THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.:
C. C. Rosewater, 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, 1905, was as follows:

1	27,310	17	28,430
2	29,200	18	28,080
3	29,860	19	28,510
4	29,100	20	28,100
5	29,750	21	28,300
6	28,650	22	29,670
7	28,680	23	28,500
8	30,000	24	28,070
9	28,150	25	28,170
10	28,600	26	28,160
11	28,640	27	28,130
12	28,600	28	28,160
13	28,960	29	29,400
14	28,710	30	28,430
15	29,850	31	27,910
16	28,130		

Totals, 892,230
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C. C. ROSEWATER,
Secretary.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 31st day of July, 1905.
(Seal) M. B. HUNGATE,
Notary Public.

WHEN OUT OF TOWN.

Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. It is better than a daily letter from home. Address will be changed as often as requested.

"A kingdom for a horse!" cries our plumbing inspector. Now wouldn't an automobile do just as well.

The end-seat-hog will hold his grip for a while longer in Omaha street cars, provided he has ironclad toes.

The illegal fences on the public domain are said to be coming down. Most of us, however, are from Missouri on this subject.

South Omaha pays nearly $43,000 a year interest on its bonded debt, which would indicate a close approach to the $1,000,000 bond mark.

The story of the sailors of the steamer Barnton shows that the romantic perils of the sea did not all pass with the discovery of steam as motive power.

Those Filipinos who are asking for "a square deal" are at least under obligations to a distinguished American for telling them what they really want.

Now that each plenipotentiary has seen the other has a full hand of cards, it is up to him to ascertain if either has the combination that will take the pot.

Even though Dakota farmers may be unable to get their grain to market because of a railroad strike, Nebraska and Kansas have the grain to feed the nation.

If this thing keeps up very long Omaha will be so gridironed with railroad tracks that every merchant will have freight car facilities at his back alley.

For the benefit of the country at large Colonel Bryan has considerately fixed the date of his return to America before the meeting of the next national convention.

M. Witte must feel quite at home when reading of the number of secret service men detailed to protect the president on his trip through New York and Pennsylvania.

The fact that the old New York church which was burned was closed for the summer may be an object lesson to pastors who take vacations without arranging for substitutes.

Texas should discover the Pennsylvania method of keeping lightning from the oil tanks; but that might further reduce the price of crude oil without having any perceptible effect upon the finished product.

Other presidential aspirants may work in his absence, but recent cablegrams would indicate that Secretary Taft will bring back with him several active champions, who are now seeing the Philippines under his guidance.

South Omaha has one new passenger station in sight. But it should not be content until all the ramshackle sheds that are labeled depots there are replaced with substantial and commodious buildings for the accommodation of railway travelers.

Members of the city council who voted to override the mayor's veto of the ordinance levying the 13-mill tax may have something to explain when they come up for re-election next spring, and it is doubtful whether the taxpayers will be satisfied with the explanation that the council followed the advice of the democratic assistant city attorney.

THE AMERICAN INFLUENCE.

The peace conference has begun. The men who are charged by their respective governments with the duty of negotiating a treaty of peace are assembled and are considering, or will be within the next few hours, the great issues between their governments that are to determine whether or not the war in the far east is to continue or be closed with an honorable and satisfactory peace to the belligerents.

In all modern history there has been no more important issue between nations, and in all the records of this republic it has never occupied a more important part in the work of international peace. Whatever the result may be of the meeting of the envoys of Russia and Japan at Portsmouth the fact remains and will be recorded in history that the belligerent nations were drawn together at the most serious point of their experience by the world's great republic, whose interest in the matter was due wholly to a regard for the welfare of humanity and an earnest desire to do all that was possible to put an end to a conflict which was disastrous to the nations involved and more or less injurious to the entire world.

