THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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C. C. Rosewater, general manager 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, 1906 was as follows:

1	30,140	17	31,620
2	31,710	18	31,820
3	32,530	19	31,660
4	32,900	20	31,660
5	32,600	21	32,420
6	31,960	22	30,500
7	32,220	23	31,750
8	30,200	24	31,680
9	31,920	25	31,630
10	31,550	26	31,570
11	31,530	27	31,750
12	33,590	28	32,180
13	33,360	29	30,550
14	34,080	30	31,630
15	30,400	31	31,610
16	32,900		

Total 987,860
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C. C. ROSEWATER,
General Manager.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 31st day of July, 1906.
(Seal.) M. B. HUNGATE,
Notary Public.

WHEN OUT OF TOWN.

Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. Address will be changed as often as required.

When paving contractors disagree, it takes the courts to decide.

The first real effect of the Panama canal seems to be upon railroad magnates, who are scrambling for lines to the gulf.

China is exhibiting the usual Oriental shrewdness in starting to educate its lawyers twelve years before it adopts a constitution.

The king of Spain is to build a yacht for racing, but until he has a special brand of tea to advertise he cannot hope to compete with Sir Thomas Lipton.

Wyoming is pleased to know that a large number of western men have filed for claims on the Shoshone reservation, but even the wisest sometimes err.

The number of applicants for position of chaplain in the navy may indicate that the prosperity which covers America at this time has not reached the clergy.

Omaha's desire for the next national gathering of Eagles is backed up with the promise of a soft feathery nest. If the Eagles know what is good for them they will plan to fly to Omaha.

Russia's revolution moves apace despite the defeat of the Sveaborg mutineers. Absolutism is doomed and the czar will eventually have to decide between retiring gracefully and dodging a bomb.

No one can question the enterprise of Russian newspapers since one succeeded in printing a detailed account of the assassination of a liberal member of the Duma twelve hours before the crime was committed.

It seems that the duties of the members of the Water board for which they are drawing salaries out of the city treasury are so onerous that they are unable to get even a quorum to attend the regular monthly meetings.

Secretary Wilson's annnouncement of his intention to "surprise" packers by a visit to their houses can hardly be considered a successful way of accomplishing that result, but it may serve its purpose as a warning.

The Venner proposition to the city is substantially an offer of $500,000 for Omaha's rights under the purchase clause of the water works contract and a new franchise thrown in. This, however, is not municipal ownership.

Developments in Minnesota indicate that the Iowa freight rates are not so onerous upon railroads as some imagine, or one railroad company's accounts are devised with a view of making different showings in different states.

An attorney for the Standard Oil company will watch the proceedings of the federal grand jury at Chicago. This shows the difference between big corporations and individuals threatened with indictment, as the latter usually learns of a grand jury's action after it has quit work.

That democratic congressional convention on August 20 comes in mighty handy as an excuse for G. M. Hitchcock to decline an invitation to serve on the Bryan reception committee at New York. Of course, the democratic congressional convention here could not possibly get along without Mr. Hitchcock, while the Bryan reception at New York will not miss him.

THE IOWA REPUBLICANS.

The Iowa republicans have cause for self-congratulation. Contrary to the expectation and prediction, the bitter factional contest by which the party had been convulsed for the past six months has culminated in the nomination of a ticket and the adoption of a platform that should restore harmony among the jarring and warring elements and insure another victory for the party next November.

The renomination of Governor Cummins after a tremendous struggle, is distinctively a personal victory, due largely to the overwhelming sentiment against corporate domination. Under ordinary conditions the deep-seated and widespread sentiment among the rank and file of Iowa republicans against the third term would have proved a barrier to Governor Cummins' ambition.

The platform shows signs of solicitude to avoid factional trouble. The so-called Iowa idea as to tariff revision has been materially modified and revised by the platform makers so as to embody a strong protection declaration paraphrasing the last national republican tariff plank. The pledge to enact a primary law for the nomination of candidates for office by direct vote is in line with the spirit of the times, but while the corporations were handled without gloves in the platform they managed to maintain a tight rein on the positions in which they are most vitally interested. With the enactment of the direct primary, this pernicious interference with popular self-government will become extremely difficult and the emancipation of Iowa from corporate rule will be complete.

