

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 18th day of May, 1905. (Seal) M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

Omaha is educated up to brass band harmony, but not quite up to orchestral symphony.

The advance agent of Her's palace hotel has done very well up to date, but Omaha wants to be shown.

If the czar stands by his recent receipt he may find himself more popular in Warsaw than in St. Petersburg.

It is to be hoped the report from Chicago that cash corn has been cornered is not to be the prelude to another bank sensation.

Governor Hoch proposes to close all the saloons in Kansas. It was not suspected up to this time that Kansas had any saloons to close.

It will be several days before the St. Petersburg political clubs reach the point where they will begin to endorse candidates for appointive offices.

Perhaps some of those same "big shippers" might be induced to appear at Lincoln and tell the State board that the railroads are also overtaxed.

Douglas county is entitled to a hearing before the State Board of Equalization. Douglas county pays more than one-ninth of all the taxes of the state.

Admiral Beresford's remarks regarding French neutrality sound like those of a man who is prepared to hear strange news from some distant British port.

Since John D. Rockefeller has purchased an automobile, pedestrians have another reason to be careful how they express themselves regarding "tainted money."

Now that some of the Quaker teachers have gone on record in favor of foot ball as a college sport the saying "As harmless as a Quaker" may have to be revised.

While Missouri is furnishing 10,000 mules for work on the Panama canal, Nebraska will try to make as much profit by selling the oats to keep the mules in action.

We are surprised that the State Dental association has not put in a disclaimer for the action of the Omaha dentist who introduced the commodity rate bill in the late legislature.

If that new asphalt repair plant will only be gotten into visible action soon, the good people of Omaha will be less likely to overtax their patience waiting for contract paving to materialize.

The number of ships which have gone ashore the last few days would indicate either a change in the conformation of the land or a change in the quality of the liquid refreshments served aboard.

Omaha's municipal bonds have now been made authorized securities for the investment of savings bank and trust funds in New York. Another tribute to the gilt-edged character of Omaha's credit.

As a matter of precedent it is to be regretted that those Chicago schoolboys were permitted to win their strike by default, for they would probably have lost had not the strike breakers resorted to firearms.

Since the attorney general has decided that the federal eight-hour law applies to the Panama canal zone President Shonts may change his mind about building the big ditch as a railroad would be built.

After the warmth of the campaign in the ranks of the Daughters of the American Revolution, it is not surprising that a majority have declared in favor of firecrackers on the Fourth of July, the only wonder being that the victors can restrain their noise until that time.

IGNORING THE PACIFIC COAST.

A complaint comes from the Pacific coast that that section is being ignored by the Isthmian commission in the matter of obtaining supplies for the canal. The San Francisco Chronicle says that there is not only a constant fight with other departments of the government to get opportunity for Pacific coast bidders to compete, but there has been trouble with the commission itself. This is said to have come about since the commission was reorganized. That paper very quietly says that as the people of the coast are taxed equally with those of other sections for the building of the canal they are entitled to an even chance with other parts of the country to make some money by furnishing any commodities which they can supply as cheaply as anybody and it suggests that there is a deliberate intention to favor the east at the expense of the coast.

While this seems improbable it is manifestly the plain duty of the representatives of the coast in congress to see that that section has a fair and even chance in the competition for furnishing canal supplies. In this matter there should be no favoritism shown to any part of the country. The manufacturers of every section should be given an opportunity to submit bids on what the commission will have to buy. Any partiality or discrimination will inevitably cause complaint and dissatisfaction, the effect of which must be more or less embarrassing to the work of the commission. The construction of the Panama canal is a great national project toward which all the people contribute and therefore all sections should have an even chance of sharing in the money to be expended by the government in the enterprise. If the manufacturers of the Pacific coast can furnish equally as good and as cheap supplies as those of the east they should be given the opportunity to do so. If it be a fact that that section is being ignored by the commission we think it can be confidently assumed that such a course will not be approved by either President Roosevelt or Secretary Taft.

REFORM MAKING PROGRESS.

The reform movement in Russia is making steady progress and what has already been accomplished through persistent popular agitation would have been thought utterly impossible a year ago. It has taken a great deal of pressure on the part of the advocates of a change in governmental policies to induce the czar to free himself from the domination of the reactionaries and listen to the appeals of his people, but he has made the departure and it can very safely be predicted that the new order of things which he has sanctioned will stand permanently, for it will make for domestic peace, which is the present most urgent requirement of the empire. With peace at home assured the government will be relieved of the necessity of keeping its home garrisons filled with troops and can reinforce its armies in Manchuria if determined to carry on the war to the bitter end.