It cannot be otherwise than a matter of pride to the American people to realize that their country has been instrumental in bringing together the representatives of two great powers at war in a conference for peace and that this has been done under circumstances which are of the most satisfactory character to all concerned. Nothing could have been more proper than the conditions under which the president of the United States received the envoys of Russia and Japan, nor could anything have been more appropriate than the entire ceremonial by which the representatives of the two belligerent powers were recognized and treated by the executive and diplomatic authorities of the United States. There was no partiality in the proceedings. Every act was dictated by a proper conception of what was required by a neutral nation entertaining under extraordinary circumstances the representatives of two belligerent nations.

In all the history of international diplomacy there has been no incident of greater historic importance than this, and if the outcome shall be peace it will easily rank as one of the greatest events in the history of civilized nations. It is distinctly an evidence of the influence of the United States in international affairs, and particularly in the most vital concerns of the nations, which cannot fail to be recognized not only by our own people, but by those of all the world. In future the United States will be looked to as the great arbiter between nations for the peace of the world.

THE OUTGO OF POPULATION.

There has been during the past year an unprecedented inflow of population from Europe. As already noted it has amounted to more than a million of people and a good deal of comment has been made upon this as showing that the augmentation of our population from foreign sources was going on too rapidly and that there ought to be some additional restrictions placed upon it. There is another side of the matter, however, that is not properly considered and yet is deserving of attention.

This refers to the number of people, other than Americans, who go out of the country. It should be understood that not all of the immigrants who come here remain. As a matter of fact a considerable number of them do not stay permanently, but after a short time in this country go back to their native land and never come here again.

Statistics show that about one-fourth of the immigrants that come to this country return, so that of the more than a million that came here during the last year, as recorded by the government, from 250,000 to 300,000 went back to the countries from which they came, so that the real net addition to our population from foreign sources did not amount to more than about 700,000. This is not a matter about which anybody should be scared or worried. It simply shows that the accretion from foreign population is by no means so great as the immigratiton figures suggest. As a matter of fact the actual gain from foreign sources is very small and there is absolutely no reason to expect that it will grow in the immediate future. On the contrary the probability is that it will decline.

FORGING TO THE FRONT.

When the announcement was made some weeks ago that three Omaha national banks would consolidate, it was expected and predicted that a material falling off would take place in Omaha bank clearings, but the unexpected has once more happened. Instead of a drop in the bank clearings a material increase has taken place from week to week since the merger, and that, too, in mid-summer, the dullest season of the year.

Manifestly, Omaha prosperity continues up-grade. The building record, real estate sales and bank clearings pile up the testimony that Omaha is steadily forging to the front as a commercial, industrial and business center. As a financial center Omaha outranks all its rivals in the Missouri valley, barring alone St. Louis. Gradually but surely Omaha is assuming the financial relation to its tributary section that the principal trade centers of the country bear to their sections.

Unless all signs fail Omaha is just at the threshold of a period of substantial growth, and powerful factors seem to be at work in the direction of solving the problems with which Omaha business men and manufacturers have been wrestling. Within the next few years Greater Omaha will be an accomplished fact and a new life and force will make itself felt in promoting Omaha's industrial activity and developing its resources for annexing the commerce of the world's greatest granary and cattle raising region.

That Omaha is growing in size, strength and population is manifest on all hands. That Omaha has a great future before it is, however, realized by comparatively few. What Omaha needs is the clear grasp of the big significance of the facts at hand, so as to measure its course by their indications. Above all things Omaha needs harmonious and concerted co-operation of all the elements that make for the upbuilding of a great city. Self-confidence and public spirited support of every enterprise that is calculated to expand its commerce, enlarge its manufacturing facilities, strengthen its educational institutions and improve its facilities for increasing traffic—that progressive and enlightened spirit is now manifesting itself on all hands and paving the way for an era of phenomenal growth.

THE STATEHOOD QUESTION.

What the next congress will do with the statehood question is a matter of uncertainty, but that there will be some definite action is to be regarded as probable. The practically universal opinion is that the territory of Oklahoma should be admitted as a state and there seems to be no sound reason why this should not be done. The pertinent question is whether the Indian Territory should be included with Oklahoma.