GOLD STANDARD PROSPERITY.

The officially certified facts of the experience of Mexico during its first year under the gold standard, which ended May 30, demonstrate benefits unexampled in the history of that country and annihilate the representations that a few years ago became so familiar to us concerning silver currency in Mexico. The wisdom of Mexican states in assimilating their monetary system to that of the other principal nations of the civilized world which secure a stable bimetallic currency on the gold standard with limitation of silver coinage, is thus again more than vindicated.

The fact of the industrial prosperity and progress of Mexico while it still delayed to join the world on the legalized gold standard of which our silverites sought fallaciously to make so much, was of course not because of its archaic coinage system, but in spite of it. Its true basis was the substitution under the strong Diaz government of public security and social order for the old chaos of violence and revolution. But, next to that, nothing has been so beneficial as the firm establishment of the gold standard for strengthening the confidence of the world and promoting international trade and internal growth.

Within the twelve months the capital of incorporated banks has increased $20,000,000, or one-third, with corresponding increases of reserves and loans, and over $150,000,000 of new foreign capital was invested in productive enterprises. And among the proofs of extraordinary gain the official reports significantly show that the farming industries have been stimulated most of all. It is well indeed for Mexico that the change was made, but the result is so satisfactory that, if it were to be done over, the change of legal standard would be made many years sooner.

THE VENNER PROPOSAL.

Charles H. Venner, who figured quite conspicuously in legal battles over the control and possession of the Omaha water works some years ago, has come to the front with a proposition to rescue Omaha from the clutches of the present water works monopoly by the creation of a new water works monopoly under conditions that would transfer Omaha from the frying pan into the fire.

Mr. Venner's proposal contemplates the purchase by the city of Omaha of the water works plant at the valuation placed upon it by a majority of the appraisers, $6,263,000, and its re-sale to a new Venner water works company for the sum of $6,763,000 in bonds—$6,263,000 in bonds and $500,000 in cash. It is proposed furthermore that this $6,763,000 bond issue is to be part of a $10,000,000 bond issue secured by first mortgage on the water works plant, of which $3,737,000 of bonds are to be issued in the future for the purpose of paying costs of extensions and betterments. In consideration of these ingenious suggestions the city is to grant to Mr. Venner a new franchise for twenty-five years, with the privilege of re-purchasing the plant at the end of that time, and in the meantime to pay $75,000 a year for the rental of the existing hydrants and $50 per annum for each additional hydrant planted in future extensions of the water mains, provided also that the taxes against the new water company shall not exceed $50,000 a year.

Mr. Venner is a clever stock broker and he knows a thing or two about stock watering and water works stocks. We apprehend, however, that it will take a long pull, a strong pull and a pull all together, as they say at sea, before he will be able to convince the people of Omaha that they have anything to gain by accepting his proposition.

To begin with, the contention of the city of Omaha is that the actual value of the water works plant does not exceed $4,000,000, while Venner proposes to accept the appraisement without deducting a penny. Assume, however, that the city were obligated to take the works at the figure named by the appraisers, where does it gain any advantage from Venner's proposition? If Mr. Venner can borrow $10,000,000 on a first mortgage bond for the Omaha water works plant, so can the city, if it determines to own and operate the works. If, however, the city should desire to issue a new franchise, the Venner proposal affords no advantage or relief either to the taxpayers or water consumers.

While ostensibly effecting a reduction of $25,000 a year on hydrant rental, which as originally fixed was regarded as fair for a city of 30,000 population, it would be excessive for a city of 150,000 population, and out of all reason for a city of 250,000 to 300,000 population, which Omaha surely will be within twenty-five years. There is, moreover, not the slightest allusion in Venner's proposal to a reduction of rates to consumers, who must pay the freight. If Omaha ever gets into the frame of mind to grant a new water works franchise its policy will be to throw the doors wide open so that it may avail itself of the most advantageous proposition.

AN EXAMPLE FROM IDAHO.

