a man of energy and administrative ability, it may reasonably be expected that the work of construction will be pushed with all possible

rapidity. One objection entered by the school board committee against the consolidacertainly not well taken. The point is the school fund would have to pay 1 per cent for collection of its revenues. whereas that work is now being done commission. The collection of the school revenues, however, is costing right now more than 1 per cent, and inasmuch as the bill is paid by the same taxpayers, a good time under these circumstances it is

committee arraignment which appears to etbook or the school district pocketbook have foundation is the conflict discov-ered between two sections of the charter, of treasuries will save money in the cerned whether the expense is charged school district fointly.

> Who has that \$5,000 boodle fund that is to buy a year's extension in office for the democratic office holders in Douglas county? That some of these salary absorbers would pay the price if they were satisfied that the goods would be delivered is not to be doubted, and the extension of their time at the public crib without re-election indicates that they distrust their ability to hold on by popular endorsement. The charge of attempted bribery, however, is hardly to be brushed off lightly, and those who have preferred it should be required to make good with names and details or back up as malicious liars.

South Omaha taxpayers are said to be ing bonds for the city hall building. which is up before them again, and it is knowing where the new structure is to period in question. be planted before O. K.'ing the draft for the money. The selection of the site, the total amount of conscience contribuhowever, in advance of the bond elections annually since 1898; tion would not be in keeping with the scheme, which is to stimulate real estate speculation. Real estate agents expect to locate the city hall on half a dozen different plots of land and sell real estate all around each of them before the site is fixed.

Omaha streets are to be tunneled for still another set of electric wire conduits, two sets of subway ducts being already in place. The time is bound to come when the underground wires will have to be laid according to one general plan, and in all probability the city will eventually insist upon municipal ownership of everything below the surface of the streets, as it will of everything above anything but temporary makeshifts.

The Commercial club has already acted upon The Bee's suggestion to put a line out for President Roosevelt in the event he is to pass through Omaha on his way to join his hunting party in consensus of opinion among European Colorado. The opportunity to entertain naval experts is that this Russian fleet the president, even if only for a few is sailing to certain disaster. While it hours, is not to be neglected, if it presents.

# Philadelphia Press.

The Kansas legislators are getting credit from their constituents for good work, which seems to be deserved. down the legislative expenses \$47,000, did not vote away any of the state property as to chairs, desks, etc., and passed an antidiscrimination law, the oil freight bill and other measures in which the people were deeply interested, and

#### The Shoe is on the Other Foot. New York Tribune.

French papers are calling upon the Japs nese to be generous in their victory. It is to be hoped the Japanese will be magnanimous, but Russia, Germany and France, who stepped in and deprived Japan of the legitimate fruits of its victory over China, are hardly in a position to urge a claim for generous treatment. The shoe is on the other foot now, and it seems to make a great difference.

#### King Corn as a Money Maker. Philadelphia Record.

The farmers in the great corn states of he west-Providence permitting-are laying plans to broaden the basis of national prosperity by planting more corn than usual and taking extra pains to fertilize the ground and insure a bumper crop. Corn is our great crop. Unlimited corn stands for cheaper beef and pork, more business for the carriers and more purchasing power for the workingman's dol-

#### A Great Victory. Kansas City Times.

Kansas has already won a great victor; over the Standard Oil company. Th trust has decided not wait until it is driven out of the state, but to go of its own accord. It faced the alternative of quitting Kansas or doing business on a fair scale and thus giving the public an illustration of competitive business as compared with the monopolistic system. The Standard company is not particularly desirous of giving such a demonstration at this time.

## A Fat Contract Unlocated

New York Sun. The gracious potentate from whom the procured for her clients a \$5,000,000 railway contract is variously described as the sulan of Lahore and the sultan of Johore. There is no sultan of Lahore. That part of the Punjab has been British territory for nearly sixty years."

There is a sultan or rajah of Johore, Ibrahim by name. Under British supervi- the secretary of the treasury from paying sion he rules over a population estimated at 200,000. The revenues and resources of of the reference books at hand. The lamented Ahkoond of Swat died year and years ago.

## Bryan's Panneen.

New York Globe. After nearly six months of sweetly solmn thought Mr. Bryan has evolved a plan of salvation for the democratic party. It is simply that every member of the party hall give a pledge to attend its primaries. That is all. Going to the primaries will not bind them at all on the question of principles, he says. He publishes in his paper a blank form of pledge Which he asks to have signed and returned in order that he may keep the roll. You buy the paper and get the blank, you see. Then Mr. Bryan gets your name and will be in a position to impress upon you the desirability of becoming a subscriber. That's the way to reorganize a party!