There appears to be no doubt that each of these teritories is fully equipped for statehood. Of course so far as Oklahoma is concerned there is no question. It has the necessary population and resources and is as well capable of carrying on state government as half a dozen of the existing states that could be named. How about the Indian Territory? It is also pointed out that this has a population and resources which give it a claim to statehood, but it is not probable, as now appears, that its claim would be considered by congress independent of Oklahoma. The probability is that congress will not agree to admit these territories separately, though unquestionably each has a good claim to separate admission. The statehood question will be renewed in the next congress and ought to be definitely determined.

Thirty years ago, when Nebraska's crops were being devoured by the grasshopper, a humorous artist illustrated the situation with a pictorial card representing the festive hopper standing on the top rail of a fence looking over into a wheat field, singing the popular musical refrain, "In This Wheat Bye-and-Bye." That episode is recalled by the performance of the city council on the tax levy. Last year, when the levy was raised from 9 to 14 mills, Omaha taxpayers were jollied with the assurance that they could look for reduced taxation when the back taxes were raked in under the scavenger law in "the sweet bye-and-bye." Since then a perfect shower of back taxes has poured into the treasury, but the G-Whoppers sitting on the municipal fence keep on singing "In the Sweet Bye-and-Bye."

Mayor Moores' veto of the levy ordinance smoked the democratic assistant city attorney out of his hole as the originator and champion of the plan to pile up taxes to pay off bonds and special warrants that could just as well be refunded. That will not, however, stop the local democratic organ from continuing to charge the high tax rate up to pretended republican extravagance.

It might save excitement if federal inspectors, in making their report of new yellow fever cases, would give the probable date the disease was contracted, as sixty new cases in twenty-four hours are not calculated to lead to confidence in the system adopted for suppression.

For years the Real Estate exchange has rung the charges on excessive taxation, but for some reason that nobody has yet been able to explain the exchange has not made itself heard or felt this year when the tax levy was before the school board or before the council.

The question is whether the good government league will play the part of Pharaoh's lean kine, that swallowed the Egyptian king's fat live stock, by absorbing the Civic Federation, or whether it is designed simply to be a feeder for the Civic Federation.

The minister who said the country needs not so much a revival of religion as a revival of righteousness may have to explain his meaning to those who have imagined the terms synonymous in practice; but perhaps he knows what he is talking about.

Unless the Civic Federation repudiates as unauthorized the promise of its attorney to protect Harrison county against loss, the money now demanded from the federation by the authorities of Harrison county should be promptly raised and paid.

The Limit in Reform.

Boston Transcript.

Now all games of chance are to be prohibited at the cattle shows, according to the order of the chief of state police. It's getting so that about the only places where they can challenge fortune are the church fairs.

Great Revenue Producers.

New York Tribune.

The receipts of revenue show that during the year ended June 30 last the people of the United States paid $135,958,513 for spirits, an increase over the preceding year of $148,497, and during the same period they paid $45,659,910 for tobacco, an increase of $1,004,101. This showing is a good one for revenue, and those who paid the bills are probably willing to let it go at that.

Sound Common Sense.

Philadelphia Record.

The law which gives the federal government supreme jurisdiction over international and interstate quarantines in the case of an epidemic outbreak may be unconstitutional, but to put under a single control the fight against a plague which threatens not only a single community, but the whole nation, is sound, common sense. Governor Blanchard has wisely waived questions of state rights and welcomed the supervision by the marine hospital service of quarantine at the ports and on the navigable waters of Louisiana. Now let the governors of other affected states do likewise. This is no time for chop logic. Let all join hands to down the very real yellow spectre hovering over the gulf region.

Talking for Exercise.

Chicago Chronicle.

