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	31,310	17	28,420
2	29,290	18	28,080
3	29,880	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	28,100
11	28,640	27	28,150
12	28,000	28	28,160
13	28,900	29	29,400
14	28,710	30	28,480
15	29,850	31	27,510
16	28,130		

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Daily average..... 28,465

C. C. ROSEWATER,
Secretary.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this first 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.

When in doubt—boost for Ak-Sar-Ben and his coming carnival.

Our last legislature at least succeeded in laying out a lot of work for the courts in telling people what the laws enacted were intended to do.

Omaha has so far not been oversuccessful in landing big conventions for next year, but that is no reason why we should not keep on trying.

Engineer Stevens is said to be at work on plans for the Panama canal. It will remain for congress, however, to engineer to provide the money.

It is good to hear that corn has passed all danger from drouth. The next assurance wanted will be that it has passed all danger from frost.

The attention of the czar should be called to his remarks at the time he proposed The Hague tribunal. Advice not infrequently turns upon its author.

Portland is again demonstrating the fact learned at Omaha that delegates to conventions held at world's fairs spend more time on the midway than in conference rooms.

The presence of Booker Washington at a hotel is said to have shocked Saratoga society, and still Saratoga is supposed to be more deeply interested in another sort of race problem.

Since the "reform" mayor of Paterson has succeeded in escaping with the plunder, even Philadelphians are looking a little below the surface when political "revolutions" are suggested.

The revelations in the Taggart case show either that there is a different social standard in army circles or that members of that circle are master hands at keeping the skeleton in the closet.

The public will not fully realize the real horrors which followed the last polar expedition to be saved until Anthony Fiala decides whether he will enter the lecture field or write a book.

When Miss Alice Roosevelt visits the empress of China she may be permitted to see such of the sacred relics of the nation as are not to be found in European capitals since the march to Peking.

Colonel Bryan is to have a farewell testimonial as the guest of the Jefferson club of Chicago previous to his globe-girdling departure. What's the matter with the quondam Success league doing home honors?

Omaha automobilists have once more formed themselves into a club. If they will do something for the city along the lines of entertainment of distinguished visitors, as suggested not long ago by The Bee, the club will soon justify its existence.

Now that a man not connected with the government service has been arrested for complicity in the cotton scandal, it is possible all the facts will be brought out, as subordinates will have less excuse to protect an outsider than one of their associates.

Iowa populists are going to try to show that they are still on the political map by holding a meeting and reception for Tom Watson, their late presidential candidate. If they would make the requisition in time Nebraska might send Tom Tibbles to make good the missing half of the crowd.

PROLONGING THE CONFERENCE.

It was said a few days ago that if the peace conference should be prolonged a week it would improve the chances for an amicable agreement. The adjournment to Saturday, however, in view of the reports regarding the meeting on Wednesday, does not carry with it any assurance that peace chances are thereby improved, since at the last sitting of the conference there was nothing to indicate that the envoys were any nearer an agreement than they had been before. It was shown that the Russian representatives are still firmly determined not to reimburse Japan for the cost of the war, no matter in what form the latter may put her demand. The compromise proposed upon the suggestion of President Roosevelt, was unhesitatingly rejected by Russia's representatives and unless the czar shall overrule them, which is believed to be utterly improbable, it is not doubted that they will adhere to the position they have taken, that is, not to pay Japan a kopeck for the cost of the war.

Will Japan recede from her demand? It is possible, but extremely improbable. She fully believes that the claim she makes for reimbursement is reasonable and just and in this she has the concurrence of all who are not in sympathy with Russia. No argument that has been made by the czar's envoys to justify refusal to pay an indemnity, or what is equivalent to it, is convincing. The fact that Japan has obtained that for which she went to war, and which she had earnestly sought to secure through peaceful means, is not a good reason why she should not ask to be reimbursed for the cost of a conflict that was forced upon her. At any time before February, 1904, Russia could have averted war by carrying out the agreement she made with China and her promises to Japan and other countries regarding the occupation of Manchuria. The terms proposed by Japan in the negotiations that preceded hostilities were not severe or exacting. But Russia believed either that Japan would not go to war or if she did would be easily vanquished. She went on strengthening her position in the far east and thus provoked hostilities. Being responsible for the war, Japan has a righteous claim upon her for its cost in treasure. For the tens of thousands of Japan's valiant soldiers who have fallen in the conflict there can be no compensation. They are lost to their country and their widows and orphans must be cared for by the nation.

