THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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1	28,000	17	30,000
2	28,080	18	30,050
3	27,980	19	31,470
4	29,040	20	29,870
5	29,300	21	29,880
6	30,050	22	30,000
7	30,040	23	30,110
8	29,850	24	30,100
9	29,950	25	30,110
10	29,850	26	31,720
11	30,050	27	29,650
12	31,310	28	30,160
13	30,220	29	32,250
14	30,010	30	30,710
15	29,980	31	30,580
16	29,880		

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GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK,
Treasurer.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 31st day of August, 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.

Now comes the tug of war at the Douglas county primaries.

In the vocabulary of the American Smelting trust the letter "G" stands for Guggenheim.

Preliminary steps would indicate that there is little difference between fusion and confusion even in New York.

Judge Letton stands squarely on his platform, and if he had his way it would have been several planks stronger.

The vote on the supreme judge shows that the Platte river is rapidly losing its position as the dividing line in Nebraska politics.

What Postmaster Sizer said to Senator Burkett after the battle was over was not recorded in the proceedings. No pistols, no coffee.

That insurance investigation shows that, at all events, the men at the head of the companies know where to plant one dollar to reap hundreds.

Japanese legislators are calling for an investigation of the police force, which signally failed to hold down the lid when the peace treaty struck home.

Kansas might be willing to compromise with Colorado in the irrigation suit if the latter state would tell it how to dispose of its surplus water this year.

Markel's Panama canal contract, the biggest thing any Omahan ever struck, has stood the test of Roosevelt's scrutiny, and Omaha has reason to feel gratified.

Following the outbreak of the survivors of the Quantrell band a race war has broken out in Missouri. The democratic party must be making plans to "redeem" the state next year.

Judge Munger has decreed that Indians must pay the tax on all moneys deposited in banks by them and for them; but what about the white depositor? Where does he come in?

Judge Duffie started out with a hoodoo. He had a thick coat of hair on his head, when he ought to have known that nobody can become judge of the supreme court of Nebraska unless he is bald.

The arrival at Cincinnati of 200 refugees from Louisiana indicates that a part of the army of defense has fled before the invading mosquitos; but Jack Frost can rout Yellow Jack when all others fail.

On this proposition all Omaha newspapers will agree, viz., that no new franchise be given and no old franchise be extended for a period of more than twenty-five years to any public utility corporation.

The czar has abolished retaliatory duties on American goods shipped to Russia. Thus is the peacemaker blessed and Russians permitted to secure better goods for less money than in any other market on earth.

If military officers of the European powers had been able to foretell that a daughter of the president of the United States would spend a night in the Chinese imperial palace, they might not have been so eager in their efforts to remove the furnishings, but the work of the troops may have given the visitors more modern surroundings.

THE STATE TICKET AND PLATFORM.

The republican state convention is to be commended for its excellent choice of candidates and declaration of principles upon which the republican party appeals for their endorsement at the polls. The nominee for justice of the supreme court, Judge Charles B. Letton, is eminently qualified for the supreme bench by his experience as district judge and supreme court commissioner.

Personally Judge Letton is a man of high ideals, sterling character and unbending moral stamina. He is reputed as one of the few men in public life in this state who possesses the courage of his convictions. His views of judicial duty were expressed tersely by himself from the convention stage in these words: "If elected I promise you I shall know neither rich nor poor, neither corporation nor individual, and insofar as in me lies I will dispense justice to every man."

What will be most gratifying to the people of Nebraska is the fact that Judge Letton can fulfill this pledge without breaking faith. He came by his nomination without political obligations to any corporation and therefore will be in position to dispense justice without fear or favor in conformity with the motto of Nebraska, "Equality before the law."

The candidates for regents of the university, Fred H. Abbott and V. G. Lyford, are reputed to be men who will creditably discharge the trust reposed in them as members of the governing body of the state's highest educational institution.

Most of the platforms promulgated by political conventions are either mere catchy platitudes or political fly paper. The platform resolutions adopted this year will blaze the way to reforms that have long been demanded by the rank and file of the party of this state. Reference is made to the anti-pass plank, which commits the republican party to the enactment of a law by the next legislature prohibiting the railroads from tendering or giving free transportation to public officials and the declaration in favor of a law that will provide for the nomination of all candidates by direct vote instead of delegate conventions.