## What Poor Lo Costs.

The aboriginals' current account with the United States is about like this: There are 238,000 of him all told. They cost the government, approximately, \$9,800,000 a year Of this \$3,800,000 goes for education, with various sectarian agencies striving for the privilege of handling portions of that fund If the Indians improve much as a whole they keep it to themselves, bruiting about no flagrant evidences of it. They are encouraged to work a little, but not expected to work much, and live up to this absence of expectation. All things considered, the government treats the Indian very well. He is cared for, protected and presented with a free living, and if he doesn't have outpost on the railroad map. The only point in the school board whether it is taken out of the city pock. not the fault of the circumstances.

#### BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE,

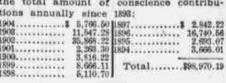
Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot. Uncle Sam's "conscience fund" continues growing a pace. A contribution of \$12,000 was made to it this month by some unknown person who had in years gone hypothecated some of your uncle's coin. It

is the second largest contribution to the fund received by the government, the largest being \$14,225.15. Many queer letters have been received

by the government in recent years in connection with these restorations of governwho had been a postmistress returned to the treasury 2 cents for a pilfered stamp, In some cases the money has been returned through the medium of priests, who have informed the government that the money was handed to them to be sent to the government by penitents who have entered the confessional and acknowledged having robbed the government. Once in a subjects. He is said to speak English while the money is sent by registered mail fluently. or express by persons who have given their instances the name is withheld through fear of prosecution, and generally the money comes through the ordinary mail with a simple slip of paper, directing that the money be credited to 'conscience."

Since the beginning of the second half of the last Cleveland administration the govgetting lukewarm on the subject of vot- ernment has received more than \$100,000 in conscience contributions. More than twothirds of this sum, or over \$65,000, has been received during the administration of Pressuggested that some of them insist on ident Roosevelt, or about one-third of the

An official of the Treasury department furnished the following figures, showing



A writer in the April Century gives interesting details of President Roosevelt as a reader and his method of absorbing information. "I have no record of the president's recent reading," he says, "but it is not a secret that he is 'keeping up the pace.' Some of my friends are still 'reading at' Morley's three thick volumes of Gladstone's life. The president, of course, read them promptly, gaining, I am told, not only a fresh, but a much more favorable view of the great leader, whom he confessed he had hitherto failed to understand. A publisher not long ago told me that Mr. Roosevelt seemed to have his eye on the authors of their house, and the surface of the streets. The conduits now and then a private letter, full of apnow being laid cannot be regarded as preciation, would pass through the publisher's hands on the way to an author. In the thick of the campaign of 1904 I happen to know that he reread all of Macaulay's 'History of England,' all of Rhodes' 'History of the United States' and Dickens' 'Martin Chuzzlewit.'

"The other afternoon he was handed a new book-a not very long dissertation on a matter of current interest. That evening he entertained a number of guests at dinner, and later there was a musical party at the White House, at which he was present. At luncheon, the next day, the giver said to him: 'Mr. President, of course you have not had time to look at that book.' 'Oh, yes,' said the president I have read it.' Whereupon he proved that he had done so by his criticism of the work. One day, lately, a book of short stories was sent to him; almost by return mail came a letter thanking the sender and saying he had already enjoyed the stories greatly in serial publication.

'How does he manage to do it?' All I know about this is that, in the first place, he has by nature or practice the faculty of extremely, rapid reading. There are some men of letters and 'general readers' who never have been able art. Others can take in paragraphs or pages well-nigh at a glance. The president must be one of these photographic readers who take almost instantly the impression of a whole paragraph or nearly a whole page, the eye running along the line with lightning-like rapidity, and leaping to the more important phrases as by instinct. I have known the following to occur: A congressman makes a statement to him and hands him a type-written Almost immediately the president hands It back to him whereupon the congressman says deprecatingly: 'Mr. President, may I not leave this paper with you? I am anxious that you should read it. 'But,' answer the president, 'I have read it: you can examine me in it, if you wish.'

Secretary Taft will have a distinguished party to accompany him on his trip to the Philippines next June. Not only will there be a number of congressmen, but there will be several attractive ladies in the party. Mrs. Taft will accompany her husband and Miss Alice Roosevelt will go as Mrs. Taft's guest. Miss Mabel Boardman of Washington, will also be of the party, while Speaker Cannon, Representafive Payne, General Grosvenor, Bourke Cockran, Representative Hill of Mississippl; Gillett of Massachusetts; Hepburn of Iowa; Sherley of Kentuckey and Curtis of Kansas will make up the house contingent. Mrs. Payne and Mrs. Hill will accompany their husbands. Senators Warren, Allison and Long will be among the senators who will go. The party will pines, and after a month in the islands enterprising Mrs. Reader is said to have some of the party, and perhaps all of it,

> In order to protect the Chickasaw and Choctaw Indians from paying a fee to a firm of lawyers amounting to \$750,000, proceedings have been brought before Judge Anderson, in the equity court, to restrain the money.