The republicans of Idaho in state convention have just nominated their candidate for United States senator in the person of William Edward Borah, a leading attorney residing at Boise, who was also a prominent candidate before the legislature in 1903. The name of Mr. Borah will go on the ticket in Idaho along with the other nominees for state offices, and should the republicans control the legislature, as in all probability they will, Mr. Borah will be the next United States senator from Idaho.

It is to be noted that the republicans of Idaho are not moved by the pretense that by taking the people into their confidence and nominating their candidate for United States senator in state convention they will be jeopardizing their chances at the polls. On the contrary, the very fact that they have taken this action indicates that they are convinced they are thus strengthening their position with the voters who will have a voice in the selection of their next representative in the upper house of congress at Washington.

If it is a good proposition for Idaho republicans to name their candidate for senator in advance and go before the people on that issue, it will take a preponderance of proof to show that it is a bad proposition for Nebraska republicans to follow their example.

THE WEST AND FREE ALCOHOL.

The disposition manifested by the American commission headed by John W. Yerkes, commissioner of internal revenue, which is studying the denaturized alcohol systems in force in Europe, to magnify the peril of fraud on the revenue will naturally excite apprehension lest our revenue regulations may be drawn so as to prevent manufacture of alcohol under the new law in distilleries in the neighborhoods where the grain and other raw materials are produced. The west especially has entertained the hope that tax exemption of alcohol for fuel and the arts might be the basis of a widely diffused system of local manufacture, as it has proved to be in several European countries, and particularly in Germany. But if the Treasury regulations are drawn with an exaggerated fear of revenue frauds if there be a large number of small local distilleries, manufacture will be arbitrarily concentrated in a few mammoth establishments.

It is conceded by the American commissioners after investigation in Germany that frauds are practically unknown there, notwithstanding the regulations are such that denaturized alcohol is produced by a great number of small local distilleries but they express serious doubt whether similar rules could be similarly enforced in this country. To the ordinary mind this looks like forcing theory in the face of fact, whereas the reasonable inference from experience abroad should be that substantially the same satisfactory revenue results would be produced here.

Extreme multiplication of petty distilleries beyond the point of safe or economical revenue collections is largely foreclosed by competitive advantages of large establishments at central points. But on the other hand the west will not be satisfied with a scheme of regulations which banish manufacture from communities which are at once extensive producers of the raw materials and consumers of the alcohol, and will insist that presumptions as to revenue frauds fairly stand on experience abroad until they shall be negatived by actual experience here.

Candidates for congress on the prohibition ticket have been placed in nomination in five out of the six districts in Nebraska. In order that no one in Omaha may be in the dark as to who is aspiring to represent this district in congress, we make special announcement that the new candidate is a gentleman named J. V. Lintell, residing at Valley, in the western part of this county.

If somebody had said that Governor Mickey had been "fixed" with so flimsy evidence to support the statement as the governor had in charging County Assessor Reed with being "fixed," you may be sure all sorts of fireworks would have been set off.

The Bee again warns republicans throughout Nebraska that the political manipulators, retained in the interest of candidates who dare not appeal directly to the people for support, are working overtime to pack the delegations that go to Lincoln with men who will vote against making any convention nomination of United States senator at all, and turn the selection of the senator over to the legislature, where the corporate interests and corrupting lobby can get in their smooth operations as before. It behooves every republican county convention still to be held in Nebraska to instruct its delegates for its preferred candidate for United States senator and, whether agreed on senatorial preferences or not, both to instruct the state delegation to vote for the nomination of the senator in strict accord with the convention call as issued by the state committee, and to pledge its legislative nominees to the candidates for United States senator endorsed by the state convention.

The result of the conference between the Interstate Commerce commission and the railroad representatives seems to be that the latter will be expected to obey the new rate law even though they fail to understand it.

Time for Bill to Pause.
Chicago Tribune.

Has Mr. Bryan reflected that there may be a grave constitutional question involved in his accepting the presidency of the United States while still holding the important and responsible office of datto?

Coin Doesn't Circulate.
Washington Post.

During the next Bryan campaign it is not likely that "Coin" Harvey will be a prominent figure, for, like a sensible man, he settled down to business after the last defeat and has been busy since then taking in the "coin."