While the endorsement of President Roosevelt's railway regulation policy is somewhat indefinite, the great majority of the convention undoubtedly was in accord with the great body of the republican party in emphasizing the popular demand for the enlargement of the powers of the Interstate Commerce commission on the lines laid out and recommended by President Roosevelt, and the representatives of Nebraska in both houses of congress will scarcely dare to give this part of the platform any other interpretation.

TREND TOWARD POPULAR GOVERNMENT.

Almost simultaneous events in all quarters of the globe indicate a widespread trend toward popular government and an awakening in many countries in which up to this time the people have been content to rest without any appreciable participation in matters of government.

The demand of the Hungarians, supported by a vigorous demonstration against the Diet for a more universal suffrage is an outcropping of this spirit. If the war Russia made against Japan has any credit marks in its favor, they are to be found in the substantial gains made by the Russians at home in the direction of more popular government. The friction developed between Norway and Sweden, so far as it can be viewed, as a claim on the part of Norway of independent sovereignty responsible directly to the Norwegian people, is also in line with the spread of the popular government idea. In all the old world countries autocracy has been steadily losing ground and democracy gaining, and although the outward forms of monarchical government continue unchanged great changes are taking place in the location of the seat of power.

In this movement the United States is not a negligible factor. The influence of American free institutions on old world bulwarks of medievalism has been great and constant, and it is being exerted day by day with increasing force. The United States has within the past few years come for the first time within the horizon of many people of foreign countries and they are beginning to realize and appreciate the strides we have been making and the advantages we have been enjoying by reason of our popular government. It is only naturally to be expected, therefore, that this movement will spread still further and that the United States will continue to play an important part in it even though it may not at any time be called upon to assume an active role.

SALUTARY LESSON FROM INDIANA

The summary action of Governor Hanly of Indiana in forcing the retirement from office of the auditor of state, caught in the act of misappropriating public funds in his possession and using them for speculative purposes, should be a salutary lesson for public officials generally. Other states have suffered from official defalcations and other states have been afflicted with the vicious practice of farming out the public monies for private gain, but in few instances have they been blest with governors at the head of their state administrations imbued with the faculty of decisive action, and moved by an uncompromising hostility to public plundering and official graft.

Every one will say that Governor Hanly did exactly the right thing in insisting that the betrayer of his trust should forthwith vacate his office, but we can well imagine that the culprit and his friends pleaded for time to raise the money required to make good what had been embezzled and urged the necessity of keeping the theft covered up to avoid bringing scandal upon the state government and injury to the party responsible for the election of both.

A governor disposed to temporize or compromise with official embezzlers is never at a loss for an excuse to justify his course, but Governor Hanly is of a different mettle. A rich state like Indiana can much more readily afford to lose the stolen $100,000, or more, than to depreciate the standard of its public morality. The same holds true for every other state in the union. Friends of good government everywhere have a right to rejoice in the praiseworthy example set by the Indiana executive in the face of a misfortune to his state and threatening scandal to his party.

The republicans of Douglas county would be recreant to their duty if they did not at the next Tuesday's primaries vote to take the lid off and let the light into the county judge's heirship treasure box, and that can only be done by nominating a candidate who has no connection with the present incumbent and is known to be absolutely and rigidly honest.

A large area of low barometer was struck between Lincoln and Omaha by the hot air prognosticator of the Omaha Fakery when he wired in great, big black letters, "Duffie to be nominated as a result of agreement between convention managers representing the Burlington and Union Pacific. Sheldon for permanent chairman."

The democratic state convention will have the privilege of going through the motions and make faces at the republican party, but the nomination of Judge Letton, in spite of railroad intrusion, spikes all the guns of the common enemy and does not leave it a peg to stand on. What's the matter with Letton? He's all right.

The declaration of Judge Letton that he favors the direct primary has doubtless given a glimmer of hope to the father of the direct primary law that his infant will be spared by the supreme court, although lawyers say that it has several deadly microbes in its makeup.

The new chairman of the republican state committee will have almost as soft a job this year as Chairman Cortelyou of the national committee had last year with Roosevelt at the head of the G. O. P. ticket. He can take it easy, wait for the returns and proclaim the result.

Lord Roberts has decided to postpone his visit to America for a year, probably thinking that this nation has given so much attention to diplomats at Portsmouth that it should take a rest before entertaining men whose occupation is war.

