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C. C. ROSEWATER, Secretary.
Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of December, 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.

Pitchfork Tillman has taken up the battle cry of Santo Domingo, by Jingo!

This kind of weather makes neither the coal man nor the ice man feel like the head of a "trust."

It is a fastidious Christmas shopper who cannot find what he wants offered in the advertising columns of The Bee.

Andrew Hamilton would rather take chances with practitioners of medicine in Paris than with practitioners of law in America.

At least, Bluebeard Hoch has the satisfaction of knowing that he will not be compelled to live with all those wives at one time.

Omaha has paid almost as much honor to the grand exalted ruler of the Elks as if he were the grand exalted ruler of all the universe.

The real question is whether the brutality can be taken out of foot ball without taking the popularity out of the game along with it.

It is unfortunate that the Chicago stock show should be held while Nebraska's best cattle are in preparation for Christmas dinner.

Several eminent Wall street financiers are waiting patiently for the insurance investigating committee to turn over a new leaf with the glad new year.

Tom Lawson is writing open letters again, with the envelope aimed at The System. A few copies of Lawson's book must be in danger of becoming shelf worn.

It never rains but it pours, and the rebate indictments are pouring from all the grand juries in the country. It remains to be seen, however, whether they will stick.

The plea that foot ball trains players for efficiency in the battle of life would be stronger if the battle were fought under the rules which prevailed in the stone age.

Wizard Edison's prophecy of the production of electricity from coal by direct process is being denounced as a dream, but stranger dreams than this have come true.

The text of Secretary Shaw's latest lecture is "Evolution in Self-Government," but that has not the remotest reference to his pet theme, "The Evolution of an Elastic Currency."

Congressman Cochran's scheme to confine all insurance business to the state where the company is chartered makes King Canute's command to stop the rising of the tide look reasonable.

Now that Senator Millard is assured of the chairmanship of the Panama canal committee, the problem that presents itself is: What will the Panama canal do for Nebraska politicians?

Congressman Grosvenor announces that on the subject of states rights he is a democrat, but he will never advise his native state to try to put the principle into effect as it was forty years ago.

With the Southern Pacific placing Oregon lands on the market, prospective purchasers may be relieved of the trouble of examining abstracts; for, if the railroad deed is defective, following a Nebraska precedent, congress can be depended upon to make the matter right.

NEBRASKA FOR MEN.
The billboards in every city are decorated with portraits of Henry George pointing to a sign on which is inscribed "I am for men." That sentence should be the keynote of the dominant party of Nebraska in next year's great campaign. Nebraska's most imperative want is men in public life, and unless the republican party responds to the demand for men through its state conventions, congressional conventions and legislative conventions, it will be repudiated and pulled under by the great mass of Nebraska citizenship.

The populist uprising fifteen years ago was a revolt against corporate control of the dominant party and the low standard of public men foisted into positions of honor and trust. Instead of profiting by the disastrous lessons the party had shirked its responsibility and abdicated its prerogative in the choice of candidates to a political cabal whose highest ideal of public service was subservience to the mandates of the corporations, and this experience has again had partial repetition in the last few years.

As a natural sequence, Nebraska has been humiliated and disgraced by the inferior class of men whom it has raised to positions of honor and trust. Men have been sent to represent Nebraska in national conventions, who were utterly unknown outside of their own counties or towns and could not in the nature of things exert any influence whatever in a gathering composed of men of commanding positions in national councils. Thus we have had men foisted into executive state offices who lacked every pre-requisite qualification for creditably discharging the functions of their respective positions. Worst of all, our nominating conventions and legislatures have been corrupted and debauched chiefly because the people were represented by dummies and grafters instead of men of approved business integrity and moral stamina.

With the irresistible wave of reform that is sweeping the continent Nebraska can no longer remain dormant or indifferent to the movement for higher standards in public life and for more exacting enforcement of official duties and obligations.