Perhaps Saturday's meeting will result in a rupture that will end the conference. Still there are some who have not given up hope, among them President Roosevelt. He is still actively working for peace and it is said may have some further compromise plan to propose. In any event the world's suspense probably will be relieved by the end of the present week.

PRESIDENT AND RECIPROCITY.

Mr. Farquhar of Pennsylvania, who was somewhat prominent in the reciprocity conference, in a letter to the Philadelphia Ledger makes the statement that President Roosevelt is known to be as earnest in behalf of reciprocity as was his lamented predecessor. Perhaps that gentleman speaks with authority, but there has been no very recent public utterance by the president indicating what his position is on this subject. Mr. Roosevelt was a most earnest advocate of reciprocity with Cuba and unquestionably the arrangement with that country is very largely due to his efforts and influence. This is not, however, to be necessarily taken as evidence that he is in favor of a general policy of reciprocity along the line of action contemplated by the resolutions adopted by that conference.

What the president undoubtedly desires as earnestly as any citizen is the extension of our foreign commerce and if he believes this can be best effected through reciprocity treaties it is safe to say that he will support that policy with his characteristic vigor and earnestness. We may be sure that he is fully alive and is giving careful attention to what is going on in reference to this question and at the proper time will let the country know his views in regard to it. Meanwhile the absolutely known fact is that Mr. Roosevelt is as earnest a supporter of the principle of protection to American industries and labor as was his lamented predecessor and will favor no course or policy inimical to that economic system.

THE CZAR'S REFORMS.

A few days ago a meeting of Russians was held in New York to discuss the manifesto of the czar creating what is termed a national representative assembly. They denounced it as mere "sand in the eyes of the Russian people" and pointed out in a very convincing way the fundamental defects of the plan. It was declared that the Russian autocracy has devised this constitution as a sop to public opinion in Europe and America, that it is simply trying to organize the autocratic forms into a so-called parliament. In Russia the action of the czar has met with very little popular approval. By some prominent champions of the people's cause the proposed assembly has been characterized as a humbug and likely to precipitate a revolution.

The obvious fact is that the so-called constitution for which the manifesto provides is really designed to strengthen the power of the autocracy, which yields nothing whatever and may at will destroy the assembly, which would be absolutely subject to the autocratic power. It is true, as has been said, that the Russian people will be given a voice through the assembly, but it is a voice that the czar can choke off at any time and which he will be pretty sure to do whenever it shall be inimical to the autocracy. It seems a safe prediction that the proposed assembly will be to a very considerable extent composed of so-called representatives of the people who will owe their election to the influence of the class responsible for the oppression of the people and the corruption in public affairs. The more carefully one considers the matter the less confidence is he likely to feel that any very great benefit will come to the Russian people from the proposed national assembly.

COMING OF THE SIGNAL CORPS.

The order for the transfer of the signal corps of the military service to Fort Omaha has at last been given and that post will soon be the headquarters and principal practice station of this important division of our army forces. With its rehabilitation and occupation by the signal corps, Fort Omaha will again have a place in the list of active army posts in the country and from all present appearances its use for this purpose will be permanent, although it is quite possible that the expansion of the service later may require enlargement and additional equipment.

Fort Omaha has been practically on the retired list as a military post since the removal of the troops to Fort Crook and the people here will be glad to have it put back into commission. It is pretty generally agreed that so far as the interests of Omaha are concerned the establishment of Fort Crook as the army post at this point was a mistake. One of the main considerations held out for this change was that the old grounds at Fort Omaha would be cut up into building lots and sold at prices that would make good a large part of the outlay for Fort Crook. As events shaped themselves, it turned out that this plan was at no time practicable and as a consequence Fort Omaha has been a dead property for about ten years.