The officers of that Canadian government boat which fired on an American fishing smack were probably more certain of their waters than of their ground. Some such an act as this will some day bring annexation considerably nearer.

If Mr. Bryan desires to see the Philippines under all aspects he should arrange to take a "hike" with some of the constabulary after a band of Moros. Nothing inculcates patriotism like being on the firing line.

In the Woodpile.
Portland Oregonian.

Somehow we have not heard much lately about Roosevelt and the big stick.

Favors One-Sided.
St. Louis Globe-Democraat.

After all the talk about "hands across the sea" it appears that England's treaty with Japan is as much against us as against anybody.

Contentment of Possession.
Washington Star.

Mr. Roosevelt is about the only man of real prominence in the country who is not thinking more or less about the presidential possibilities of 1908.

Put 'Em Under Cover.
Chicago Record-Herald.

The call made upon an associate editor of the Commoner by Pat Crowe suggests that possibly Mr. Bryan has secured new issues that are worth kidnaping.

Strong Hand at the Helm.
Baltimore American.

The mikado will not allow his cabinet to resign on account of the popular clamor. He is not only a man who knows his own mind and has the courage of his convictions, but also one who when he is sure he is right just goes ahead. Japan is lucky to have so firm a hand on the helm of its ship of state at this crisis.

Man's Inhumanity to Man.
Baltimore American.

The federal authorities at New Orleans in charge of the fever situation were compelled to go to the aid of a man in Mississippi suspected of having the fever, who had been chained to a tree two days without shelter, food or water. It seems incredible in these days that even the height of selfish fright could develop so much inhumanity in civilized communities. All the barbarity possible to be developed clearly is not confined to Darkest Africa and drunken Cossacks.

Pretty Bit of Sentiment.
San Francisco Chronicle.

It is a very pretty bit of sentiment which caused the people and officials of Atlanta to invite the Grand Army of the Republic to hold its next encampment in that historic city. It may be accepted as certain that no place could be named which would arouse so much interest in the rank and file of the Grand Army or which would assure so large an attendance at the encampment. The meeting of the Grand Army of the Republic at Atlanta would be the most significant evidence yet given of the complete recementing of the once warring sections and would arouse more patriotic enthusiasm than any other event in the history of the Grand Army.

Putting It on the Public.
Collier's Weekly.

The Grand Central station in New York is reported as about to cut off all wages from their red-capped porters, who are now said to make so much outside of wages that there are many more applicants than places to be filled. The change would mean nothing, as the porters are now allowed to make it clear that they expect travelers to pay and that somewhat liberally. The Pullman conductors last year complained that they earned less than their porters received in fees and there are even conductors who are not averse to indicating a willingness to increase their earnings by the charity or recompense for courtesy of passengers on their lines. A certain kind of pride is departing rapidly from Americans.

GROWTH OF LIFE INSURANCE.

Overflowing Money Vaults Responsible for Scandals.
Chicago News.

In 1860, according to an estimate published by an official of the New York Life Insurance company some time ago, all the American life insurance companies together had on an average about $5 at risk for each persons in the United States. In 1903 the amount at risk per capita had grown to about $85, increasing seventeenfold in the forty-one years. If further evidence were required to show how rapidly this business has been growing it would be found in the enormous increase of cash assets among the leading companies, which have grown out of all proportion to the increase of insurance at risk.

"If no new insurance were written," said the authority above quoted, "if palsy should suddenly seize the tremendous activities of these companies, the contracts that are now outstanding and well established in the very nature of the case would bring in such sums of money that the companies would be compelled to become an active factor in the investment world."

In the face of such evidence as the investigation in progress in New York is bringing to light it is plain that whatever plan may be adopted for the regulation of the life-insurance business it must provide for some adequate supervision of the way in which these prodigious sums are invested. In general the insurance concerns may be assumed to have made their policy conform to fairly safe and conservative principles of investment. An analysis of state insurance reports made some time ago indicated that of the $1,773,916,000 of assets then held by twenty-eight of the leading life companies, more than 41 per cent was in bonds, the other securities, in the order of the amounts carried, being mortgages, real estate, loans on policies and stocks. Of stocks, the least certain form of security, some companies carried none.