That sociologist from the University of Nebraska—which is located at Lincoln—is false to the genius of his town and state when he declares that the American race has reached its zenith. That consummation will not have been attained until the Honorable William J. Bryan gets elected to the presidency, and as that event seems some distance off the sociologist will have to revise his figures.

Hogging His Millions.

Springfield Republican.

Russell Sage, who has now begun his ninetieth year, has saved himself no end of annoyance and public criticism by keeping all of his millions to himself all these years. Nobody attacks Mr. Sage or calls him the greatest criminal of the age. But think what might have happened had he become a modern philanthropist? Then people would have asked, "where did you get it?" And how could he have answered!

Put it on the Aristocracy.

Chicago Record-Herald.

According to financial experts, it is not a question of Russia's willingness, but of its ability to pay a heavy war indemnity, which renders the Russian diplomats so firm in their opposition to that proposition. It is declared that the imperial treasury is all but empty and no more money can be borrowed in France. It might be feasible, however, to compel the members of the corrupt bureaucracy to disgorge their stealings, a tithe of which would pay the highest indemnity that has been suggested by anyone.

A FEDERAL GAZETTE.

Excellent Purpose Which Such a Publication Would Serve.

New York Tribune.

The commission appointed by President Roosevelt to examine into the methods of conducting business in the various executive departments was directed, among other things, to report on the advisability of establishing an official gazette. In his letter to the investigators the president called attention to the lack of any authorized publication of this sort, and asked for an opinion on its possible value as a medium of communication between the departments and with the public. It is to be hoped that the commission will give the question due and full consideration; for, though the publication of such a bulletin and register may be opposed by bureaucrats of the old red tape school as an unnecessary and frivolous innovation, its authorization would be in many respects a sign of progress.

An official gazette would certainly serve two excellent purposes. It would lead to better administration, in that it would bring the business operations of each department under more direct scrutiny. Each branch of the service now acts independently of all the others. It issues and prints its own proposals, publishes its own records in a form practically inaccessible to the outer world, and escapes thereby any comparison of its methods with the methods of other departments. By establishing an official medium, through which each department must issue its bids and summarize its general transactions, every branch has a chance to inspect and profit by the work of the others, and a far more effective supervision can be given to the operations of the big government machine.

Again, the public would be greatly served by such an official register. To get any general knowledge now of what is being done in the departments one must go to fifty or a hundred different sources. Appointments, promotions, army, navy and marine corps orders, bids, proposals and reports dribble out piecemeal; but no convenient and accurate record exists, such as a comprehensive and well edited gazette would furnish. For newspapers and for the reading public interested in the government's work such a register would prove of genuine value. The great success of the experiment made in issuing daily consular and trade reports demonstrates that a bulletin of the sort described would find an appreciative constituency and do a useful work. We trust that the Keep commission will recommend the institution of an up-to-date gazette.

FRAUD ORDERS.

Beneficient and Necessary Exercise of Power by Postmaster General.

Washington Post.

It is worth while for the courts to act judicially upon the constitutionality of the law which authorizes the postmaster general to issue what are commonly known as fraud orders. Under a statute which is unusually broad and general in its terms, the postmaster general can decide, arbitrarily, that a certain business is fraudulent and can, therefore, deny it the use of the mails. A concern which has fallen under the ban proposes to contest the law on the ground that it contravenes the principle of the constitution which guarantees that no person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law.

This contention will undoubtedly be met by the assertion that the process of law is found in the statute, which congress has enacted, conferring certain powers upon the postmaster general. It is to be hoped, too, that the courts will sustain whatever plea the government may put forward in behalf of the law. The fact is that this country abounds in men who propose all manner of get-rich-quick schemes, and whose plausible circulars and advertisements extract many a hard-earned dollar. Other men plan deliberate frauds upon the community, asking remittances without the slightest idea of making any return therefor. There ought to be some power, somewhere, to instantly seize these people by the throat, so to speak, and put an end to their nefarious practices. If the slow and intricate machinery of the courts had to be invoked, the frauds would continue to flourish long after their character had become known. In cases of this kind, a "fraud order" is, like the Texan's pistol, immediately ready for effective use.

