THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.:
George B. Tzschuck, treasurer 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 November, 1909, was as follows:

1	42,070	16	41,930
2	42,050	17	42,160
3	42,790	18	41,990
4	42,150	19	41,390
5	42,450	20	41,950
6	42,170	21	40,340
7	40,040	22	41,990
8	41,930	23	41,790
9	42,160	24	41,790
10	41,920	25	41,700
11	41,750	26	42,240
12	42,500	27	41,810
13	41,780	28	40,400
14	40,100	29	41,950
15	41,800	30	41,920
Total			1,258,850
Returned Copies			9,845
Net Total			1,243,005
Daily Average			41,766

GEO. B. TZSCHUCK, Treasurer.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of December, 1909.
(Seal) M. P. WALKER, Notary Public.

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

The open season for the skater on thin ice has begun.

Will a spread eagle on the new postage stamps give wings to the postal service?

The question arises whether the central bank is not already here in the person of J. P. M.

The northwest switchmen struck just in time to avoid having to dig the frogs out of the snowdrifts.

In the annual review of the best self-advertisers of 1909, let us not overlook Mr. Stubbs of Kansas.

Is it not time to hear the cry of the anti-imperialists against our looking after our interests in Central America?

With the enthusiastic commendation of President Diaz and Secretary Wilson, old King Corn doesn't need to worry.

The reappearance at Washington of the problem, what is straight and what is blend, indicates that whisky will not down.

And now the congressman-editor has abandoned the bank guaranty law and returned to his first love. Poor old paramount!

Ig Dunn hasn't had enough of it. He proposes now to go through to a fare-you-well with the court. But he will apologize yet.

Disclosure of $100,000,000 in personal property in Chicago that has hitherto escaped taxation ought to make it easy to tax it now.

It is proving to be a hard winter for frenzied financiers who had prison sentences held up on appeal. The frost for them seems to be general.

The esteemed Lincoln Star is still having conniption fits over Omaha's wickedness. It's too bad, but somehow or other we'll have to bear it.

To Mr. Gage's remark that real love cannot come to a man till he is past three score, every youthful lover in the land is apt to respond, "Oh, you Lyman!"

Brazil's efforts to lure our canal workmen to the service of its railroads give Uncle Sam that tired feeling that a housewife feels when her neighbor coaxes her cook away.

The proposed abolition of the elective system in the big universities may be taken to indicate that the time is at hand for intensive cultivation in education as in agriculture.

If the immigration officials want to earn the gratitude of the American people, let them head off those sixty confessed black-handers who are headed this way from Europe.

Iconoclasts have attacked the genealogy of Boston's famous old elm. Shades of Oliver Wendell Holmes! Is none of our ancient institutions any longer safe from ruthless attack?

Foreign creditors are quarreling over the dowry brought to a prince by his American bride, yet millionaire's foolish daughters will persist in sending good dollars after bad coronets.

New York's new district attorney is said to be planning to appoint a woman assistant. Will he turn over to her department the prosecution of cases against the too-militant suffragettes?

The President's Message.

The judicial temperament of the president is apparent throughout the text of his message to congress. Calm and dispassionate, it is nevertheless clear and convincing, and his recommendations lose nothing of vigor in being expressed with a quiet and statesmanlike dignity. It is a fine test of a man's command of his intellectual forces to be firm for his own ideas yet tolerant of the views of others and the members of congress no doubt will be ready to acknowledge that Mr. Taft in manifesting a conciliatory attitude toward that body, has done so without departing from any square stand for his own principles, thereby accomplishing a difficult feat graciously and effectively. The message, and its favorable reception in both houses, indicate a complete understanding between the executive functions and the working legislative body, which may be expected to cultivate a co-operation of serious effort and productivity throughout the session.

Three matters of vital importance, referred to in the message, are reminiscent of Mr. Taft's inaugural address of last March. Therein he referred to his intention to bring before congress at its December session "definite suggestions in respect to the needed amendments to the anti-trust and the interstate commerce law, and the changes required in the executive departments concerned in their enforcement." Somewhat changed conditions since then, and the fact that crucial cases under those laws are pending before the supreme court, impelled the president to defer these suggestions, which are to be made the subject of a separate message in due season.

The matter of injunctions likewise was specifically treated in his inaugural, particularly as concerning labor unions, a feature which he is careful to avoid mentioning in the present instance because the celebrated Gompers-Morrison-Mitchell appeal is about to be given final consideration. But on the topic of injunctions at large he is as firm as ever in urging legislation that shall modify injunction procedure to accord with modern equity, a policy which, as he points out, was a plank in the republican platform on which he was elected.