THE PRESIDENT ON CHILD LABOR.
President Roosevelt has shown great interest in the subject of child labor and is in hearty sympathy with the movement to correct evils and abuses in the employment of such labor. He referred to it in his annual message of a year ago and in his last message he renewed the previous recommendation for an investigation by the Department of Commerce and Labor of general labor conditions, especial attention to be paid to the conditions of child labor and child labor legislation in the several states. How the president feels on the subject is shown in the following from the message: "In such a republic as ours the one thing that we cannot afford to neglect is the problem of raising out of decent citizens. The future of the nation depends upon the citizenship of the generations to come; the children of today are those who tomorrow will shape the destiny of our land; and we cannot afford to neglect them." He notes the fact that the legislature of Colorado has recommended that the national government provide some general measure for the protection from abuse of children throughout the United States.

The importance of this matter will be realized when it is stated that about a million children are employed in the various industries, a very large proportion of them at an age when they should be at school and most of them in an environment that tends to demoralize them. Investigation has shown that in the south and in some of the states of the north tens of thousands of children employed in mines and mills and factories are wholly illiterate, have had little or no moral training and are subjected to many abuses. The movement for reforms respecting child labor has had good results. It has brought about legislation that has remedied some of the evils and abuses. But there is room for further improvement and this can be effected only after a more thorough knowledge of conditions is obtained. The very best agency for securing such information is the Department of Commerce and Labor and congress should not hesitate to give that department the desired authority. Meanwhile those who are working to ameliorate the conditions of child labor and put a stop to the evils and abuses incident to it will find encouragement in the position of Mr. Roosevelt regarding it.

IS RUSSIA FACING BANKRUPTCY?
The declaration by the revolutionary element in Russia that the national treasury is bankrupt is not without a substantial basis, according to recent reports of financial conditions there. A few days ago it was reported that the imperial bank had an insufficient supply of gold to cover its note issues and about the same time it was stated that the government was unable to repay to a syndicate of German capitalists the \$15,000,000 borrowed early in the present year to continue the war with Japan. This was a short-term loan, payable on demand. These circumstances and the steady decline of Russian securities in the European markets very pointedly indicate that a financial crash in Russia is imminent.

Russia is the greatest debtor nation in the world, her public debt being approximately \$14,000,000,000, of which more than half has been borrowed abroad. Her interest account amounts to \$175,000,000 annually, two-thirds of which is paid out to foreign creditors. This is now making a heavy drain upon the financial resources of the country, the ordinary receipts from revenue being

necessarily much reduced under existing conditions. There is still in the country a considerable reserve of gold, but this is really nothing more nor less than borrowed money and cannot be used because of the large amount of outstanding notes. If the government should be forced, as seems probable, to announce its inability to meet its obligations the effect would be calamitous and would not be confined to Russia. It would be severely felt in every European money market and could not fail to cause a widespread monetary disturbance. The Russian financial situation is of far greater interest to most of the world than are the operations of the revolutionary elements.

THE UNIVERSITY PROBLEM.
The management of the University of Nebraska is up against the same problem that is perplexing the managers of business as well as educational institutions—namely, that of holding its professors at established salaries against the admitted increase in the cost of living and the tempting offers of more favored competitors. Much as the university might suffer for the time being by the loss of faculty members whom it would like to retain, still it must deal with these matters according to some general policy and with due regard both to the financial limitations on its resources and the relative claims of the individual components of its instructional force.

That this is a serious problem—in fact the most serious problem that confronts not only our state university, but other universities as well—goes without saying. That Nebraska, for some time to come, at least, will have to content itself, as in the past, with the more moderate salaries of the educational world and as a consequence lose from time to time stellar lights as they become able to command larger salaries offered by the big privately endowed universities with almost limitless revenues, also goes almost without saying.

Whether our state university has reached the point now where it must raise the salary scale for the head professors is something for the regents to consider most carefully, but no matter what the decision, no material change can be put into effect until after another legislative appropriation, because the last appropriation on which the work was blocked out for two years did not contemplate any such advance.