We believe that experience has shown, also, that in every instance where the use of the mails has been denied a prima facie case of fraud has been established. It is conceivable, however, that once in a while the postmaster general or his advisory officers may err. When a wrong has been unintentionally committed, it is always in order for the aggrieved person to take his case into the courts, where he can have a full and fair public hearing. If the courts overrule the department's action and decide that the complainant's business has been injured through denial of the mails, the amount of damages can be determined and congress will then provide for payment. The rights of property, it seems to us, are fully safeguarded; and if the officials endeavor to do their duty honestly and impartially, as we believe they will, no harm will be done. On the contrary, a very necessary protection to the public will be afforded.

No honest concern need fear the enforcement of a fraud order. Dishonest operators ought not to be allowed the use of the mails. The whole logic of the situation can thus be expressed in two sentences—a logic so plain and incontrovertible that it is difficult to see how it can be overthrown by the courts.

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot.

Rear Admiral Charles Edgar Clark, a member of the general board of the navy, retires from active service today, having reached the age limit. He has been in active service since graduating from Annapolis in 1863, and has proved himself a capable and fearless sailor at every post of duty. His most distinguished service was rendered when, as Captain Clark, he brought the battleship Oregon from San Fransisco to the Carribean Sea in time to participate in the destruction of the Spanish fleet at Santiago. The Oregon sailed from San Fransisco, March 19, 1898 and covered the 13,000 miles around the Horn in sixty-five days, the quickest time on record. Despite this long voyage, the Oregon joined Rear Admiral Sampson's squadron without any accident or delay, and played a conspicuous part in the battle at Santiago. Captain Clark was advanced seven numbers in rank for Spanish war service and later became rear admiral. After the war Rear Admiral Clark was on duty at the Philadelphia yard, and later at the Naval Home in that city. In 1903 he was appointed United States naval representative at King Edward's coronation, but he declined the position. No promotion will be made by this retirement, as Rear Admiral Clark is an additional number in the list of rear admirals.

The edict has gone forth from the office of Director Walcott of the geological survey, forbidding government mining experts booming mines of any character. The specific offense which caused the promulgation of the rule was that of the engineer who boomed the Mexico property of a Baltimore syndicate. Largely through the glowing accounts of the mine which the government engineer wrote, the promoters of the affair disposed of all their available stock, after which they got out. The concern immediately went to smash, and its stock is now about as valuable as wall paper. One of the worst features of this case was the fact that the engineer in question told his friends that he was taking his fee in stock and that the members of his family were buying it.

"That whole transaction was an outrage," said one of the high officials of the survey today, in referring to this case. "The company was a fraud of the worst character and all the innocent persons who bought stock in it were badly bitten. The engineer who drew up the report was severely reprimanded by those in authority here, and he was lucky to escape without dismissal. "But that report was enough to damage forever the reputation of that engineer as an expert. Up to that time he occupied a high position in the engineering world, and his opinions on mining properties carried great weight. While he was not dismissed for his work on the Mexican property, he received a heavy punishment in the loss of prestige and reputation."

The annual fall cleaning of the White House is now in progress, and this year an innovation has been introduced in restoring the executive mansion to its pristine whiteness by a course of scrubbing and washing instead of painting the exterior. Every two or three years the White House has to be painted white, and this item is of considerable expense to Uncle Sam. It costs nearly $1,000 to give the exterior of the president's home a sufficient coating of white paint to make it presentable. This year the superintendent of buildings has tried the method of scrubbing and washing the house instead of painting it. For a number of days past workmen with buckets of soap suds and large scrubbing brushes have been standing on ladders washing down the walls and cornices of the house. The immense portico and port cochere of the house has been under the process of cleansing, and workmen on tall ladders have been cleaning the immense pillars not only with the brush, but with the hose. The capitals of these pillars are elaborate in their carving, and the dust of several years has made them almost black. But a strong stream of water from a hose has been poured upon these pillars and capitals and they are now as white as if they had received a liberal coating of paint.