During that period The Bee has several times urged the advisability of putting the buildings and site of old Fort Omaha again to use as a military training school for the National Guard, or an instruction station for noncommissioned officers of the regular army, and it has also had considerable to do with promoting its present conversion into signal corps headquarters. From now on Fort Omaha should be even more of an attraction for Omaha people and Omaha visitors than it was in former days, and its distinctive character as contrasted with other army posts throughout the country should emphasize its importance and contribute to the prestige of Omaha.

Whether we are to elect new county commissioners this year or not it devolves upon the county board to rearrange the commissioner districts so as to make them conform to the lines of the new wards and precincts. This will be especially necessary if nominations are to be made at the coming primary by the voters of the districts rather than by the voters of the county at large. Under present conditions it would be absolutely impossible to hold a primary election in any commissioner district as formerly constituted.

It might not be a bad idea for our municipal authorities to enact an ordinance regulating the height of new buildings, at least along the main thoroughfares. Omaha wants new buildings, but it should not permit the disfigurement of its principal streets by the erection of any more one-story shacks. Here is where European cities that establish maximum and minimum heights for business buildings, according to the width of the streets on which they face, can teach us something.

The total of the grand assessment roll of the state of Nebraska for the year 1905 is officially given as $304,470,961. This is considerably short of the amount on which depended the additional legislative appropriation of $30,000 for the State university. The State university fared pretty well, however, without this $30,000, and should have no kick coming.

The newspaper mouthpiece of the demo-pops now wants to know why the railroads make such strenuous efforts to elect republican tickets. That opens up a question of fact. Recent Nebraska history would indicate that the railroads often make strenuous efforts on both sides of the political fence at one and the same time.

Friends of peace are said to have placed their entire hope in the ability of President Roosevelt to bring Japan and Russia together. The main thing seems to be to convince the czar that he has been whipped without calling on the Japs to administer some more whipping.

Exercise Fails to Score.

Chicago Record-Herald.

Reports from Oyster Bay indicate that the president has other things than the differences between Russia and Japan to worry about. He's taking on flesh again.

Real Thing in Thirsts.

St. Louis Republic.

"The Russian army thirsts for battle," declares a St. Petersburg editor. Evidently it is akin to the thirst experienced by Thompson's colt when he swam a river to get a drink.

Looking Out for Number One.

Pittsburg Dispatch.

The report from Washington that almost every important man in public life is represented by some relative on Uncle Sam's payroll shows that some people appreciate a good thing when it comes their way.

Let Missouri Sleep.

Chicago Inter Ocean.

No doubt the seismic disturbance in Missouri was caused by a fresh attempt of Governor Folk to enforce all the laws as he found them. And no doubt if he had persisted, the result would have been even more serious. As it turned out, nobody was hurt either by the earthquake or the panic, but the escape was a narrow one and should teach the governor to be more careful in the future.

More Power to His Arm.

New York Sun.

Every day is now a golden day that passes without a final and irremediable break in the negotiations for peace. The center of interest for the whole civilized world moves for the time from Portsmouth to Oyster Bay. More power to the voice and mighty influence of the promoter of peace, the architect of the conference, the sincere friend of both Russia and Japan, the president of the United States!

Royalty Absorbs American Slang.

Kansas City Journal.

The question now arises as to how Emperor William became so familiar with the American slang he uses so glibly. It has been suggested that he has been studying under a private tutor, but this is denied in Berlin. The inquirers then bethought them of Prince Henry, who might have picked up a good deal of slang upon the occasion of his visit here. But this theory was scouted as impossible, for the prince met very few persons who used any slang, and he was too busy to master our slang anyway. For a long time no one was able to offer an acceptable explanation, until it was suggested that the emperor had learned what he knew from his favorite American, "Fighting" Bob Evans. When charged with being the emperor's instructor in slang our beloved Admiral Bob, with his characteristic placidity, snapped: "Hell, no. Your trolley's off. I don't stand for slang," which leaves the entire subject still "up in the air."