Mansfield, McMurray & Cornish, of In Johore are presented statistically in none dian Territory, appeared in behalf of the Indians in successful suits to recover lands occupied by whites. The proceedings were before a citizenship court, created by congress, and under the law the court allowed the fee at its discretion.

The Indians appealed to president Roose velt, who denounced the fee as outrageous, but found himself unable to do anything, as the action of the court was permissible under the law. The impression in Washington is that

Judge Anderson will refuse to take action

and that the fee will be paid.

Secretary Taft has been obliged to issue statement in regard to the revolver used by John Wilkes Booth when he shot President Lincoln. A man in Philadelphia the other day paid a good price for a pistol which was claimed to be the genuine pistol used in the assassination of President Lincoln. Captain Heath of Philadel

phia, wrote to the War department to in quire if the Philadelphia pistol was the genuine Booth derringer. He asked the question because he understood that the weapon with which the deed had been committed was in the War department. The secretary answered the letter by stating that Booth's derringer was securely locke up in the safe in the office of the judge advocate general of the army in the War department, and he further declared that the weapon has been in the custody or the judge advocate general since the trial of the conspirators.

Orders New Submarines. QUINCY, Mass., March 22.—The Fore River Ship Bullding company of this city has signed a contract to construct in eigh-teen months four submarine torpedo boats teen months four submarine torpedo boat of the Holland type for the United States government.

#### PERSONAL NOTES.

Hon. William H. Taft has accepted the invitation of the National Geographic soclety at Washington to address the society on the Philippines. The address will be delivered the first week in May.

John H. Rankin, the Philadelphia architect, who is building the government buildings in Indianapolis, objects to the placing of the Benjamin Harrison monument on the building site, as it is completely out of harmony with the surroundings.

The first government position held by Frank H. Hitchcock, who has just been ment money. Several years ago a woman appointed first assistant postmaster general, was that of chief clerk to the super intendent of the construction of the postoffice building, when he was 24 years old. Senor de Cologan, the newly appointed Spanish minister to Washington, is the scion of an old Irish family, whose heads removed into Spain after the battle of the Boyne and became naturalized Spanish

> John Flynn of Broadhead, Ky., is a track walker employed by the Louisville & Nashville road. For thirty years he has never been more than a few miles from his home, but in that time he has walked over 125,000 miles. Though 60 years old, he still patrols his section daily, doing about fourteen miles between sun and sun.

> Jesse James, only son of the famous Missouri bandit, is reading law and taking the three years' course in a Kansas City school of law. This is his first term. When the course is finished, he will practice law. The professors of the law school say that Jesse is a good student. Much of his time is spent in reading in the law library in the county court house.

# LENT AND ITS USES.

Physical Benefits Flow from Observance of a Religious Custom. Chicago Journal.

A period of forty days has come during which for hundreds of years plously inclined folk have been accustomed to abstain from one thing and another which they liked. Altogether apart from the telligence and followed with discretion, question of religious belief involved, it is worth while considering how deeply the practice is grounded in common sense and the requirements of human nature.

During the winter now happily passing During the winter now happily passing it has been needful to eat a great deal of meat and other strong food in order to supply the heat required for the body in the supply the heat required for the bod its annual conflict with the forces of frost, Such a diet prolonged into warm weather means nothing less than an overtaxed digestion and a weakening of all human powers of resistance. Nothing can be petter for the average man and weman than to go without the quantity of heavy food demanded during cold weather in order to prepare for the spring and summer. Fish, the most easily obtained substitute, naturally suggests itself, with greater quantities of the lighter vegetables. Actual fasting is good for the stomach.

This is on the physical side of the ques tion. On the moral side it is to be said that character develops more quickly and sturdily by doing what one does not wish to do, rather than by merely gratifying one's own wills There is a constant tendency toward selfishness as age comes upon mankind, a greater disposition to do as one would, rather than as one should. "Sweet are the uses of adversity," says Shakespeare, and ordinary experience bears out the maxim. If, all the rest of the year, you are in

the habit of doing as you would, nothing will do more good than to do as you would not for forty days by giving up some pet habit. Man should be his own master at all times, and no one is fully entitled to call himself man who is slave to any habit except that of good impulses. It has never been easy for any human

being to live his best life, but the road to it lies along lines of self-denial and abstinence. Self-indulgence and the constant habit of putting one's self first pave an easy descent to the worst things in life, never to the best. Study your own face and figure in the

mirror; if you find there signs of selfgratification keep Lent by giving up your pet indulgence, no matter what it is. You will live longer and better and those about you will be the happier for it no less than

#### PHYSICAL CULTURE FADS. tome Modern Notions Produce that

Tired Feeling. Baltimore American.