Having a short time ago granted religious freedom, the czar has now removed the political restrictions in Poland and the Baltic provinces, something that the people of those parts of Russia have been long asking for. The importance of this concession is very great and will have a quieting effect upon a large element of the population which has been sorely oppressed and which recently has shown a vigorous manifestation of its resentment. These steps in the modification of autocratic rule and the removal of bureaucratic despotism will have the commendation of the civilized world and will assure the government a larger measure of popular loyalty and devotion, while promoting the nation's industrial development and general welfare.

HOSTILE FOREIGN TARIFFS.

The tendency of foreign countries to discriminate in their tariffs against the United States received attention in a recent address by the secretary of the treasury, which is said to reflect the views of the president. Secretary Shaw was reported as declaring that so long as this country is not discriminated against by hostile tariffs it will not engage in retaliatory legislation, but he intimated that unjust tariff laws against United States exports will be met by laws of the same character. It is a natural inference that this was intended as a warning to Germany, whose declared tariff policy is commanding a great deal of attention by reason of the fact that it will place American products, particularly those of agriculture, at a decided disadvantage in competition with the products of the countries that have concluded new commercial treaties, reciprocal in character, with Germany. In defining the international commercial policy of the United States the secretary of the treasury said that this country reserves to itself, by means of protective tariffs, a large measure of the confidence incident to supplying the needs and wants of its people. "That which it yields to others it yields, with few and unimportant exceptions, to all on equal terms and gives no preference to any country or to any people. The few carefully guarded exceptions only emphasize the policy and the slight advantage granted the republic of Cuba." He pointed out that the United States criticizes no nation for levying duties, however high, when levied for purposes either of protection or of revenue, "provided only they are made to rest no more severely upon us than upon others." All this country asks is the right to buy in foreign markets on the same terms as her commercial competitors and the right to sell in all markets on terms as favorable as any. He said that America will never be involved in tariff war or retaliatory legislation so long as the United States pursues its present policy and other countries do not discriminate against those who do not discriminate against them.

The German tariff carries maximum

and minimum rates and the countries with which she has recently concluded commercial treaties get the lower rates. There would seem to be no question as to her right to enter into such agreements and she is understood to desire to make one with the United States. The question to be determined by our government is whether it will negotiate a treaty that will permit our products to enter the German markets by the payment of the minimum duties or will let the conditions that are to go into effect early next year stand. In other words, shall we place ourselves on an equality with the countries that have made reciprocal treaties with Germany or leave our products subject to the maximum duties, which will mean the exclusion of a large part of them from the markets of Germany. As stated by the American consul general at Berlin, the all-important question which intimately concerns the future trade between the United States and Germany is whether the present amicable arrangement, namely, the most favored nation clause, which has withstood all mutations of tariff laws in both countries for nearly three-fourths of a century, will be allowed to stand under the new situation that will be created in Germany by the enforcement of the new tariff law and the commercial treaties which have been based upon it. How important this is can be appreciated when it is stated that the trade involved amounts to not less than \$50,000,000 annually.

AS TO WARD BOUNDARIES.

Members of the city council seem to be making a great deal more out of the redistricting of the city into twelve wards than the importance of the matter would warrant. Under the present city charter the division of the city into wards has no special significance except to divide the people into convenient groups for administrative purposes. There was a time when the ward, as such, had certain privileges and prerogatives when it elected its own member of the city council without waiting for the consent of any other ward, and when each ward was entitled to choose its own assessor in the same way. But all this has been changed now. The ward, as such, does not choose a single public officer. The city councilman must, it is true, reside in the ward, but to be elected he must have a majority of the votes cast in all the wards. The position of ward assessor has been abolished altogether, the assessments being made by appointees of the county assessor, who need not even reside in the districts in which they are set to work. Only in the event that these ward officers should be restored would the ward divisions become again imperative as marking electoral districts. The ward councilman may be within vision for the future, although there seems to be little likelihood of the ward assessor ever being regenerated.

Omaha for many years consisted of only six wards, the number being increased to meet the requirements of increased population and expanding area. The same considerations are at the bottom of the present enlargement of ward numbers. If the council should ignore the reasons and objects for the redistricting it will mean simply that another council will find it incumbent to do the work over again at the first opportunity, whereas should the new wards be established now on lines that conform to population needs they will probably stand for years to come.