Indiana's Anti-Cigarette Law.

Terre Haute Gazette.

So far as the facts already gathered indicate, the anti-cigarette law of the last legislature is not a howling success. The law is being circumvented by what appears to be undetectable schemes.

The express companies and the mails are carrying tens of thousands of the little "coffin tacks" into the homes and offices of Hoosiers. In packages marked "Perishable—rush," or "Glass—handle with care," or "Breakable—caution," any one can get a box of cigarettes in "original packages." The things cannot be detected if the smell of the tobacco is covered.

As a means of avoiding this cigarettes are shipped in glass tubes, glass bottles, coffee cans and anything that will keep in the smell. Shipments are made even in fruit crates along with the fruit itself. The risk has put up the price of cigarettes, but as the smokers will have them, cost or no cost, the trade goes on, and dealers outside of Indiana who are shipping into this state are making big profits.

Another thing the law has done. It has driven boys from cigarettes to cigarros, cigars and pipes, and even tar rope stogies. It is very questionable what good the anti-cigarette law has done, or will do, much as every friend of boys would like to see our youth saved from the evil.

INSURANCE SUPERVISION.

Some Obstacles in the Way of Federal Control.

Washington Post.

Mr. Ralph W. Breckenridge of Omaha, chairman of the insurance law committee of the American Bar association, in an address to an insurance agent's convention at Denver on Thursday, asserted that insurance companies are handled by some state officials "as sheep to be shorn." He added that a number of legislatures needed to learn that "these states are a union, and not a mere pack of snapping and snarling wolves."

But these states are not a union for all purposes. The federal government is a government of limited powers. It possesses no power or authority that was not conferred upon it by the states and the people when they created it. It is not the creator of the states, but their creature. "The powers not delegated to the United States by the constitution nor prohibited by it to the states are reserved to the states respectively or to the people." So reads the tenth amendment, the last clause of the bill of rights.

And it happens, unfortunately for Mr. Breckenridge and all other advocates and promoters of federal control of the insurance business, that their scheme is not included in the list of powers delegated to the United States or prohibited to the states, and, therefore, that the control of insurance belongs just where it is, in the hands of several states, and cannot be taken therefrom under the constitution as it stands. This point has been decided by the supreme court.

But, despite that decision, it is understood that the president will again recommend to congress the enactment of a statute providing for national control of insurance. This recommendation and a favorable response to it could have no other basis than the supposition or presumption that the supreme court would reverse itself by deciding a proposition to be constitutional which it has condemned as unconstitutional. In other words, the passage of such an act as the friends of federal control are calling for would be based on the idea that the supreme court is responsive to and is convertible and convertible by pressure; that it is equipped with a reamer and a stretcher, to be employed in fitting the constitution to the acts of congress when congress, in an emergency, fails or refuses to fit an act to the constitution. The Post is not convinced that congress will proceed on that theory.

PERSONAL NOTES.

One of the get-rich-quick justices of the peace in Cleveland has been sentenced to the workhouse for overcharging fees. They do do some things well in Ohio.

Benjamin F. Hobbs, the oldest armorer in the service of the United States government, has just died at Springfield, Mass. He began work in the Harper's Ferry arsenal in 1842.

Ion Perdicaris must have a positive passion for courting trouble. After dodging bandits in Morocco for years, he is now running an automobile up through the Berkshire Hills.

James McNalley, once noted as "the king of green goods men," is serving as a waiter in a Coney island hotel. Fifteen years ago he was worth $30,000. Now he has reverted to his original estate, for he began life as waiter in a cheap restaurant.

J. P. Hall, of the Santa Fe railway, is organizing an association to be composed exclusively of men who were once messenger boys. Among them are Andrew Carnegie, William C. Van Horne, Marvin Hughitt, W. A. Gardner, Colonel Robert C. Clowry and Albert J. Earling.