THE CHRISTMAS ATMOSPHERE.
The Christmas atmosphere again envelops the land and it is an atmosphere which breeds the spirit of happiness that grows out of making others happy. The ingredients of the Christmas atmosphere must be different from those of the atmosphere at other seasons of the year because they produce such different results, in human kind. The Christmas atmosphere is all-pervading. It penetrates the palace and the hovel—it permeates the home and the store—it exhilarates young and old. To breathe deeply of the Christmas atmosphere is a more effective tonic to the health than all the prescriptions administered by medical science—its inhalation is more stimulating than intoxicants and at the same time less noxious than the limpid water of the purest spring. The Christmas atmosphere defies storm and rain and wind and spreads its beneficence equally without regard to temperature. It comes and goes whether invited or unbidden and leaves its trail of smiles and mirth and joy ineffaceable by the sternest realities of life.

CONSULAR REORGANIZATION.
The very great interest shown by President Roosevelt and Secretary Root in the subject of consular reorganization cannot fail to impress itself upon the country and upon congress. When Mr. Root accepted the position of secretary of state it was very generally understood that one of the most important of his duties would be in connection with reorganizing the consular service in accord with the views of the president as repeatedly expressed.

In his last annual message Mr. Roosevelt said: "Our consular force should be classified, and appointments should be made to the several classes, with authority to the executive to assign the members of each class to duty at such posts as the interests of the service require, instead of the appointments being made as at present to specified posts. There should be an adequate inspection service, so that the department may be able to inform itself how the business of each consulate is being done, instead of depending upon casual private information or rumor. The fee system should be entirely abolished and a due equivalent made in salary to the officers who now eke out their existence by means of fees." Another suggestion of the president is that sufficient provision should be made for a clerical force in every consulate, composed entirely of Americans, instead of the insufficient provision now made, "which compels the employment of great numbers of citizens of foreign countries whose services can be obtained for less money."

These requirements necessary to the improvement of the consular service are provided for in the Lodge bill, now in the hands of the senate committee on foreign relations. This measure, carefully framed and comprehensive in its scope, would place the consular service on a new basis and remove it from politics. Appointment to the service would depend upon ascertained qualifications and fitness, while advancement would be determined by merit. A consular official who performed his duties capably and faithfully would be sure of promotion and this would be an incentive to zeal and faithful performance of duty. An important provision of the bill is that

no person who is not an American citizen shall be appointed in any consular general or consular to any consular position the salary of which exceeds one thousand dollars a year. At present there are hundreds of foreigners employed in the consular service of the United States and it is scarcely necessary to say that these men are not as careful to promote the commercial interests of this country as our own citizens would be.

The business interests of the United States have for years been urging congress to take action for reorganizing and improving the consular service. They desire that it shall be made as efficient as possible for promoting the extension of our commerce. In this respect great improvement has been made under the present administration, but a yet higher standard of usefulness is attainable. This will be reached if the Lodge bill becomes a law and congress should lose no time in enacting that measure.

The latest feast of the Ak-Sar-Ben governors was culminated by merry-making over the term "corporation cormorant" as applied to legislative lobbyists and bundle distributors. One of the speakers sought to impress the assembled knights with the idea that the term as applied to professional railroad lobbyists and cappers was a misnomer and a reflection upon reputable corporation counselors and managers. As a matter of fact the appellation is apropos. A cormorant, like the culture, is a bird of prey. The corporation cormorant is a political bird of prey that prostitutes its talents to the debauchery of public officials, lawmakers, executives, juries and judges even, and is more dangerous to society and to the social fabric by far than the footpad, the porch climber or the housebreaker.

In the good old days of Our Dave there always was some awful menace overhanging Omaha's prosperity in the impending removal of army headquarters, the diversion of quartermaster supplies, the defeat of a public building appropriation or the removal of the weather man from the public building. In those emergencies Our Dave always managed to turn up in the nick of time to save Omaha from the impending calamity. But Omaha has become so used to these periodic false alarms that it very properly treats them with supreme indifference. The recent rollback about the removal of division headquarters of the rural free delivery belongs to this category.