The president of the Armour refrigerator car lines admits that the company has a monopoly on several railroads but claims that it is exempt from the law governing common carriers. Here is one place where even the senate committee will be forced to admit an amendment to the interstate commerce law is entirely justifiable.

The annual June rise of the Missouri river is almost due. With the enormous quantities of snow in the mountains and the heavy rainfall in the upper Missouri region, the chances are that the river will foreclose its mortgage over several large tracts of land in Iowa, as well as in Nebraska.

The charter is plain enough that the twelve-ward redistricting of the city must be made with a view to putting as nearly equal voting population as possible in each of the wards. The object of the law is to accommodate the voters rather than the officeholders.

The Woodmen of the World threaten to move headquarters from Omaha whenever taxation of their property in Nebraska becomes "unjust, excessive and oppressive." No court will permit "unjust, excessive and oppressive" taxes to be imposed upon any interest.

If any more "big shippers" want a little junket down to Washington to give testimony that there is no call for rate regulating legislation, they should not hesitate to let it be known without delay at railway headquarters.

Congregational ministers who have replied to Dr. Gladden's pronouncements do not, apparently, object so seriously to what that distinguished divine believes as to the fact that he has taken the public into his confidence.

Literary Opportunity. Washington Post. It is hardly probable that Secretary Loeb and Pat Crowe will take advantage of the splendid opportunity to collaborate an article on "How We Fooled the Omaha Sheriff."

Vasaries of the Climate. Chicago Inter Ocean. There are great floods in Nebraska, many miles of country being under water, which would go to prove that the climate continues to change in the most unexpected places.

Greenness of Hides. Philadelphia Press. General Linevitch says he could have worn the line of Mukden, which General Kouropatkin lost. Certainly, and when

General Linevitch loses a battle see how promptly General Kouropatkin will come forward to say that he would have won it. Generals will be generals.

Comrades in Action. St. Louis Republic. Independent drinkers say that every increase of 4 cents in the price of corn will raise the price of whisky 1 cent. With beer it is different. A rise in the river and a jump in malt or hops has no effect on the schooner.

Too Large for a Corner. New York Tribune. With a coming wheat crop of 20,723,000 acres, or 2,688,000 more acres than there were last year, and a corn crop reported at 825 on May 1, the prospect for a wheat corner is not alluring, especially to those who tried that operation recently.

Monstrous Public Scandal. Wall Street Journal. President Stickney of the Chicago, Great Western railroad, is entirely right in calling attention to the evil of free passes on railroads, and to the need of a strict enforcement of the law prohibiting them. Especially should this law be observed by the officials of the government which made it. Most monstrous is the practice of those legislators who accept free passes from the railroad at the same time that they charge up mileage against the state treasury.

Woeful Lament of Lumber Trust. Chicago Chronicle. It is proposed to be able to reassess the Mississippi Valley Lumbermen's association which views with alarm the growing scarcity of timber and which has felt compelled to hold prices a few notches in consequence thereof. The association has evidently overestimated the danger, but there are several million acres of virgin timber land in Canada which may be made available as soon as the Mississippi valley society and its contemporaries petition congress to take the tariff out of Canada's hands. We are in no imminent danger of a lumber famine.

The Railroad Defense. Kansas City Times. The chief defense of the railroads, and of the trusts, which are interested in the matter of rate legislation, is that the present powers of the interstate commerce commission are sufficient to deal with the evils of the railroads. But whether these powers are sufficient or insufficient, the fact remains that the interstate commerce commission has been unable to restrain the railroads from making unjust rates. In only a very small percentage of cases have they been able to do so. The commission declares that the railroads against it have nearly all been based on its lack of authority. The country wants the railroads and the big shippers controlled. It wants a square deal. Existing laws have been insufficient, even when a determined effort has been made to enforce them, and the people want new laws. And they are going to have them.

PRESIDENT STICKNEY'S BOOM. Progressive Railroad Man Jara the Feelings of Professional Brethren. Minneapolis Journal. President A. B. Stickney of the Chicago Great Western has made trouble for the railroad men by his declaration of independence of view and frankness of statement in his declaration to the senate committee on interstate commerce in favor of giving the interstate commerce commission the power to fix rates. The railroad men have been piling up testimony with the senate committee to the effect that such power, if exercised, would throw the business of the country into confusion and have called to their aid shippers concerning whose testimony they seem to have been advised beforehand and have drawn upon the so-called "expert knowledge" of a university professor in support of the theory that the interstate commerce commission, if it had the power, would soon "play hot" in the whole rate situation.