Earl Minto, who is to succeed Lord Curzon as viceroy of India, is 56 years old and early in life was a lieutenant in the Scots guards. In 1898 he was appointed governor general of Canada, which position he held until a few months ago. It was while in Canada that he was given the nickname of "Peppermint," the originator of the name being a subordinate official whom his lordship had lectured severely for neglect of duty. His name is John Elliot Gilbert and he is fourth Earl and Baron Minto.

During a visit of Premier Laurier and other Canadians to Washington the ladies of the Canadian party were entertained by an excursion to Mount Vernon and were accompanied by the wives of the cabinet and several others prominent in social circles there. They were met by Mr. Dodge, the superintendent of the place, who escorted them through the old mansion and grounds and finally conducted them down the winding steps to the bluff that overlooks the Potomac and conceals the vault that contains the dust of the father of his country. As the party approached the sacred place Mr. Dodge, who was leading, turned and said in an impressive tone: "Ladies, it is just a step to the tomb of Washington." There was a pause and a reverential silence for an instant, which was broken by the clear, sweet voice of a cabinet lady, who asked: "Is my hat on straight?"

LAND FRAUD CASES.

How the "Innocent Buyer" Gets In His Work.

San Francisco Chronicle.

In a suit brought by the government to cancel the patents to timber lands purchased by Senator Clark and others in Montana the defendants set up the plea that they are "innocent purchasers," and that, therefore, no matter how fraudulent the transaction which resulted in the issuance of the patents they cannot be deprived of the lands. In a transaction between individuals if A conveys by deed a property which he does not own his deed is worthless, but we believe it is the law that if by perjury a person induces the government to issue a land patent he can by deed convey a good title to the property, unless it can be proved in court that the buyer was aware of the crime which had been committed. Congressmen in both branches and of both parties have put this law on the statute books with a full knowledge that a vast majority of the patents to timber lands have been procured by the rankest perjury and fraud. That congressmen know this is certain, because everybody else knows it who is in a position to be informed of what is notorious. If it be true, then men who act with full knowledge of the consequences of what they do must be presumed to intend to produce those consequences and we must presume that congress has legislated in this matter with the intent that perjury shall be encouraged and the government swindled. However possible it may be for eastern members of congress to successfully plead ignorance of the universal prevalence of these frauds, there is certainly no member from west of the Missouri river who does not know all about them.

As a matter of fact, there is not and never was a lumber company or land company which could rightfully claim to be an innocent purchaser of timber lands acquired under the homestead or timber and stone act. Their stockholders and officials know far better than anyone else that not one in ten of the patentees from whom they buy have any lawful title to the land which they convey. They do know that the title which is passed to them is "lawful" if it cannot be legally proved that they are technically cognizant of the fraud which has been committed. And such legally "guilty knowledge" they avoid wherever they can. In most cases they technically succeed even when they have knowingly and willfully encouraged and aided the fraud. They have not personally done so, and their agency can seldom be proved. It is, of course, a fact that three timber lands cannot be properly or profitably exploited, except in large holdings. Congress might very properly have provided for that on terms under which the public would have received its due from its timber. Since it deliberately chose to adhere to a policy by which the public is swindled and poor men tempted to perjure themselves for about $30 a head, congress only must be held responsible. Senator Clark was not an "innocent" purchaser of timber lands, unless he is the most ignorant man in the west. But there is very little doubt that he will keep what he has got.

RAILROAD STATISTICS.

The Salary Roll, Earnings and Outgo, and Increased Rates.

Boston Transcript.

According to the report of the Interstate Commerce Commission for last year, the statistical portion of which has just been issued, the wages and salaries paid by the railroads of the country for the year amounted to $721,598,830. This tremendous total represents nearly $10 for every person in the United States, and more than a dollar paid by the railroads for every passenger carried. Railroad transportation furnishes employment to more than a million of our population, or, to put it in another way, there are 61 persons employed for every 100 miles of railroad in the United States. This is a decrease from last year, however, in the percentage to mileage, or twenty-eight persons per 100 miles.