Postmaster General Cortelyou's suggestion that the franking privilege is accountable for the postoffice deficit is good so far as it goes, but excessive rates charged the government for railroad mail transportation would also account for a big part of it. If the free list were to be suspended and the mail contracts let at the same time on a basis somewhere near what is charged express companies and fast freight lines, the postoffice deficit would be speedily transformed into a surplus.

Nearly 250,000 freight cars in the United States are still unequipped with air brakes or other automatic safety devices, notwithstanding repeated promises of the railroads and successive postponements at their request of the date when safety appliance laws were to go into effect. There is no reason whatever why a single piece of rolling stock should be in use on an American railroad today that does not fully comply with all the legal requirements as to safety appliances.

Governor Hanly of Indiana is dissatisfied with the police policy pursued in Hammond, Ind., immediately adjoining Chicago, has summarily requested the immediate resignation of the entire metropolitan police board of Hammond. It is unnecessary to note that this occurrence is chronicled in Indiana and not in Nebraska, and that Governor Hanly has a different idea of his responsibility for police board appointees than has Governor Mickey.

Kansas railroad commissioners have ordered a 5 per cent reduction in grain and freight rates to take effect January 15. The federal courts in Kansas, however, may be depended upon to come to the rescue of the outraged railroads with a few timely injunctions.

New York banks now have on hand the reserve required by law without necessity to relieve the situation by taking money from the federal treasury. Evidently Wall street is learning that God helps him who helps himself.

The candidacy of William R. Hearst for the democratic presidential nomination in 1908 is said to be a settled fact. That ought to earn some cable company tolls on a message to William Jennings Bryan, wherever he may be.

Reports of more towns that are to find Carnegie libraries in their Christmas stockings indicates that the season is again at hand when Mr. Carnegie will make another strenuous effort to avoid the disgrace of dying rich.

Congress had scarcely convened when it arranged to adjourn for a holiday recess, very much like some Nebraska legislatures that adjourn every few days because it does not cost members anything to travel.

That circular letter from the attorney general stirring up the United States district attorneys to move on the rebate givers and rebate receivers is producing results everywhere—everywhere but in Nebraska.

The Iowa supreme court holds the shipments of liquor into Iowa C. O. D. illegal. You can ship all the liquor to

Iowa you want to, providing the purchaser pays for it in advance, or providing the seller is willing to take his chances on collecting his bill. This is only another installment of court made law.

An American school in Turkey has burned. If this is not made an excuse for further demands on the Porte the sultan may feel that the new year is dawning brightly for Islam.

Omaha does not feel highly honored by the incarceration of Major Mulford, one of the Philippine heroes who undid with the pen the good name he had carved out with the sword.

When the czar feels safe in taking his eyes from the grand dukes he may surprise the world by devising a plan to relieve Russia from its present troubles.

The long cruise of Admiral Sigsbee will give him an opportunity to see how much higher the American flag floats since it covers such widespread territory.

Knock the Knockers.
Chicago Record-Herald.
The voice of the man who thinks "this whole Christmas gift foolishness ought to be stopped" is again heard in the land.

The World Moves.
Cleveland Leader.
Who could have foretold, ten years ago, that in the year of grace 1905 veterans of the confederate armies would adopt a resolution endorsing a northern republican president?

Where the Shoe Pinches.
Washington Post.
Comptroller Ridgely's request that congress take action to prevent excessive bank loans may be all right, but some of us would like to have congress compel the banks to make us larger loans. We are all against excessive loans to the other fellow.

Getting in the Timber.
New York World.
The anti-race regulation people seem to have taken to the woods—to the original forest. Everybody is for some form of regulation. Speaking of the woods, it was the Hon. Tim Campbell who once said that a virgin forest was a place where the hand of man had never placed its foot.

Looking Backward.
St. Louis Record.
Postmaster General Cortelyou reminds us that there were only seventy-five postoffices in 1790, the year in which died Benjamin Franklin, the 100th anniversary of whose death will be celebrated next month, whereas there are now more than 8,000.