Old-Fashioned Farm Workers.
Boston Transcript.

The old-fashioned farm workers, like the "gentlemen of the old school," are all the while growing fewer; yet there are some left. An Orange woman of 80, with only the help of a small grandson, picked five bushels of blueberries in as many days last week, made butter from six cows and did all her other housework. Her husband, who is 84, with the aid of one man, has done all his haying on a hundred-acre farm.

Sage as a Lender.
Wall Street Journal.

According to the Sage estate lawyers, Russell Sage left $30,000,000 money loaned out in Wall street. Of the fifty-three banks composing the New York clearing house, only seven have outstanding a larger total of loans than this. Mr. Sage, therefore, was a bigger lender of money than most of the banking institutions of the city. And there is probably not a bank in the city that would not be glad to take over the Sage loans on the terms he imposed.

Base Ball in Kansas City.
Kansas City Star.

In a Hip! Hip! Hurrah! game, full of hard hitting and errors, the Tribe of Burke made a Garrison finish at Association park yesterday afternoon and best Milwaukee by a score of 8 to 7. At the end of the Milwaukee half of the seventh inning, the boys from the source of the Wurtsburger river had the heavy end of the score of 7 to 3. The Blue Legs then buzzed like a bevy of bazugars, and, by landing big, vicious wallops on Mr. Sage until he had sprained a dunkment in a mad endeavor to miss the Azure Limbs' bats, the town boys kicked the can enough times to put the game on the left-hand side of the percentage column.

Outside the Storm Area.
St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

All the great bourses in Europe are depressed by the convulsion in Russia, but America's shows no sign of weakness. In fact, stocks went up yesterday in New York. Wall street, on the general line of securities, is strong. At this time the United States is in a particularly fortunate position. We have not enough Russian stocks to count among the influences which affect things in our financial centers. A crash, of course, in Berlin, London and Paris would register itself in New York, to some extent, but the damage to us would be comparatively slight. American securities are not only better than Russian these days, but they are preferred to those of England, Germany or any other country.

EXPERTS AS FAKES.

Marse Henry's Opinion of the Handwriting Professors.
Louisville Courier-Journal.

The handwriting "experts" are getting in their work some more. This time they are illuminating divers and sundry questions growing out of the notorious Hartje divorce case. Some are testifying in support of Hartje's contentions and others in behalf of the wife's. It seems largely a matter of who is doing the hiring.

What is a handwriting "expert," anyhow? How does he become expert? By what other power does he read writing than that of his eyes, and by what other method does he judge of the authenticity of a letter than that of comparison? Lacking supernatural gifts, why should his eyes be more trustworthy than the eyes of anybody else of good vision and intelligence. Being unpossessed of omniscience, prescience and gift of mental infallibility, why should his mere opinion be more valuable than the opinion of anybody else of sound mind and discretion?

The more one hears of the much-exploited handwriting "expert" the more of a fake he seems.

PRESIDENT AS PEACE CHAMPION.

Award of Nobel Prize to Mr. Roosevelt is Interesting.
Philadelphia Public Ledger.

The report that the great Nobel peace prize is to be given to President Roosevelt this year is interesting. Let us hope that it is true. The Nobel prize of $40,000 is given each year to that "person who shall have best or most promoted the fraternity of nations and the abolishment or diminution of standing armies and the formation and increase of peace congresses."

Lest any one should be surprised that our most strenuous public man, the flourisher of the big stick, the champion of a great navy and fighting army, the bellicose Roosevelt, who has lauded war as an antidote to the cankers of a long peace, should be chosen as the peace champion, it may be well to mention that the president very promptly and successfully used his good offices to mediate between Russia and Japan.

But even if the president had not ended the Russo-Japanese war, it would be wise and politic for the trustees to grant the prize to him. There is a wise principle underlying such a selection. In the west, in troublous frontier days, the most belligerent man in the post or town was always chosen to act as town marshal. When killings were of everyday occurrence the leading citizens were wont to make the chief "bad man" marshal. Then there was peace, because on the side of peace was the man most expert at gun play, the man with the most notches on his pistol grip, who would "have peace if he had to fight for it."

MRS. RUSSELL SAGE.