The members of the new congress who will assemble in November, if the president calls an extra session, had better bring with them an extra suuply of towels for their own use in the toilet and bathrooms at the capitol. Congress hitherto has always made a liberal appropriation for providing towels, soap and other toilet conveniences, and there has always been a plentiful supply of these articles about the capitol. But for some reason unknown, perhaps absentmindedness, the Fifty-eighth congress at its last session either struck out or failed to insert in the appropriation bill money providing for clean towels used by members of congress. Undoubtedly some way will be found after congress assembles to correct this oversight, but at present it looks as if there will be no clean towels at the capitol when congress meets.

The Army and Navy Journal has a letter from an indignant American who lives in Paris and saw the John Paul Jones parade. "The courtesy of the French populace will never be excelled," he writes, "for not only did they salute their own colors when carried by French troops, but every man uncovered when Old Glory was carried by. It was in bitter contrast that I noticed the Americans who saluted their own colors, but kept their hats stolidly upon their heads when the tricolor went by. As to those of our fellow countrymen who were so ill-bred as to fail to salute both the French flag and our own, no phrase, name or statement is strong enough to qualify such behavior."

James F. Bruce, the contractor who is removing the grime of years from the treasury building, is an object of great curiosity, particularly from the sharps anxious to secure the formula of the liquid used. As the dirt and dust disappears from the building under the magic bath that Bruce is giving it, statesmen and public men, as well as clerks and hurrying messengers, stop to stare at its freshly revealed beauties.

Bruce guards his secret with sleepless vigilance. The liquid is applied in thin coat with an ordinary paint brush, and then a stream of water is directed to it. The dirt seems to boil from the stone, and as the water runs away it is left clean and sparkling. He makes the stuff in his own home with the assistance of his wife. He guards it even from the workmen, taking turns watching the bottle with his young son and his wife. The efforts to rob him of his formula or to secure some of the stuff before it has been diluted have almost driven him into a fever the past three days. Offers of thousands of dollars to back him if he will intrust the formula to his backers have come. A definite offer was made yesterday for the Baltimore rights of a flat $2,000, and Bruce to manufacture the stuff in his own home as fast as his limited facilities will permit. It is stil pending, but his fear that the goose that is laying the golden egg will be killed holds him so far to his treasury contract alone.

Peace as an Investment.

Chicago Tribune.

The daily expenditure in the entertainment of the peace commissioners is put at $250 per day. The daily expenditure in Manchuria during active hostilities footed up about $2,000,000 per day to fill innumerable graves and to make widows and orphans and cripples by scores of thousands.

THE HOOK IN THE PORK BARRELL.

Influences Effective with Juries in Oregon and Elsewhere.

Portland Oregonian.

It always has been difficult to obtain conviction of persons accused of attempts of an unlawful kind to get—say rather in plain speech—to steal, public lands. For there are multitudes who think it no harm to get possession of public lands in any way they can; yet they wouldn't call it stealing them. It may be doubtful, therefore, whether a jury will ever be found in the west who will think any method wrong. Some of the members will. Others will not. The argument is that since the public lands belong to the people, and are offered for entry or sale, any body has a right to get them, and the method makes no difference.

It is common argument—you hear it on every side—that if the fees are paid and the government gets the money for the lands at the prices established by law, nobody is wronged—though the proceedings be irregular and unlawful. Even perjury is justified, if the money is paid. "Hasn't the government got all that was coming to it?"

The man readily makes oath that he takes the land for his own use. This, he argues, cannot preven thim from selling it—for that, he will say, is the best use he can make of it. Then he will argue with himself, and will listen to the argument from others, that he has a right to contract with others, in advance, to sell it to them—though the, law forbids such contracts, and that even perjury to bring about such result is nothing. For—and this is the argument he always falls back upon—doesn't the government get the money? What more could it have or ask?