Such figures as these show the tremendous importance of our transportation interest, and how intimately it concerns a large proportion of our population. The million or more people who are directly engaged in railroad transportation represent three or four times that number of our actual population. As a class, therefore, anything affecting them is entitled to the most serious consideration. The number of men per mile employed, however, is not significant by itself, as the report does not show whether or not these men are paid more or less than the larger number previously employed. More than $30,000,000 has been paid in increased operating expenses, and the condition of the wage-worker on the railroads is very much better today than it has been in past years.

With respect to the matter of railroad rates, the figures represented by the report are interesting. The matter of rates on the railroads concerns everybody, whether he rides on the cars or has goods shipped on them himself or not. The report shows, or will show for this portion of it has not been completed, that the average rate charged by the railroads for carrying freight in the year ended June 30 last was the highest since 1898. The official figures show that there has been a gradual increase in carrying charges of from twelve to fifteen per cent in average freight rates per ton per mile since then.

With gross earnings increasing more than $74,000,000 last year, and operating expenses increasing less than half that amount, there are some discrepancies which only a close analysis of the complete statistics may explain. It is not these discrepancies, great as they are, however, which concern the American people so much as the apparent discriminations. If everybody has to pay the same rate even though that may appear a high one, there will be less grumbling than when one man pays a certain rate and his neighbor gets a better one. The first subject of inquiry should be that of giving everybody a "fair deal." Then it will be time to look into the reasonableness of the general average of rates.

BUILDING OPERATIONS LARGE

New York Finds Force of Workmen Are Unable to Fill Demands.

NEW YORK, Aug. 24.—Building operations in New York City have increased to such enormous proportions within the last six months, says the Herald, that the forces of the borough building department are unable to take care of the work and an appeal was made yesterday to the authorities for an appropriation sufficient to double the force of inspectors, clerks and other employes.

One of the most interesting features in the situation is the fact that the greatest increase in buildings has been shown in Manhattan. Since rapid transit lines pushed into outlying districts it had been generally expected that building operations on Manhattan island was decreasing rapidly, but figures submitted by the department of buildings show that the reverse is true. It is shown that from January 1 to June 22, 1905, plans filed in Manhattan represent a greater cost than in all the other four boroughs combined. The excess in Manhattan amounts to $34,378,425. From January 1 to June 22 there were filed in Manhattan 1,421 plans for new buildings and alterations, representing a cost of $66,126,725. This is nearly as large an amount of work as has been recorded in the department during entire years since 1900.

ROUND ABOUT NEW YORK.

Ripples on the Current of Life in the Metropolis.

The largest and most imposing hole in the ground in greater New York occupies nearly four blocks, extending from Seventh to Ninth avenues and Thirty-first to Thirty-third streets. Four years ago something like 60 houses of various kinds covered the ground and between 1,000 and 4,000 people lived there. The people are gone, the houses also, and an army of men and machinery are working night and day cutting into the bowels of the earth, preparing the site for the terminals of the Pennsylvania railroad tunnels. About one-half the 1,000,000 cubic yards of earth and rock to come out has been excavated, and the average depth of the great hole is about half what it will be when the work is finished. And of all that million cubic yards of earth and rock not a single cartload has been hauled through the streets of New York.

The present rate of progress in excavating is about 125,000 cubic yards a month, earth and rock mixed. The force at work to accomplish this numbers about 1,000 men, of whom 1,400 work in the day time and the other 600 at night. They operate four steam shovels, twelve locomotives and 200 cars.

When the excavation is completed its depth in the shallowest part, from Seventh to Eighth avenue, will be about 45 feet, and from that it will dip to a depth of 95 feet at Ninth avenue.