Personality of the Richest Woman in the World.

Mrs. Russell Sage, by the terms of her husband's will, becomes the richest woman in the world. It is expected that she will distribute the great bulk of the money left her to charities of various kinds. This is not enjoined on her by the terms of the will, but appears to have been an understanding between her and her late husband, who was content to die accused of being uncharitable and mean that his wife might have the credit of giving away his hoarded millions. If the estate is not tied up by a contest Mrs. Sage will be able, within a few months, to begin to distribute $70,000,000 left her under the will. Very few years are left to this woman of 77 years in which to make disposition of this vast estate.

When Mrs. Sage was a 7-year-old girl, so she has told the story, her mother once rebuked her for tearing her skirts while climbing fences. "If you tear your clothes this way," said the mother, "I will have to make your skirts out of bed ticking—blue bed ticking with white stripes. Little girls who tear their dresses in hoydenish climbing of fences will soon be too poor to afford anything but bed ticking."

It was even while she was young enough to have the haunting fear of being garbed in blue and white striped bed ticking keep her in the paths of proper deportment that Mrs. Sage had inculcated in her the first precepts of right living and right thinking—precepts which, rigorously adhered to by the growing girl and the woman, have had their part in making the Mrs. Sage of today worthy of the trust reposed in her by her husband.

It was the old style training that was given to Olivia Slocum by her mother—that discipline which insisted that "children should be seen and not heard." Mrs. Sage once told a friend a story illustrative of the Spartan discipline which ruled in the house of her girlhood.

Mrs. Slocum had told her daughter that if she played with a certain little girl, whose company she did not believe was best for the child, she would be punished. Olivia slipped through a hole in the fence and, with the daring of Eve strong in her, enjoyed the delights of the forbidden companionship. When she returned home, with guilt stamped in red letters of shame on her cheeks, her mother, at the time busy entertaining guests, hardly noticed the daughter. "Olivia," she called, "I am busy now and you have disobeyed me."

"I hurried to bed," laughs Mrs. Sage in this recital of her infantile transgression, "thinking that perhaps she might forget her promise to punish me. I went to sleep. After the guests left the house my mother came upstairs, waked me up and whipped me as she had promised to do."

After she had gained her apprenticeship in the three Rs at home Olivia Slocum was sent to the Troy Female seminary, afterward known as the Emma Willard seminary, under which name the school now ranks high as a school for young women. Emma Willard was herself a teacher at the seminary at the time Olivia Slocum attended, and was beloved of all the scholars.

In 1847 Miss Slocum was graduated from the Troy institution. Fifty years afterward she returned to address the girls of the graduating class. It was on June 19, 1897, Mrs. Sage, then 66 years old, celebrated the golden anniversary of her graduation by appearing in a white muslin dress, with the school colors pinned on her bosom, like all of the young misses on the platform whose diplomas were freshly inked.

Mrs. Sage addressed the girls, dwelling reminiscently on the times that she had known fifty years past and drawing comparisons between the pleasures she had enjoyed as a schoolgirl and those of the girls of the day.

"Our greatest fun," said Mrs. Sage to the girls of Willard's, "was to take our sewing of a warm afternoon after recitations and sit out under the apple trees in what was then a nearby orchard, stitching while one of the teachers read Sir Walter Scott and Jane Austen. In those days we girls did not think of such things as golf and tennis and weekly dances. I believe that maybe a good knowledge of how to sew and how to turn the heel on a stocking fitted us better for wives than the ability to sail a boat or beat a bogey on a golf links."

Mrs. Sage often has expressed her doubts as to the value of the present day "all round" education for women. She has put her question in a sententious anecdote. "A woman I know," once said Mrs. Sage to Miss Helen Gould, "has a daughter who wants to be one of the 'advanced' girls, with a 'broad education.' Now this girl wrote a letter one time to a lady who is many years her elder, and she wrote it as if she should write to me, for example, 'My Dear Sage.'"

From the time that she graduated from Willard's seminary until she married Russell Sage Miss Slocum taught school, most of the time in Philadelphia. Then with her marriage came her sudden transition from the gray, unobtrusive life of the schoolma'am to the station of wife of a rich man, for Sage was rich thirty-five years ago, if not yet the multi-millionaire he was destined to become.