It is equally plain that while the bulk of the insurance funds is thus safely secured, the officials with the excess of funds at their disposal are prone to indulge in transactions that bear more the character of speculation than of investment. To judge from the way some of the New York companies' officials have juggled with the money of policyholders, taking a private profit therefrom and concealing the transaction from state officials by tricks, they seem to have cast aside conscience entirely as a business asset. With such conditions today and the insurance business still growing, what are conditions likely to be a few years hence, unless some restraint is placed upon the methods employed in managing these great accumulations of wealth?

VOLUNTARY RAILROAD REFORM.

Move to Sidetrack Private Car Line Companies.
Brooklyn Eagle.

The disposition of the great railroad lines to drop the private car line companies is among the hopeful signs of reform in railroad management as the result of the crusade against special rates. The private car line is to the railroad company what the investing syndicates are to the insurance companies. It is a device by which the men interested in the railroad management can reap a profit from the business which the company could not get from its legitimate charges. The private car line company puts on refrigerating cars to carry fruits and meats. Its charges for this service are not controlled by the railroad's public tariffs and they have not so far fallen under the regulative hand of the Interstate Commerce commission. That commission is now conducting a campaign to establish its control over the charges of these companies and to have them legally classified as common carriers. The commission will ask for legislation and the president will naturally support its demand.

The private car line companies have filed answers to the complaint of the commission and so have the companies over whose roads those car lines are operated. The correspondent reports that the answers of the railroad companies show that the roads "have decided to wash their hands of the private car lines and to accept no responsibility for them whatever." That prediction is in line with arguments directed to railroad managers by their friends, urging them to abolish "private snaps" in railroading and to raise the standard of railroad ethics. These warnings have pointed out that government regulation would sweep away these sucker growths if the companies did not lop them off voluntarily and that their abandonment was the surest way to avert such a popular uprising as would inevitably do great harm to the railroads, without any corresponding benefit to the people. It looks as if the railroad managers were preparing to take that good advice. In that case moderate legislation to do away with rebates and special rates will be easy. The private car lines are the chief agency through which rates are established. Several of the western roads have already assured the Interstate Commerce Commission that they will put on their own refrigerator cars and will put into effect a rate for their service which the commission has decided to be reasonable. With such voluntary reforms on the part of the roads the issue of regulation would dwindle to insignificance. The country will watch eagerly to see how far this western good example is followed.

BILLIONS IN IT.

Abundant Harvest Affords Good Reasons for Thankfulness.
Chicago Inter Ocean.

The government reports show that so far, the wheat crop is 5,000,000 bushels, and the oat and barley crops 2,000,000 bushels each, behind the estimate made on August 1.

These slight deficiencies are more than made up by the corn crop, which is likely to be 31,000,000 bushels more than was estimated on August 1.

Already it is certain that the wheat crop will be above the average, and the yield of oats the second largest on record. But the wealth now maturing in America's corn is almost beyond comprehension.

The corn crop is expected to be not less than 2,625,000,000 bushels, or 155,000,000 bushels more than the great crop of last year.

If any one has fretted a little over the weather of the last few days he may be consoled that such warmth is worth about $10,000,000 a day to the country in maturing the corn crop. The value of the yield of corn this year may be judged by a few comparisons:

At an average of 50 cents a bushel—and corn is well above that price in the Chicago market—the corn crop will be worth $1,312,500,000. On September 1 our national debt, including all the outstanding greenbacks, was $1,283,121,935.

So, with our corn crop, we could pay off the entire national debt, and redeem every greenback in gold, and still have nearly $30,000,000 left to celebrate the feat.

We could, from our corn crop alone, and if there were any reason for so doing, give every man, woman, and child of the 80,000,000 people in this nation, over $16 each to buy a Thanksgiving dinner.

We could with our corn crop pay the heirs of every equitable policy-holder the face of his policy without waiting for him to die and without touching the company's assets at all.

We could play all sorts of tricks with our corn crop, so enormous and so valuable is it. And yet this is only one of our crops.

When we consider it and the others we may well rejoice and thank God for our goodly heritage.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

Hon. Church Howe of Nebraska, American consul general at Antwerp, contributes to Leslie's Weekly an extended review of the development of Belgian colonization of the upper and lower Congo country, paying a high tribute to the work accomplished and the motives which inspired it. Summarizing the work, Mr. Howe says:

The philanthropic and humanitarian movement in favor of civilization of the valleys of the upper and lower Congo was conceived by King Leopold II as early as September, 1876, when an international conference of scientists and explorers met at the royal palace at Brussels. Before this assembly King Leopold made the following remark: "To open the only portion of our globe where civilization has not yet penetrated, to pierce the darkness which envelops whole countries of people, is a crusade worthy this century of progress. I have led myself to believe that you would find it possible to discuss and arrange between yourselves the ways and means of planting the standard of civilization upon African soil."