This mode of reasoning affects the minds of members of the jury. Especially since so many persons all over the country have had their hook in that pork barrel.

CORNERING LEGAL TALENT.

First-Class Lawyers Unavailable for Public Service.

Philadelphia Record.

The legislative committee appointed in New York to investigate the tangled affairs of the great insurance companies having headquarters in that state finds itself hampered by inability to procure first-class lawyers to assist in the complicated task. Nine-tenths of the lawyers are either directly employed by the insurance companies, their subsidiary corporations, prominent directors and other interested capitalists or retained by them so as to prevent their participation in the effort to expose mismanagement and bring about salutary restitution and reform.

The condition in New York is almost precisely similar to the condition in this city when the fight was begun against the extension of the gas lease. The United Gas Improvement company, its allied corporations and friendly capitalists had gleaned the field of high professional attainment and gathered in the dangerous talent. The mayor was forced to seek aid outside of the state.

No doubt Philadelphia lawyers would gladly give their aid to help sift the insurance iniquities in our sister commonwealth. It is a lucky thing that a "corner" of the legal smart set cannot be easily accomplished. But the ease with which great moneyed interests may protect themselves against the less powerful litigants than great states and cities by establishing local monopolies of legal talent should induce serious thinking. It offers grave impediment to the administration of justice. Lawyers cannot be blamed for accepting employment at the hands of great corporations, and the great corporations must needs secure the aid of great lawyers as a measure of safety. None the less there should be provision against "corners." Lawyers themselves should find the needed remedy.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Baron Komura is giving $50 tips. Those Japs must feel mighty certain of their indemnity.

Sarasate, the great Spanish violinist, is a believer in talismans. His particular mascot is a tiny replica in silver of the famous Guarnerius violin on which Paganini played.

James Carey Walker of Baltimore, a blind student for the ministry, has performed a remarkable feat of reducing to the point system eleven chapters of the Book of St. John and Hadley and Allen's Greek grammar in Greek letters.

Colonel Robert M. Thompson, president of the New York Metal exchange, has what is undoubtedly the loftiest bed room in the world. It is located on the twenty-fifth floor of the enormous Wall street exchange building, some 300 feet above the street level.

Judge R. R. Kindake of Ohio, in speaking of John F. Stevens, the new chief engineer of the Panama canal, said: "He will surmount all difficulties and build the canal. Stevens has no regard for red tape and is a man who doesn't bother with the little frazzled ends of any proposition.

Sir John Madden, the new chief justice of Victoria, has hit upon a new way of making things interesting for "old offenders." He adds up all their previous terms in jail and gives them the total as their sentence. The other day he sentenced a criminal nine years and one month, his aggregate record.

America having become the most remunerative market for fiction, the inclination of famous authors to visit the states naturally becomes more general. Sir Gilbert Parker is now in Canada and is coming to New York early in September for a fortnight's rest. Mrs. Humphrey Ward has practically decided to come over in December for a visit of two or three months.

JAPAN AS A COMPETITOR.

Manchurian Trade to Be Monopolized by the Yankees of the Orient.

Washington Post.

The "open door" in Manchuria has an attractive sound. It hints of vast commercial possibilities. It seems to make somewhat mere concrete that vague but inspiring abstraction, "the commerce of the Orient." But when the probable results of the Russo-Japanese war are taken into account, the "open door in Manchuria" becomes a term signifying the commercial monopolization by Japan of the neighboring coasts. Of what avail is the open door to the United States if the Japanese can go in and out quicker and cheaper?

"Agriculture failing to feed the people," says Count Okuma, concerning Japan, "we must therefore look to commerce for the subsistence of our nation. As fields for commercial activity no countries can be more suitable than Manchuria and Corea, where our influence is being rapidly established. A prosperous commerce will be established in the far east by Japan importing raw material from and exporting manufactured goods to the continent of Asia."