As the wife of a rich man Mrs. Sage found more than one unpleasant perquisite of office which had to be tolerated, chief of these the beggar and the crank. For many years she steadfastly refused to employ a private secretary, preferring to come into closer touch with her correspondents, as she put it, by answering with her own hand all letters received and meeting in person every one who called upon her.

What has been Mrs. Sage's experience with cranks and beggars in the past will probably be her even greater misfortune in the future, now that it is known that she is sole arbiter of the disposition of such a great sum of money.

It is probable that the Sage house on Fifth avenue in New York will know little more of Mrs. Sage. She has often expressed her dislike of New York and said that she lived here only because her husband's business interests made his constant presence in the city imperative.

"I am not as fond of New York as I might be expected to be," Mrs. Sage once replied to a question. "One never seems to be at rest in this great city. Here in New York we are so quick, and so restless that we appear to have no time, even if we had the inclination, for the better things in life."

And again Mrs. Sage has had this to say of New York: "I think New York is not a good field for the really ambitious. Men have to work so hard to achieve success here that they kill themselves in harness."

Plea for an Old Resident.
Springfield Republican.

It is a shame that that noble animal, the American alligator, is being exterminated. Of course, our old friend, "pocket greed," is responsible. The demand for alligator leather cannot be met entirely by the manufacturers of the bogus article, and the result is that 250,000 real alligator hides now disappear annually in the great maw of commerce. The number of alligators in Louisiana is 90 per cent less than twenty-five years ago. Unless the alligators form a union and regulate the output, they are doomed.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Tom Seddon, a son of the late premier of New Zealand, has been elected to represent Westland in the New Zealand Parliament in succession to his father.

Senator LaFollette is a vegetarian. His daily menu consists of fresh vegetables, English walnuts and milk, and it is said a prize fighter anxious to get into the pink of condition would envy him.

Sir Donald Mackenzie Wallace has gone to Russia, on whose history and present condition he is a great authority. He accompanied the present czar when as czarowitz he made the eastern tour in 1890.

The German Foreign office is considering the purchase of the house at Vailima, Samoa, formerly owned by Robert Louis Stevenson, as a residence for the governor. The house was sold by Mr. Stevenson's heirs to Herr Kunst, a merchant of Hamburg.

Prince Ferdinand of Bulgaria is a very distinguished ornithologist, and his knowledge of the science of birds is equaled by very few in Europe. He devotes a good deal of time to the subject, and is a member of the Ornithological Society of Vienna.

Governor Cobb of Maine is to be present at Camden, in that state, on August 30 at the unveiling of a tablet to the memory of Bill Conway, the United States sailor who at the outbreak of the civil war refused to haul down the American flag at the navy yard at Pensacola, Fla.

The Congressional church of Greenland, N. H. celebrated its 200th anniversary on Thursday. The pastor of the church is Rev. Dr. Edward Robie, who has served the congregation for fifty-five years, and in the two centuries of the church's existence there have been but seven pastors.

Joseph Salmonson, who calls himself "Nieva," is exciting much amusement in Paris, where he parades the streets dressed only in a flowing white robe reaching to his knees and wearing a gilt circlet on his head. He declares he's the apostle of the "simple life." His hair and beard have never been cut.

The kaiser once told Admiral Evans that of all the good stories his brother, Prince Henry, brought back from America, none amused him more heartily than this: As the German boat bearing the prince came up New York harbor hundreds of boats crowded close and from the deck of one unpretentious river boat came a hail in megaphone tones: "Hey, Henry, how's Bill?"

Sir Charles Tennant, though an octogenarian, has four daughters, the children of his second wife, the oldest of whom is 7 and the youngest still a mere infant. Mr. Asquith and Lord Ribblesdale, the husbands of his daughters by his first marriage, have to stand some good-natured guying from friends to inquire solicitiously after the infant sisters-in-law of these distinguished Englishmen of advanced age.