The government has established school colonies, managed by Belgian sisters of charity, where the scholars acquire a practical, solid, professional training. From these institutions the government has acquired the services of capable employes, foremen and noncommissioned officers for the public force, the name by which the army of the Congo Free State is known. The Belgians in 1885 had only three missions and six missionaries in the Congo Free State; today they possess fifty-nine permanent missions and twenty-nine traveling missions, attended by 384 missionaries and sisters of charity. There are 528 chapel farms, 113 churches and chapels, 523 lecture halls, three intermediary schools, seventy-five primary schools, and 449 elementary schools. In the latter the natives themselves teach reading and writing. There are seven poor asylums, seventy-one Christian villages and 72,382 converted Christians. The schools are meeting with success, and it is stated that the young Congolese learn with ease and rapidity, speak French well, and are apt for high education. Many go to Belgium, where, if they become acclimatized, which it must be borne in mind is not always the case, they follow various callings with a certain degree of success.

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The report of what seems to be an important discovery comes from England. As the story goes, an inventor has found a process, now under examination in London, by which he can produce from a given quantity of wheat a considerably larger yield of flour than is possible under any other known process. The ordinary cylinder or roller mills, now almost universally in use throughout Europe and America, give a total yield, it is said, of from 68 to 72 per cent of the weight of wheat milled. By the new system a total yield of 85 per cent is produced. This is an average increase of 15 per cent in the yield of flour, or an increase of about twenty-one loaves of four pounds each in the quantity of bread made from a quarter of wheat. Manifestly this, if true, is important, but the inventor claims to do much more than this. He asserts that he can produce from English wheat alone an absolutely pure and a more wholesome bread than is obtained by the ordinary baker from more expensive flours, including those of the best known American and Hungarian brands. Under the existing system of milling and baking in England the bread is made from an admixture of English wheat with foreign wheats, the latter always largely preponderating, frequently to the extent of three to one. This admixture of foreign wheat adds considerably to the cost of flour as compared with what it would be if English wheat alone were used; and the necessity for the admixture is due to the superior strength which foreign wheats derive from the greater amount of sunshine to which they are subjected. If this inequality can be made good there may be bright days ahead for the British farmer.

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Although the Italian railways have been under the control of the state for more than three months, the new system has not yet attained to anything like perfect organization. The central direction will be established in Rome. The departmental offices will be at Turin, Milan, Rome, Genoa, Naples, Florence, Venice and Palermo. At Turin and Milan will be the two most important departments, each containing some 15,000 employes; the remaining departments will consist of about 12,000 employes, with the exception of Palermo, which will have about 6,000, all that are required for the Sicilian lines. The main lines will thus be divided into eight departments—Turin, Milan, Rome, Genoa, Naples, Florence, Venice and Sicily—in the place of their former division into three companies—the Mediterranean, Adriatic and the Sicilian. These departments will control 11,000 kilometers of railway and about 96,000 men. There will remain in the hands of private companies about 2,000 kilometers of secondary lines, and in the hands of the Adriatic company 2,000 kilometers of the old southern lines, its own former property.

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A peculiar condition of economic affairs exists in New Zealand, which has been termed "the communists' paradise," and the country is just now greatly agitated about the invasion of the American agricultural machinery man. The "trust" in that delightful land of the antipodes is indeed an octopus. It not only has many tentacles, but is deemed to have horns as well. The American harvester trust went in and, owing to advanced American methods of manufacture and handling of goods, was enabled to undersell the natives. The farmer very naturally was elated at the prospect of great reduction in the prices of his necessaries, and a prohibitive tariff to him presents no charms. On the other hand, the government is importuned to absolutely prohibit the foreign trust from doing any business in New Zealand. There is a country that feels keenly the conflict of old and new methods. It might just as well reject machinery as to reject new and skillfully applied ways of handling it. If we can manufacture agricultural machinery here and place it in the hands of the farmer cheaper than the native New Zealander can do it, it remains for him to study and adopt one system and keep in the commercial procession. It is only those who refuse to move that are crowded to the wall.

Overreaching National Greed.
Chicago Chronicle.