DISPENSERS OF SUNSHINE.
Promoters of Laughter Classed as Public Benefactors.
Baltimore American.
A nation does not realize what it owes to its humorists. Its philosophers may point out profound truths; its sages may teach it the wisdom of Solomon; its philosophers may advise it that the only way of meeting the inevitable is to submit to it. It is the humorist who helps it to bear what otherwise would be an intolerable strain by turning its tragedies into jokes, by making the desponding, nerve-paralyzing emotions pass off in a laugh, who strengthens the energies and minimizes troubles by the cheerful inspiration which he gives. Gloom settles on hopes and effort and energy like a pall; it stifles activity and is like an anesthetic, hilling to lethargy when a strong and bracing tonic is needed to fit men and the times for the conflict with the powers of evil.

Nearly everyone has in his own personal experience realized the tonic qualities of a good, hearty laugh. Nearly every man and every woman has experienced the power given to meet and combat the worries of the day by this good, hearty laugh, and how genuine enjoyment has minimized the everyday afflictions and worries of life. Just as everyone has experienced how continued gloomy reflection on troubles has increased their mischievous influence to fester energy and to paralyze effort.

Humor is essentially an intellectual quality. Hence the nation which has the keenest and the quickest sense of humor is the most intellectual. Humor cannot go with stupidity and self-conceit and exaggeration. Its influence is always toward a proper balance. It exalts men and elevates them from the fatal mistake of taking themselves and events too seriously. It throws into such strong relief the ridiculous side of things that where serious conceit would take alarm at hurt self-vanity, humor laughs away the dangers of the situation.

In this sense humorists are public benefactors. They teach the most useful and the easiest of all life's philosophies. They smooth away the rough places and lighten life with cheerful inspiration. They mellow the understanding and broaden the heart. They are negatively, at least, an aid to virtue, for vice cannot grow in an atmosphere of cheerfulness. True religion is the deadliest foe to pessimism. Humor is such a powerful aid that one can understand why the All-Wise Creator made it a part of the superior human equipment for the fight against evil.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.
Mr. Langworth is 36 past, Miss Roosevelt is nearing 22.
Revised topical song of the season: "Everybody Wants Poor Father."

The thin, decrepit feel of one's purse these days is a good sign of a short winter. Nine Ohio bankers are in jail and three more await trial. Mrs. Chadwick appears to be in the company of her friends.

If they are wise the bachelors cast for the role of Santa Claus will put away the cotton and put on asbestos whiskers. Who ever is projected into the presidency of the Sted trust should provide himself with armor plate and sidestep the New York riots.

Webster Davis has returned to Missouri, but his fearful voice is not sufficiently composed to answer the question, "Where did you get it?"

Every admirer of the foot ball game who witnesses the Christmas shopping rush will readily admit that the rules need revision and refinement.

A Chicago editor, made wise by experience, says that after you have had the grip once or twice you are effectually cured of a desire to joke about it.

Notwithstanding reports to the contrary, an Indiana judge declares that "the lid is not on so tight in this state that a man cannot blow his nose without being accused of public flouting."

A Chicago woman seeks a divorce on the ground that her husband mused for eight weeks with a bowl of current jelly. The unfortunate man in the case admitted luminous locks and used the only available means to secure his ideal.