Samuel Stillman Locke, a 74-year-old athlete of Raymond, N. H., is out with a challenge to walk any man over 60 years old until one of them gives out. Locke has tried many times to get up a match with men in Raymond and adjoining towns, but all seem afraid to take up his challenge. He boasts that he has never ridden on a train, he never owned a horse and that whenever he wants to go anywhere he walks.

THIS YEAR'S ISSUE.

President Roosevelt's Record the Campaign Argument for 1906.
Kansas City Journal.

As a matter of political strategy the republican congressional campaign committee has made a shrewd move in making President Roosevelt's personality and his executive record the chief issues of the campaign this year.

Mr. Roosevelt is, as a London writer expressed it the other day, "easily the most popular figure in American public life," and consequently his party, which is responsible for his acts, can well afford to put him forward as the "central figure," and his achievements as the "central thought," in the campaign. In the next place, being an off year in politics, when a change in national administration is impossible, and furthermore, being the first campaign since Roosevelt's election in 1904, the logical issue is what has been accomplished so far by his administration. In giving an account of his stewardship President Roosevelt is assured in advance of the indorsement and approval of the people, and therefore of their continued faith and confidence in the party of which he is the leader.

The democrats have already virtually confessed judgment on the issue thus framed and joined for the decision of the American voters. They have stamped Roosevelt's administration with tacit approval in their mournful complaint that he has carried out their policies; or, as they put it, has stolen their clothes. By this ingenious, though unconscious, admission they have put themselves out of court. They are not only estopped, as the lawyers say, barred from criticising his policies and acts, but they have no facts left sufficient to constitute a cause of action and to make out a case. No higher praise could be given the president by an opposing party than its frank statement that he has done just what it would have done had it been in power.

The American people, however, can form a pretty accurate opinion as to whether the administration has been a democratic one in disguise, a jackdaw in peacock's plumage, and, judging by the past, whether the democratic party could be trusted to carry out the policies which the republicans have brought to a triumphant conclusion. Whenever the democrats have been given a trial in national administration since the war they have made a sad mess of it, betraying their utter incapacity to execute any policies whatever. Witness their tariff fizzle in 1904, which cost the country so dearly, and which even a democratic president denounced as "a contract with perfidy and dishonor."

The republican party says that Roosevelt is all right and claims an endorsement of him at the hands of the people this fall so that his administration may be uplifted and strengthened for its work in the future. Inasmuch as the democrats admit that he is right, the verdict is apt to be pretty nearly unanimous.

WHAT BECOMES OF THE DIMES?

Question that is Now Worrying the Treasury Officials.
Chicago Tribune.

In some parts of the country trouble is reported on account of the scarcity of dimes. What becomes of the dimes? An official in Washington suggests that because the country is prosperous people keep dimes in their pockets to hear them jingle. This position is not tenable, because any other coin would jingle just as well, and if people are so prosperous as to find pleasure in jingling coins in their pockets they would be likely to use larger ones for the purpose.

The penny-in-the-slot machines are held responsible for a scarcity of pennies. Street car lines and automatic telephones accumulate nickel 5-cent pieces, but there is no particular use for dimes that would cause them to be concentrated in the hands of a few corporations. It is not likely that they are hoarded in children's savings banks to the extent that pennies and nickels are, because it does not take many dimes to make a dollar, and dollars are deposited in banks where they draw interest and then the coins are released to go back into circulation.

Estimating the coinage of dimes since the publication of the last report of the director of the mint as averaging the same as in the last few years reported, there have been coined from 1792 to the present day about 520,000,000 dimes. More than half of these, however, have been coined in the last twenty years, and the older ones have largely disappeared from circulation. In the year 1903 the different mints of the United States received nearly 8,000,000 dimes which were retired as uncurrent, a number almost exactly equal to one-third the coinage for the year. It is probable that there are not in circulation more than three dimes for each inhabitant of the United States. The slight relation which the total coinage, or even the amount outstanding, bears to the amount in circulation is shown by the fact that there are still outstanding about 800,000 half cents, 28,000,000 2-cent pieces and 20,000,000 nickel 3-cent pieces, which no one ever sees and which may have been lost or melted long ago, but are still on the treasury books as outstanding.