Maxim Gorky is clearly right when he declares that Russia has enough to do in civilizing its present population without undertaking any colonization projects. The same thing is measurably true of our own country. The task of assimilating the great mass of immigrants yearly poured in upon us is a tremendous one and we are not making a complete success of it. Until we do so we certainly should not think of acquiring more colonies or dependencies. Porto Rico and the Philippines are enough for the present.

It Looks that Way.
Boston Transcript.

If September frosts are not too previous it is estimated that we shall have a national corn crop, something more than 200,000,000 in excess of the highest former record in our history. The Hungarian minister of agriculture figures it out that the world's wheat supply is about the same as last year's, though outside the United States it is considerably smaller. This looks as though we should be able to peg along through the winter pretty comfortably.

POLITICAL DRIFT.

Correspondents at Oyster Bay are working overtime on President Roosevelt's message to congress.

Tom Lawson is now among the eligible presidential possibilities for stranded parties. Some of Mr. Lawson's property in Boston has just been sold for taxes, a fact calculated to insure sympathetic votes from all opposed to existing systems.

Republicans of the third Connecticut district have started a congressional boom for Herbert W. Bowen, ex-minister to Venezuela. The vacancy is caused by the election of Congressman Brandegee of New London as United States senator to succeed the late Senator Platt.

The financial city council of Atlanta, Ga., thinks the town has been scandalized because its mayor absorbed "a few beers" at Toledo, O., and has accordingly censured him. If similar action were taken against councilmen for beering up, the records wouldn't have much room for other business.

William Raymer, son of the junior senator from Maryland, is seeking election to the Maryland legislature. Senator Gorman already has a son in the Maryland legislature. If young Raymer should succeed each of the United States senators from Maryland will have a family representative in the legislature to keep their fathers posted on the ins and outs of state politics.

Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Horace A. Taylor, who brought out John C. Spooner and groomed him for the senatorial race, and was indirectly responsible for the election of "Uncle Jerry" Rusk three times as governor of Wisconsin, is the founder of a prosperous Wisconsin town and owns a great share of another. When as a farmer lad late in the '50's he plunged into the Wisconsin forest $8 and a gun were all his worldly possessions, and his first vocation was driving a stage coach.

Investigation of "honest graft" in Philadelphia has disclosed the fact that Philip H. Johnson, brother-in-law of Israel W. Durham, a leading politician, had been employed to plan about forty public buildings and has been getting from the city and state treasuries $50,000 to $100,000 yearly. His study of architecture consisted in a course of surveying taken in a night school and his practical knowledge of designing buildings was acquired in leveling asphalt pavements, fixing lines and grades for the widening of Delaware avenue and leveling street car tracks.

MORNING GLORY POLITICS.

Democratic Micawbers Looking for Mushroom Issues.
Chicago Inter Ocean.

No one can tell three years in advance what a platform will be. * * * I have seen issues arise over night.—W. J. Bryan, when asked what would be the democratic issue in 1908.

For the last three national campaigns the democratic party has been depending on issues that arose over night. These issues had only one thing in common, namely, that they all meant trouble. As a result, this has become practically a one party country.

Ten years ago a faulty curency system and ill-advised tariff changes had brought on hard times. Heroic and, as it proved, effective measures had been taken to remedy the defect in the currency.

But the check to production of wealth and the shattering of confidence had made money scarce and dear. Over night arose the cry for "more money."

The national democratic party, led by Mr. Bryan and his friends, seized this "issue," arising over night, as an "issue to win on," and after a stand-up fight was squarely beaten on it.

Then came the war with Spain, with its swift victories and additions to the national domain. The new duties and the new thought of them demanded by expansion gave an unpleasant jar to certain minds, and the issue of "imperialism" arose literally over night.

Again the democratic party, seeking merely an "issue to win on," seized a fleeting cloud, made it a "paramount" issue, and was beaten without a real struggle.

Four years later the Democracy mingled several "issues" that had arisen over night—so many and so trifling that it is useless to enumerate them—with the result that the day after the election men could hardly realize that a democratic candidate had been running.

And all this in the face of the truth that no party can succeed, as no man can succeed, without permanent aims and purposes, though out long in advances and resolutely adhered to, no matter what the conditions or the exigencies of the day.