In contradiction of their claims, Mr. Stickney, who is a successful railroad man himself, but who has never hesitated to declare his views when they have been in disagreement with other railroad men, in a recent address before the latest exhibition of the interstate commerce commission, which was a satisfactory arbitral session, Mr. Stickney's testimony is going to make trouble, for he not only advocates giving the power of making rates to the commission, but he characterizes the theory that the giving of rebates and the granting of favors and discriminations have been abolished by the Elkins law. He says the directors have stopped paying rebates on grain elevators, but in lieu thereof have paid elevator fees, which is another way of giving rebates.

The railroad men have been having things so much their own way with the senate committee and everything has been running smoothly for them that they have been persuaded themselves and almost everybody else that the theory that the whole question of rate-making was disposed of, the president headed off and the danger of effective railroad legislation averted. But with the aid of Mr. Stickney's testimony, the president again on deck declaring for rate regulation and the public in possession of what rate regulation really means, it appears the campaign is only fairly open.

PERSONAL NOTES. Boston Corbett, the man who is credited with having shot Wilkes Booth, the assassin of Lincoln, is residing in Texas at present.

Earl Gray, the governor general of Canada, accompanied by Sir Frederick Borden, the Canadian minister of militia, is visiting the United States military academy at West Point.

Ernest Ward, former commissioner of the state of Nebraska, has introduced a bill himself to be hung in the office of the commissioner of pensions, as his predecessors have done of themselves.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson, accompanied by Prof. J. M. Spillman and A. C. Carleton, has started on a trip to the southwestern states, where an investigation of agricultural conditions is to be made.

Sir George Turner, the treasurer of the Australian commonwealth, claims to be the author of the shortest bill on record. When premier of Victoria he introduced a bill of one clause and five words: "No person shall smoke opium." Yet it did not pass.

The eight ambassadors of the German empire in Madrid, Rome, Washington, Constantinople, Paris, London, St. Petersburg and Vienna, are meeting at the city of the Danube. Their entoments are \$25,000 in the first three cities named, \$30,000 in the next three and \$37,000 in the last two.

A. E. Houseman, professor of Latin in the University college, London, is a writer of various articles, and is not a negligible critic. He consistently refuses to accept pay for his work. An American magazine recently printed fragments from a book he printed and sent him a check which was returned with thanks.

President Roosevelt will go to Oyster Bay on his return from Harvard commencement in the latter part of June, which will this year be the twenty-fifth anniversary of his own graduation. He plans to make a short trip from Washington to New York to go to Brooklyn for the dedication of the Siscum monument on Decoration day. The intervening period in Washington will be exceptionally busy.

BIG LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES.

Enormous Accumulations of Money a Source of Fertil. A feature of life insurance companies to which attention is directed by the Equitable is the enormous accumulations of money by the companies and the power for good or ill which control of it imparts. The surplus of every company grows steadily, and as yet no way has been devised to check the increase, nor do managers desire to restrict it. The consequence of piling up such vast sums is seen in enormous salaries, extravagant expenses and manipulation in the purchase of investment securities. More important than this is the menace to the financial well-being of the country involved in the control by a few men of hundreds of millions of money.

A correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger, directs attention to this phase of life insurance in a suggestive manner. He says, in part: "Just before New Year's a little group made up of men whose names are frequently published in connection with some of the more important business of financing or of railway expansion were chatting informally over business hours, speaking particularly of the outlook, financial and industrial, for the year 1905. With one exception, each one of this group spoke with considerable freedom. All seem to be very hopeful. It having been noticed that one of the company was silent, he was at last asked if he did not agree with the others in their happy prognostication. In reply he said that he was concerned about one thing and had been thus concerned for many a year. He could not see, so he said, exactly where the great insurance companies were drifting or what they were to do in the near future.

"Individual fortunes, however, great, are commonly scattered or well divided by the third generation after the maker of the fortunes. But the great insurance corporations being of continuous life, the corporation going on no matter how often death or resignation changes the personnel of its directors, accumulates and increases accumulation so that logically there would ultimately pass into the possession, directly or indirectly, of these corporations, the control of much of the banking, most of the railroad and a large part of the industries of the United States.