SERMONS BOILED DOWN.
Weeds are a call to work.
Tact is touching with love.
The immovable means moves the world.
The blue heart always has a black sky.
The empty faith is usually made of sound brass.
One does not get wedded to truth by flitting with doubt.
The devil is always willing to play dead in a war of words.
The only work without honor is that which helps no one.
A man who is honest for policy will be dishonest for promotion.
He is blessed with fortune who has learned to bear misfortune.
The losses of truth are more profitable than the gains of tricks.
Many a deacon who is long on coat tails will be found short on wings.
A loving heart is like a summer's day; it never needs to advertise itself.
You cannot look constantly on dirt and keep your windows free from dust.
Nowhere does money create a more disappointing mirage than in a moral desert.
Many of us want a God with a keen ear for our prayers and a dull eye for our practices.
Many a fly is ready to die in the pan if an epitaph shall read, "He lived in the cream."
If you are the salt of the earth you must not complain if you get a good shaking now and then.
It's no sign that you will get along with the angels because no one can get along with you here.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.
Brooklyn Eagle: Cardinal Merry del Val is to have President Roosevelt's speeches and message translated into Italian, for the pope to read. It is safe to say that the gentle Italian language will be put into an uncommonly hard center to do justice to Mr. Roosevelt.
New York Tribune: Rev. George C. Richmond of St. John's Episcopal church, Stamford, Conn., says, with little credit to himself, that "the corporation officer who takes more than \$100 a year salary is a thief." Somehow this definition recalls a saying of Anatole France: "It is only from a barrel or from a shop that one may dominate the grandeur of this world."
Philadelphia Record: A clergyman objects to sermons on graft for the curious reason that "they make the hearers feel like going out and wreaking vengeance on high financiers instead of waiting until Christ comes to right the wrongs." If the sermons move the congregations to go forth and vote against grafting officials we should suppose their utility needed no higher evidence.

New York Post: Political methods have surely got into the church, now that one brother at an election of wardens and vestrymen has accused another brother of stuffing the ballot box and then hit him in the eye and knocked him down on the church floor. It is satisfactory to know that both knocker and knookers are eligible for the National Federation of Churches.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES.
"Old Gaychap is in his second childhood, isn't he?"
"No; that wouldn't be so bad. He's in the second widowhood and looking for No. 3."—Chicago Tribune.

"George, I have one very disagreeable habit. I walk in my sleep." "What's that?" "Oh, that's all right. I was afraid you were going to say you talked."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"Nora—You take 'em out in your auto every day, don't you? He appears to be a necessary fixture in the machine." "Cor—He is. He's an automatic sparkler."—Cleveland Leader.

Young Wife—What's the trouble? Why do you sit on the edge of the chair?
Husband—Well, dear, you know we are buying it on the installment plan, and that's all I feel entitled to.—Brooklyn Life.

Tess—Yes, I wish all men were bachelors.
Jess—What? How could we get married then?
Tess—Oh, I don't mean permanently, but just long enough to learn to sew on buttons and mend their clothes.—Philadelphia Press.

Lawson—What did your wife say to you when you got home last night?
Dawson—She said an eighteen-volume encyclopedia.—Somerville Journal.

"He said he would lay the earth at my feet," said the sentimental girl.
"Yes," answered Miss Cayenne, "it sounds good, but it is not so easy as it seems. I have the earth at my feet. What you want is a three or four-story house over your head."—Washington Star.

"What's all this noise about?" cried Eve, as, drawn to the first woodshed on record by the heartrending yells of her eldest born, she sternly confronted Adam.
"It means for you to go about your business and leave me to mine," replied our first father, with a steady glitter in his eye. "Can't you see I'm raising Cain?"—Baltimore American.

WINTER.
John Kendrick Bangs in New York Sun.
What though thy kiss be cold, Oh winter dream!
Thou bringest much the heart of man to cheer!
The rich red holly berry 'midst the green;
The crackling of the glowing logs at e'en;
The hills and daisies in purest garb of snow;
The tinkling of the sleighbells as they go
Adown the road, with mounds of merry mood,
With roguish glances peeping from their hood.
The gallant swains to tease, set up behind
The frisking steeds that speed them like the wind.
The clear, clean sweep of skaters on the ice.
The crystal flakes so wondrous in device.
The cold, calm heavens brilliantly alight
With friendlier stars than on a summer night.
In that they closer come, and seem to be
Just twinkling neighbors unto you and me!
And in the wood—what lovely scenes are there!
When clad by fairy hands and frosty air
The limbs and branches of the sleeping trees
Are woven into silvery flagstaffs!
What music in the chimneys that ring out clear