To find a man of Mr. Bryan's position in the democratic party—to find the democracy's one leader of national dimensions—still taking about a national campaign on issues that may arise "over night" is most discouraging. And not only that. It is deplorable, it is pitiable, to see a man of reputation and power devoting all his energy to such morning-glory politics.

HOW IT LOOKS IN FIGURES.

The Year's Bumper Crops and Their Market Value.
Philadelphia Ledger.

The September report of the harvests holds out the promise of a roseate future for the country. The indicated yield of corn, 2,716,918,000 bushels, is the largest on record. The total indicated wheat crop is 704,447,000 bushels, which compares with the record yield of 748,460,000 bushels in 1901. This is seven times as much wheat as the country produced in 1850. At the price now quoted the value of the corn crop is $1,196,443,920. At the current price of wheat for May delivery at Chicago the value of this crop is $606,844,420. The oats crop is valued at $274,700,000. The value of the three crops is $2,078,989,340, three times the amount of the bonded debt of the nation and about twice the amount of the total public debt. There are other crops which will contribute vastly to the grand total representing the wealth of the country in cereals. The figures showing the average condition of these minor crops when harvested are exceedingly encouraging.

The price of farm products is begining to recede under the promised abundant supply. Flour has declined $1 a barrel from the highest price reported last year. A statistician estimates that such a reduction is a gain to consumers in the United States approximating the snug sum of $100,000,000, and adds that, inasmuch as pessimistic comment has been dilating upon the higher cost of living, it will soon be in order to take note of a material reduction in the price of staple food products. It is predicted that cheaper meat will be the rule when cattle fed on the present prolific corn crop comes into the market next spring, if the Beef trust is merciful.

Intelligent observers of conditions in the west note the expansion of business under the stimulus of the great crops. The prosperity of the farmers is sure to be reflected in every mart and to flow into every rill of industry. The transportation companies may count upon increased earnings. It is too early to estimate the relation which this year's yield of foodstuffs in America will bear to the world's production, but there is no danger that the United States will lose its pre-eminence in this respect.

LIGHT AND BRIGHT.

"Doc, what do you charge for a call?"
"Well, if I come in an auto, I charge $4. If I walk I charge $5."
"Say, Doc, my wife's ill. But we live right on the car line—here's a ticket."—Cleveland Leader.

Gayboy—I want to have my house painted red, but I can't find any one to do the work.
Chum—Why don't you do it yourself and be sure of a good job?—Detroit Free Press.

"De man wif a 'clean conscience,'" said Uncle Eben, "feels mighty comfortable, but he doesen' do near de braggin' of de man wif no conscience at all."—Washington Star.

Prospective Employer—Yes, I want an office boy, but he must be polite, quick, honest, brave, clean, mustn't smoke, mustn't curse——
Applicant—Say, mister, you want one of dese boy heroes dat's in de melodramas.—Brooklyn Eagle.

"I see that somebody has written a new farce comedy called 'The Pumpkin.'"
"An ominous name."
"Why?"
"Too many pumpkins are touched by an early frost."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Willie—Just one more question, Pa.
Pa—I told you, Willie, to go to bed.
Willie—I know, Pa, but I just want to know; am I really made of dust as the Bible——
Pa—No, you're not. If you were you'd dry up.—Philadelphia Press.

"Doctor, do you think I will be very long lived?" inquired the patient.
"I'm afraid not," said the family physician, "at any rate you are wasting your breath, there won't be enough left to keep you going very long."—Detroit Free Press.

TOMMY'S GONE TO SCHOOL.

Chicago News.

'Tis quite a week ago, John,
One long, dull week, and yet
To this weird change about the place
I can't accustomed get.
The brooding quietude imparts
A sense of strain and stress;
The silent back yard seems to me
A mournful wilderness.

Oh, now and then I start, John,
And then sink back and sigh,
I thought I'd heard a rumbling fall,
A wild and plaintive cry.
The hush sends thrills all o'er me,
Sensations sad and strange.
I feel like Mariana in
The lonely moated grange.

The cat, with independence new,
Sits on the back porch rail,
And tries to straighten out the kinks
Of her disheveled tail;
The neighbor's dog trots past the door
With mien serene and spry,
And casts a careless, sidelong glance
From a triumphant eye.

The peddler through the alley goes
And shouts out loud and clear,
There are no missiles flying now
To cause him pain or fear.
It's restful but depressing, John,
It's very bleak and cool,
Since Tommy's gone to school.
This silence that broods round the house