Just at present the country seems to be in rather an exhausted condition from its pursuit of physical culture fads, or, to employ an athletic phrase, it seems to be growing stale or overtrained. One craze follows another in such rapid and endless succession that few, if any of them, live long enough to have their merits satisfactorily tested. Not a great while ago breathing exercises were put forward as cure-alis for mental and physical debility Later there came the period of weights and pulleys, only to be succeeded by the mysterious system of mental weight-lifting -a playing of one muscle against another. The latest innovation is a system of Japa-

nese wrestling. The promoters of this claim all manner of things for it, from the protection of life and pocketbook against ruffians to the overthrowing of physical giants by any puny exponent of the art. It is proclaimed from the housetops that stop at Honolulu on the way to the Philip- each of these various systems can be taught by the correspondence method, and many a victim has been induced to part with his coin in exchange for a mass of typewritten directions describing countless gymnastic contortions which it is impossible for him even to interpret, much less perform. There are no short cuts to athletic skill



physical health or muscle development, and there are few forms of gymnastic exercises which do not require the presence of an expert instructor if the intracacles are to be mastered and made of any permanent value. No one has ever heard that Prestdent Roosevelt attempts to learn such exercises without the aid of personal Instruction. A small element of competition, or matching of skill against skill-a combination of brain and muscle-are the factors that encourage and make indoor exercise and many forms of outdor activity entertaining pastimes. The good, old-fashioned custom of taking long walks and borseback rides are modes of exercise that promise to outlive many modern fads. They are conducive to clear brains, healthy lungs and an abundant circulation of good, red blood. The people may need physical exercise, but it should be directed by in-

Cashler-Madam, I cannot hopor this heck. You have already overdrawn your

"I see yer movin' out, boss," said Weary Willie, stopping to watch the operation. "Is dere anything yer don't need dat I might take?"
"Yes," snapped Subbubs, "a bath."—Philadelphia Leadger.

"Did you attend the mothers' congress?" asked one woman.
"No," answered the other, "I didn't have
time. I had to stay at home and look after
the children."—Washington Star.

is credited with remarking that women are soaked in alcohol." "Well, that's one way to "Well, that's one way to preserve peaches."—Cleveland Plain Dealer. Knicker-What is the sixth sense?

Mrs. Ashe—Don't you dread the thought of spring housecleaning?

Mrs. Dash—Yes, indeed. I don't mind things being topsy-turvy myself, but it keeps my husband in such an awful temper. I hate to think of the way we're going to quarrel.—Detroit Free Press.

"I'm introducing an automatic machine," said the caller, "that will pay for itself in "I'll take one if it will do that," promptly said the manufacturer.
"If it will pay for itself in a year?"
"No; automatically pay for itself in a
year."—Philadelphia Press.

### CONCERNING RED OAK, IOWA.

A New York drummer contributes to the New York Sun the following poem for the enlightenment of some congressman who professed ignorance of the locality and its characteristics:

On the Nishnabatona, That flows to the sea Through Iowan fields of The highest degree Of culture in corn,
It's pleasant to see
Red Oak.

Old Nishnabatona, Who gave to the stream Its name, was a wonder;
And through the red gleam
Of his race he could see The end of his dream—Red Oak.

On the banks of the river, The wealth of the state In beauty and richness Conjoin to create Conditions resulting In making a great

Red Oak

Like a vision clusive.

We see from the car
The city lie sleeping
In blue haze afar,
And we know that these temples And minarets are Red Oak.

On our ears falls the cadence And hum of the street, The music and motion Of hurrying feet, As we land at the station And joyously greet Red Oak.

In the city of progress
We stand in amaze
At the symbols of movement
In all modern ways,
And bow to the spirit
Of commerce that pays
Red Oak. On the Nishnabatona

A picture we see
Of rest and of beauty
And grand energy;
A wondrous composite wondrous composite— None other could be Red Oak.

The travier is crowned With the sense of completion; His wand ring around His wand ring ture. Has ended in rapture. And he thanks God he's found. Red Oak.



Ayer's Hair Vigor is a hair-food. It feeds the hair and the hair grows. That's all there is to it. And it is a splendid tonic to the hair, giving the hair follicles tone and strength. This is why it checks falling hair so promptly.

As a dressing, it keeps the hair soft and smooth and prevents splitting at the ends.

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