Greater New York is now enjoying its greatest building boom. It is estimated that 4,304 buildings are under way at a cost of $94,462,775. Most of these structures are apartment houses and they will provide homes for 65,000 persons. The great work accomplished by the army of builders from January 1 to the present time, representing, as it does the practical output of new homes for the year, must therefore take care of the natural increase in the city's population. This increase has been figured conservatively at 120,000 persons. In order to keep pace with this enormous growth in the population it will be seen that even though building records have gone to smash the supply of homes can by no means be in excess of the demand when the general moving day of the year arrives, some six months hence.

The private home, except for the very rich, is rapidly disappearing from the island of Manhattan. While 1,500 small houses occupied by single families have been torn down during the last year, scarcely 200 small residences have been erected. In the meantime, apartment houses, hotels and tenements are constantly growing larger, occupying more ground space and going farther toward the sky. A proposed new hotel to be built by John Jacob Astor will occupy ground now held by twenty small tenants. Five other hotels and apartment houses projected will displace 300 more. A big department store now building on Fifth avenue cleared in one sweep eighteen fine residences. Over 200 private homes gave way when the Pennsylvania Railroad company cleared the site for its new terminal. Scores of other cases might be cited in which blocks, half blocks and quarter blocks were razed to make way for a single building. The invasion has extended even to old Gramercy and Washington parks, where many fine mansions have recently been torn down to make way for apartment houses. Brownstone houses, which were once the distinguishing feature of the residential sections of New York, are melting down at a surprising rate.

One thing that annoys and humiliates a western man in New York City is the way in which he is herded with the crowd. Out west a man is an individual. He feels that he is somebody—a responsible citizen, a factor in the community, a person more or less worth while, entitled to a certain amount of respect merely as a man, and regardless of wealth or social position or political power. But in New York, unless one is somebody very important, he is nobody at all. He is a mere unit in the mob, of no more moment than one ant in a hill.

A bootblack stood rubbing at the corner of Fifth avenue and Twelfth street the other night. "What's the trouble?" asked a sympathetic passer-by.

"Ah! boss," he moaned, "some bloke stole my brush and box of blacking. It was a new layout, and I can't go home tonight without it. Me father will sure gimme a beatin'. He won't believe me. Sure, he'll gimme it hard for not havin' me new brush. What did it cost, boss? Twenty cents, and I ain't got it, and can't get it, and I'll have to give me home de shakes till I go home wid a whole layout."

The passerby was reaching into his pocket, when the wailing one turned, so that the electric light fell on his face. His eyes were dry. The impudent pollaintrogue walked on, but looked back to see developments.

The lad was quiet until three women neared him. Then he began his outcries. They stopped, heard his tale, glared at him and gave him dimes.

Two nights later the same man was at Fifth avenue and Sixteenth street. Again he heard a familiar dolorous sound. There was the bootblack, in the same attitude. He did not recognize the passerby, who stopped and questioned him. The same tale was forthcoming.

"Who taught you this performance, and how much do you make a day?" the boy was asked. He suddenly stopped weeping, looked up in affright and bounded away, shouting as he ran: "Hey, you think you're wise, don't you?"

It was a bargain day on Sixth avenue, New York, and twenty baby carriages, all properly checked, were ranged up in front of a department store, while the mothers were inside buying things they didn't need. Suddenly a baby at one end of the line stood up, toppled over against the next carriage, and in a moment all the carriages went over like ninepins, sending the kids sprawling about the sidewalk. It took a long time to identify them, for no attendant had to put them back indiscriminately, and they were not checked like their perambulators. This thrilling incident shows that the only sure way to avoid similar catastrophe would be to brand each child with a number and hang a corresponding number round the mother's neck, like a bathroom key.

Joseph T. Cowan of Dallas, Tex., who believes that he owns 10 acres of land in the heart of New York, including the greater part of Central park, says that he has been offered by a syndicate of six prominent men in Wall street $10,000,000 for a quitclaim to his claim, or $20,000,000 if he will accept a one-fifteenth interest in the estate, leaving the balance to the syndicate. Mr. Cowan is confident that he owns the greater part of the 160-acre estate on Manhattan, with fifty other heirs. He says that the offer was a trifle to what he expects to get.

MIRTHFUL REMARKS.