In view of the statistics the scarcity of dimes need not be wondered at. The only extraordinary thing is that any one should complain. There is nothing a dime will buy that cannot be paid for in other coins with almost equal convenience. Any kind of money is good if there is plenty altogether.

SUMMER SMILES.

"Things are not as they used to be," said the man of melancholy reminiscences.

"No," answered Mr. Austin Stax regretfully. "The time was when great wealth would get a man out of trouble. Now it gets him into it."—Washington Star.

Timkins—I hate that fellow Plantem. He is always talking shop.

Simpkins—Plantem, the undertaker?

Timpkins—Yes. Every time I meet him he asks after my health.—Detroit Tribune.

She—I agree with Cowper—I hate a man who needlessly sets foot upon a worm.

He—So do I. It spoils 'em for bait.—Cleveland Leader.

Chemist (to poor woman)—You must take this medicine three times a day after meals.

Patient—But, sir, I seldom get meals these 'ard times.

Chemist (passing to next customer)—Then take it before.—Glasgow Times.

She—That was a long sermon, wasn't it?

He—I should say so. Why, it took him half an hour after he began to preach before he got back to where he started.—Town and Country.

Miss Mugley—I'm thinking seriously of taking up the auto fad.

Miss Knox—Clever idea! It certainly would be becoming to you.

Miss Mugley—Becoming?

Miss Knox—Yes; you know, you can wear a mask in an auto.—Philadelphia Press.

Barmaid—Have I given you your change, sir?

Artful Customer—No, miss; I have not received it yet.

Barmaid—I thought not, because you have not paid yet.—Smiles.

"It seems to me," said Mrs. Oldcastle, "that Dr. Fourthly indulges a good deal in hyperbole."

"I've been thinking that same thing," replied her hostess. "Land sakes! I should think a man with as much sense as him would leave these French drinks alone."—Chicago Record-Herald.

He (watching a number of women saying "goodby" at the wearisome end of a tea)—Women are usually dilatory in bringing their functions to a close, are they not?

She—Yes. But never in bringing their clothes to a function.—Harper's Weekly.

"That young Medders seems rather new to the city, but he's got a lot of money. How did he get it?"

"Gas."

"You mean he was engaged in the manufacture of gas?"

"No; a rich old uncle of his blew it out."—Catholic Standard and Times.

SHAKESPEARE IN OPERA.

Montreal Star.

The latest things in operas in London town
these days
Are playful little parodies on Mr. Shakespeare's plays.
They put on "Hamlet" with a ghost who does a song and dance
And springs a moldy gag or two, while all the chorus chants,
And Hamlet, on beholding him, lifts up a lively clog
And says: "Is that you, father dear, or just a London fog?"

When old King Lear goes maundering across the canvas lea,
His graceless daughter winks and says: "Now, don't you Lear at me!"
And Kent exclaims when through the storm he hears his monarch shout:
"It's pretty windy, ain't it, king, to take those whiskers out?"
And when his subjects hail the king, the old man says, complaining:
"Away with you! How dare you, knave, to hail while I am reigning?"

When dark Othello from the wars comes double-shuffling back,
Iago says: "I'm scared of him because he looks so black."
And Desdemona's stifled while that villain calmly smokes,
Remarking philosophically the while: "I hope she chokes!"
And when Othello stabs himself, Iago, with a roar,
Shouts out: "There's always room where you are bound for just one Moor!"

When Caesar gets the gleaming knives he's circled by a bunch
Of show girls, while lean Cassius mourns: "'Twas too much Roman punch!"
Macbeth beholds the aged crones dance round their bubbling pitch,
And asks them, with a grin of glee: "Now, tell me, which is witch?"
They're turning crowds away, they say, and down by Avon's wave,
It's said, the bard is turning, too—he's turning in his grave.

Douglas 1337

HELLO! is this Browning King & Co? Is the clothing sale still on? Certainly; Men's suits that sold from $15.00 to $25.00 are now—

$10.50

What? Odd suits left from our season's stock—Not all sizes of any one pattern, but all sizes among the number. Missing a good thing; you bet you are, so come ahead, we'll be waiting for you—

Browning, King & Co

R. S. WILCOX, Manager.