Another pledge of the party to which he calls attention is the matter of postal savings banks. He is unwavering in his faith that the people desire such banks, that they will in no wise conflict with established interests, and that they should be considered as a distinct proposition entirely apart from the general subject of currency reform. As an additional inducement to thrift among the wage-earners, he is very earnest in recommending speedy enactment of legislation that will enable the Postoffice department to undertake their institution. His mention, in this connection, of governmental guaranty of deposits is a reiteration of his inaugural stand, when he said that the postal savings banks would "furnish the absolute security which makes the proposed scheme of government guaranty of deposits so alluring without its pernicious results."

The review of the tariff conditions effectually set at rest all wild rumors of international warfare under the "maximum and minimum" clause, and the announcement that the special commission will be busy for possibly three years compiling its expert information on tariff matters serves to reassure the timid that no disturbing element is likely to obtrude itself into the business world; it must be manifest to every merchant that finances and commerce have a clear field for prosperous operations without congressional interference.

Nothing could be more satisfactory than the condition of our foreign relations as indicated in the statement that no serious problems are engaging attention and that the State department already is at work on revivals of the best features of expiring treaties, such as that with Japan, with whom we continue on the most cordial diplomatic terms. Underlying the reference to the Monroe doctrine may be discerned the notification to the world that though conditions have not warranted any recent re-assertion of that doctrine, it still lives, and will be effectively maintained against foreign aggression in the Western hemisphere, although it may not be used by any delinquent to shield itself from financial responsibility. The Central American situation is so largely a local affair that it was not to be expected that any extended reference would be made to it, and it is evident that the administration has it well in hand.

One matter on which the president dwells forcefully is that of reform in judicial procedure. This is distinctly a Taft policy, and one very near to his heart. He has stated very convincingly the needs of the case, and his presentation of the facts is likely to result promptly in the proposed measures for the expedition of justice.

In reviewing and sustaining the remodeling of various bureau operations in the several departments, and in recommending adjustments in army and navy matters with a view to improving the united service, the president shows how compact is the relationship of cabinet with executive. He again endorses the Roosevelt policies without equivocation, especially that concerning the conservation of resources, which is one of the best heritages of the previous administration, and which Mr. Taft promises to treat in detail in a special message later in the session.

According to the reports from the land commissioner's office, the state institutions are eating up appropriations made for their support at a rate which promises bountiful deficiencies for the next legislature to take care of. This will not astonish anybody who remembers the career of the state institutions under the last demo-pop administration.

Benefit of State Supervision.

Lack of any form of governmental inspection seems to have been responsible for the conditions which led to gross irregularities in the conduct of an important fire insurance company in the east, now disclosed. As is usual in such cases, the directors are suddenly plunged into great activity, but no evidence is at hand to show that when their vigilance would have counted they exercised the supervision that would have prevented the fraud.

State supervision seems to be the most suitable safeguard against this sort of thing. The public mind rested content in the matter of insurance after the disclosures of a few years ago, satisfied that New York state, where the largest insurance interests of policyholders centered, had taken effective steps to protect the public from any more juggling with assets. But it appears that too much was taken for granted. In enacting stringent rules against life companies, the fire interests seem to have been overlooked, and now we have the amazing disclosure that the New York insurance department has made no examination of fire companies in years.

Any form of insurance is not a matter of private enterprise, but is a public concern. The insured has the right to a reasonable guarantee of the stability and safe conduct of his company. State supervision of all insurance interests is as fundamentally essential to the general welfare as is similar espionage over banks. The insurance company is the depository of funds upon which man expects to draw in the day of misfortune; and if there has been laxity in administering the affairs of any one company, the present is a good time for governmental regulation of some adequate form to be inaugurated.

Barbarity of Red Tape.

To what unjust uses governmental red tape may be put is well illustrated in the case of Paul Ruggiero, now detained by the commissioner of immigration at Ellis Island. Ruggiero came to this country at the age of 17. For six years he has been married, and his wife and children have their home in New York. A few months ago he caught a severe cold, and his physician recommended a sea voyage. He sailed to Italy, stayed in that country one week, and returned here, where an order for his deportation was promptly issued because it was found that he had developed tuberculosis. Had he taken out naturalization papers in this country, he would have been permitted to land without question.

Instincts of humanity dictate that he ought to be permitted to proceed without delay to his home in New York, both for his own sake and for that of his family, but the rule of the red tape system is inexorable, and the commissioner held that he had no alternative but to follow the strict interpretation of the immigration code. Fortunately, the victim of the law's injustice has active friends, and these have made an appeal to Washington, with what effect remains to be seen.

The Street Lighting Contract.