"They told me it was a good stream for trout," said the angler.

"And wasn't it?"

"Well, it might be a good stream for them, so few of them leave it."—Philadelphia Ledger.

Tuffold Knutt was taking a bath in the river.

Mosely Wraggs happened along.

"That looks a thunderin' sight like work," commented the latter.

"I know it," responded Tuffold Knutt. "That's why I'm doin' it. I'm on me vacation."—Chicago Tribune.

"Why are you going abroad to live?"

"Because," answered the grafter, "I am convinced that profits are sometimes without honor in their own country."—Washington Star.

"Do you mean to say you trusted your money to a man you didn't know?"

"Why, yes," replied the woman. "I've been cheated so many times by my friends in the family that I thought I'd try a new track."—Detroit Free Press.

"The learned counsel for the defense," said the plaintiff's attorney, "appears to be afraid of going his case. Otherwise, why isn't he ready to go on?"

"I've got a good excuse," replied counsel for the defense.

"Nonsense! Ignorance of the law excuses no one."—Philadelphia Press.

Jones—Well, I got the best of my wife yesterday.

Hamilton—How did you manage it?

"Why, I admitted that I was wrong before she had a chance to argue with me."—Smart Set.

"You said that young man was a promising politician."

"Yes, answered Senator Sorghum. "I must say he promises things with all the ease and nobility of an old hand."—Washington Star.

"Old Squidge was immensely rich, wasn't he?"

"Oh, yes; he left millions."

"What do you suppose he was worth when he died?"

"Old Squidge? Nothing. There wasn't a single mourner."—Chicago Tribune.

"Esmeralda," said the young husband, "let us have no secrets from each other. Do you like onions?"

"Yes, indeed," answered the young wife.

"Well, I don't."—Philadelphia Press.

THOSE MISTY BLUE EYES.

J. W. Foley in New York Times.

She said me a book and I do not know why;
She said me a book I had sworn not to buy;
But I declared up and down I would not even look,
But I broke my resolve and she sold me her book.

What it was I don't know, and if ever I did
I've forgotten. I know that somewhere in its grid
On some dusty high shelf, piled with rubbish and stuff,
And she sold it to me poems voleto—enough.

She was such a sweet lass—so unwitting and shy;
With a wealth of dark hair and a fetching blue eye,
And I frowned upon her with a threatening look,
But she paid me no heed—only took out her book.

I had sworn not to look, but she told me a tale
Of a mother bedridden, so worn and so frail,
And of sisters and brothers, so young, to be fed,
And herself all alone, for dear father was dead.

Quite unfitted she was for the winning of bread—
Father had been so good, but dear father was dead,
And the fortune they'd cause to believe had been his,
Well—a rascally partner, you know how it is.

So the bread must be won and the rest were so young,
With the mother bedridden—some lesion of lung—
But of course, if I choose, she would never insist—
And her eyes shown with tears like two stars through a mist.

So she sold me the book, and the reason is plain;
She would sell me another if she came again;
But they tell me dear father is hearty and hale,
Content to be dead for the sake of a sale.

And the bedridden mother, so feeble and slight
As she said, is bedridden—but only at night.
And there are youngger children all crying for bread,
But all she knows of them is what she has read.

So she sold me and sold me her book—it is well,
But here all alone, for my life I can't tell
If it was her sad story I could not resist,
Or her eyes that shone wet like two stars through a mist.

You cannot wipe off the blur!

And the reason is there is nothing the matter with your glasses. The trouble is with you; you, yourself. Your head is congested, you are dizzy, you cannot see clearly, and you are all out of sorts.

Wake up your sleepy liver! Get rid of a lot of bile. Take one of Ayer's Pills each night, for a few nights. These pills are liver pills, all vegetable, sugar-coated. They act directly on the liver, curing biliousness, constipation, dizziness.

Made by the J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass.
Also manufacturers of
AYER'S HAIR VIGOR—For the hair. AYER'S CHERRY PECTORAL—For coughs.
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