What figure will the manufacturers of the United States cut in Asia in competition with the Japanese? If the open door means an impartial tariff, in which Japan will have no advantage over the United States—and this is all and more than could be expected—the American manufacturer will find two other doors that cannot be opened. One is the handicap of distance, and the other is the competition of cheap labor. So the one "open door" of non-discriminating tariff duties will do him little good.

As to the rest of China, it is perfectly plain that Japan intends to capture that market. It is not clear how it can be prevented from capturing it. Chinese and Japanese interests are beginning to dovetail with alarming nicety. We do not refer to a militant "yellow peril," but to an Asiatic community of commercial interest. The rapprochement of China and Japan in this respect is indicated in the Dragon Student, a Chinese publication:

"The relation between China and Japan is becoming more intimate. The Japanese victories on land and sea—victories which no future event will be able to rob them of their glory—are stirring the imagination of the Chinese. They see in modern Japan a concrete example of the efficiency and advantages of the twentieth century civilization. So they are turning to Japan for leadership in matters military, educational, industrial, and what not.

"An industrial understanding has been effected between China and Japan. Workmen are crowding Japanese arsenals and factories to be taught the use of modern machinery and methods. The East Asiatic league devotes itself largely to promoting this side of Chinese reform."

With China supplying food and raw materials to Japan, and Japan supplying manufactured goods to China at a cost of production and delivery far below any figure that can be reached by American producers, what is left? The "commerce of the Orient," so far as exports are concerned, may simmer down to raw cotton, which will eventually go to Japan and not to China. The "East Asiatic league" gives promise of becoming a yellow peril worth reckoning with.

FLASHES OF FUN.

"He hasn't been in politics very long, has he?"

"No, but how did you know?"

"I was walking with him today just as a police patrol wagon dashed up behind us, and he didn't start guiltily or look nervous at all."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Mr. Snooks—To what, sir do you attribute your success as a salesman?

Mr. Sellem—If a customer doesn't see what he wants, I make him want what he sees.—Cleveland Leader.

"I wanted to be rich," said Mr. Dustin Stax, "so as to be relieved from the ordinary worriments of life."

"And do you find such relief?"

"Yes. After I tried to endow a few philanthropic institutions I found that my worriments were all extraordinary."—Washington Star.

"Are your constituents inclined to be vindictive?" was asked the senator.

"Well, I should say so. Not content with seeing me sentenced to the penitentiary, they actually seem to expect me to go there."—Houston Post.

Regular Frequenter (at public library)—Got any new books lately?

Assistant Librarian—Yes; here is one on the distribution of the country's water supply.

Regular Frequenter—Oh, that's too dry. Give me a novel.—Chicago Tribune.

Outsider—If your party should lose its power, and you should be thrown out of office, would you be discouraged and take to drink?

Politician—No, sir. I'd change my politics.—Cleveland Leader.

"Smoothboy got his new mining scheme on its feet in a week."

"Worked wonders, eh?"

"No; worked suckers."—Pittsburg Post

SONG OF THE BALDHEAD MAN.

New York Sun.

Great Caesar's classic head was bare,
And likewise Socrate's;
Peter and Paul were forced to wear
Thin capillary fleeces!
Shakespeare, earth's literary king,
And Johnson, Pope and Gibbon,
Being short of hirsute covering
Wore wigs tied deft with ribbon.

But Achan, J. Iscariot,
Ananias (of truth chary),
Herod, the Pharisees I wot,
All sported caputs hairy;
Later came Danton, Robespierre,
And Marat, bloody trio;
Guy Fawkes and Jeffries, Glencoe Stair,
Thick-thatched like fiddling Nero.

Nor will the eye, in sooth, oft see
Bald Hottentot or Arab,
Kamchatkin, aboriginee,
Kurd or man-eating Carib;
Nay, nay, but of the human breed
The greater in earth's story,
Are those who lead in thought and deed
Crowned not with hair, but glory!