"I do not know what the outcome is to be," this man continued, speaking seriously. "To my thinking, the accumulation of these enormous assets, the great surplus, is the most difficult and the most momentous problem that we have to face in this country."

"Those who heard this man thus express himself have often wondered since they have not been able to make out the managers and directors of the Equitable have been made whether he did not speak having some knowledge of that demoralizing situation. Although he is not of the Equitable category, yet he is associated with one of the other insurance corporations, a corporation, too, some of whose directors have spoken freely to their friends of the very difficult questions which the building up of enormous assets and of great surplus by the insurance corporations has involved. In one of these corporations there was serious discussion at one time as to whether it might not be advisable to seek no more new business.

But upon examination it was discovered that it would be impossible to make out the directors of that kind without impairing the whole organization. To refuse to receive new business would necessarily affect existing contracts, so that there seems to be no way out of it but to continue to accumulate. The very great surplus which has produced these great assets and surplus is now impossible to resist without causing some impairment possibly of assets or of surplus.

"It is not difficult to demonstrate that within another generation, if the growth of these corporations continues proportionately with the growth of the last thirty years, they will possess direct or indirect authority over much of the banking of New York, some of the banking of other parts of the country and through loans or investments will also have more or less authority in various railway corporations. The assets of the corporations now control nearly \$1,000,000,000 of assets and their aggregate surplus is approximately \$250,000,000. As the money rolls in and continues and constantly increasing currents, it must be invested and must seek not only investment in quick assets but also in real property, through purchase of bonds and mortgages. Five years ago one of the foremost thinkers of New York City called attention to the growth of these corporations, saying that they were, if their growth continued, very soon to become the real money power of the United States.

"Undoubtedly their resources and their power of granting favors and the rich opportunities they offered have attracted them some men who are not conspicuously identified with the great railway expansions of the United States. Therefore, it is now said that one of these corporations, through its loans and its investments, is indirectly, at least, the largest owner of the securities of one of the great railways of the United States.

"Out of the agitation which has followed the disclosure of the Equitable quarrel there may finally come a better understanding of what the real situation should be and how it should be controlled or regulated. Just now there grows an impression among the policy holders that the rates charged for insuring are altogether too great. Sometimes men who are born with a gift of prophecy and whose work has figured out, to their own satisfaction at least, that investment in a life insurance policy, looking at it from the investor's point of view, is the most extravagant one that a man can make. The figures they set down tend to show that the charges for premiums are excessive. They reason that if any purely money making corporation like a bank or a manufacturing concern were to carry on its business as the insurance corporations do, they would soon find themselves obliged to liquidate because they would be unable to obtain any business.

"Some of the disclosures already made in the Equitable case tend strongly to confirm this impression, and the statements are true, excessive commissions are allowed. There seems to be extravagance rather than economy in much of the administration, there being expensive offices, a highly appointive organization and heavy expenses for extraordinary charges. So it has sometimes been said that if the insurance corporations were merged with a view to economy as skillfully as the United States Steel corporation is, it would be possible to reduce the charges for premiums at least 50 per cent.

Naval Belle of '98. Springfield Republican. There is a prize in store for the national flag a warship captured from the enemy, which is the nearest modern equivalent of the captives following at the chariot wheels of a Roman triumph. The former Spanish warship Reina Mercedes, sunk in Santiago harbor by order of Admiral Cervera, and afterward raised and repaired, has been converted into a receiving ship at the Portsmouth (N. H.) navy yard, and is, according to the construction report, the finest of her kind in the navy. She was originally built at Cartagena in 1872, and was of 3,000 tons. It was on the Reina Mercedes that Hobson and his companions were first taken after their daring exploit.

HARDSHIPS OF PROSPERITY.

Pessimistic Observation on Conditions Generally Cheering. Philadelphia Ledger. Prosperity is not universally pervasive; it is an indication of the general tone of the economic body; it means, in a general way, health, though some of the members are stagnant. Capital has courage and confidence to undertake enterprises which are begun only in fair weather; the investor has faith, and will let the capitalist have his money for his enterprise on easy terms; more men are employed, and the merchant sells more goods to the workers; the manufacturers make more goods and call for more raw material; the producers, when the demand is brisk, suddenly find themselves in a position to sell at a higher price; when the higher prices are charged the group in the community which is described by the word "labor" is confronting a rising instead of a falling wage.

It thus happens that, as a rule, what we call prosperity is generally accompanied by a time of high prices for commodities, though it is not at all certain that high prices themselves make prosperity. If labor can get an increase of wages large enough to overcome the higher prices of the necessities of life, it may be said to enjoy that much prosperity in addition to the largely increased chance of steady employment for more men. But for a large class of the community prosperity has a hollow sound and may actually mean increased hardship. The laborer may in certain trades, by means of unions forcing up their wages artificially and maintain them for a long time, but that vast army of persons who may be fairly well described as wage-earners, as distinguished from small business men, have no such security of the economic term "immobility," applies to them and to their condition. It is a well-known law in the economic world that the increase in wages lags a long way after increase of prosperity. In the case of the salaried employes a country may pass through several eras—from prosperity to stagnation and to prosperity again—and the salaries of clerks, schoolteachers, professors in colleges and the like usually remain at or near the same level. To this great army must be added the persons of small fixed incomes derived from interest or in mortgages, bonds, annuities and other funds. These people are at a great disadvantage, because, with the development of the country and the increase of stored capital, their incomes actually tend to shrink because of the falling rate of interest.

"What is to be done about it? Nobody knows. The labor unions—the organized workers—seem to be able to enforce their demands for a share of prosperity when it comes, but the salaried people and the fixed income holders are helpless. The increase of the price of living—as much as the capitalist dreads the hard times. When the economic universe is to be adjusted according to the sublimated equities which the zealous reformers of all ages promise to usher in, the persons with the fixed incomes ought to demand a hearing.

THE PRICE OF BEEF.

Futile Attempts to Fix Responsibility for High Prices. Chicago Tribune. A few years ago the consumer of beef began asking why he had to pay so much for it. He was told by the cattle raisers and other authorities that the beef should be held accountable. He was told that it had a monopoly of the dressed beef business and was growing rich by overcharging him. That seemed to be an adequate explanation. Whenever prices rose the consumer denounced the "trust" and called on the national government to crush it.

A few months ago the bureau of corporations made an elaborate investigation. It reported that the so-called trust did not have the monopoly of the market it was supposed to have. The bureau reported also that the trust was not responsible for the advance in the price of beef. As this was an attack on the cherished belief of many, the accuracy of the report was angrily denied. Its conclusions have not been disproved and until they are must be accepted. The question why the price of beef has advanced remains unanswered. Why should beef on the hoof go down so that the cattle raiser may they are doing a losing business, and at the same time beef in the butcher's stall goes up?

That is the question which plagues the consumer. Who is to enlighten him? Government agents have assured him that the confederated packers are not the guilty parties; they have done it in a 200-page book, which he has not time to read if he can get a copy.

Now that an alibi has been proved for the packers, the government officials should have said something that the retail butchers were responsible for the higher prices. Nobody accuses them of being in a trust, but there are so many of them that they may put up prices in order that all can get a living. No inquiry can be complete which leaves them out.

If the government, after full investigation of the cause of the advance in the price of beef, is unable to say to anybody, "thou art the man," there is still something it can do. It can give the consumer condensed facts and let him draw his own conclusions. It can give for a series of years the price of cattle on the range, the cost of transportation to the packing centers, of slaughtering, of dressing and of transporting the dressed beef to points of consumption. It can give the wholesale price of dressed beef and the retailer's price.

With the aid of the summarized information, put in an intelligible form, the consumer may be able to find out who oppresses him, or he may learn that the advance in prices is due to causes over which neither he nor his government has any control.

MIRTHFUL REMARKS.

First Duke—Well, do you think Miss Van Bullion intends to buy you? Second Duke—My dear boy, I don't know. Some days I think she does. At other times I fear she merely shopping—Louisville Courier Journal.

"Our prior clock doesn't work right," said Miss Patience. "It's positively eccentric!" "Eccentric?" exclaimed Mr. Staylate. "Ha! ha! Just like me." "Gracious, I hope not. It isn't going at all!"—Philadelphia Ledger.

"I can't imagine anything more unsatisfactory," remarked the Chronic Kicker, "than a man on a boarding house." "No," replied the Chronical youth. "Evidently you never got a kiss from your best girl over the telephone."—Philadelphia Press.

"Tim—I'm feeling fine this morning. I was up with lark." "I'm not feeling so fine this morning. I was up with a lark last night."—Detroit Free Press.

"Yes, he's in college, but he's not very bright." "What studies has he taken up?" "Greek and geography, and the Greek characters on the Russian alphabet." "Got him so balled up that he can't tell one from the other."—Philadelphia Ledger.

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