Several points have turned up within the last few days which reflect no great amount of credit on the city council. It had been known for months that the contract between the city and the electric lighting company for street lights would expire very soon. It had also been known that there is a controversy between the city and the electric lighting company as to the rights of the latter on the streets and other public property. It had been known, too, that some modifications in the street lighting system are very essential in order that the service may be improved to something like a modern standard.

With all this knowledge at hand the city finds itself at the expiration of the lighting company's contract confronted with a proposition from the lighting company which embodies nothing in the way of improvement in service. This contract has been rejected on the advice of the city attorney, and the matter has been referred again to the council committee without definite instructions. Whether this committee has a comprehensive plan for improvement in street lighting service, or whether it has no plan at all, it should make early report to the council in order that the rights of the citizens will be fully protected.

The desirability of renewing the contract or entering into a new contract covering a long period of years, while the suit to test the rights of the company is pending in the courts, may well be questioned. It would not be unwise if the council were to limit the time of the contract's duration to the life of the council, at least. It might even be well to let the contract for no longer than a year, especially in view of the fact that the suggested changes in the street lighting system can hardly now be installed within a year. This course will give the council time to take measures for securing the improvements needed, and would obviate the necessity of hasty action another time.

The reports of the violations of the child labor law in Omaha are doubtless exaggerated, but it would be impossible to exaggerate the incompetency of a truant officer who admits knowledge of the violation of the law and neglects to report the same as required by the duties of his office, because to make such a report necessitated the writing of a letter. The sooner the service is ridded of a servant of this kind the better it will be for all.

If George W. Holdrege should retire from the management of the B. & M., which he has so long efficiently directed, it will mark the closing of an epoch most notable in Nebraska history. Whatever else may be said of Mr. Holdrege, he has proven most efficient in the direction of the great organization of which he is the active and responsible head. His public utterance, several years ago, that he was managing his road for the stockholders, may have been the central thought of his policy, but Nebraska is gridironed with tracks that were built under his control for the purpose of giving outlet to the people of the state. Mr. Holdrege, if he does go, will be best remembered for the railroad work he has done in Nebraska.

The wild west must have a persistent virility when it can overcome the traditions of Berlin opera and get itself set to music under royal auspices. As a lyric legend, the red man is reported as tickling the kaiser's fancy. Germany ought to be able to stand for one American opera after all that we have stood for from that side.

The University of Budapest has offered an important chair to an American whose lectures woke up its students. The more Europe investigates American scholarship, the more it realizes that the old world no longer holds the patent rights on learning.

West Point reports that each cadet graduated represents a cash investment of $10,000 on the part of the government. Proper education of the American young man for a commanding position in this, as in any other walk of life, is worth all it costs.

Bishop Goodsell, who has just died, was ordained to the ministry at the age of 18, which recalls the fact that in those early days of the nineteenth century a youth who was ready for life's work in his late teens was not considered an infant prodigy.

On the Toboggan.
Brooklyn Eagle.

By judicial polariscope test the Sugar Trust is way below 16 Dutch standard.

The Happy Afterthought.
Washington Post.

The official statement that the Rock Island system was divided in order to avoid a government suit comes so late that it suggests the happy afterthought.

Vindication of Graft.
Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The people of San Francisco apparently have more consideration for Abe Ruef's health than they have confidence in his honesty. They have let him out of jail because confinement behind immovable bars threatened to give him mollygrubs or something of that sort.

A Future Probability.
Buffalo Express.

The withdrawal from entry by the president of 3,000,000 acres of petroleum lands in California, Wyoming, Utah and Oregon does not look as if there would be any relaxation by this administration of the policy of conserving natural resources. One reason for the withdrawal is the need for assuring a fuel supply for the oil-burning ships of the navy. Possibly the time will come when the government will be pumping oil from its own wells and doing its own refining.

Dreams of Speed Maniacs.
Philadelphia Record.

One enthusiastic motor fiend proposes the building of a motor highway from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast, with roadhouses and garages established, five miles apart, for the convenience of travelers. As a matter of precaution there should be no trees or telegraph poles on either side of the proposed motor course. Such obstacles to miscellaneous locomotion, as the daily newspaper reports show, offer invincible temptation to the average chauffeur. The road houses should also be heavily insured.

AUTOS IN THE ARMY.

Historic Mule Likely to Be Separated from the Service.
Collier's Weekly.

Shall we sing a requiem for the army mule? He received his death sentence as burden bearer of the army when those short-coupled, high-powered automobile trucks used in the invasion of Boston last summer began toting commissaries at twenty-five miles an hour out to cavalry outposts which it would have been impossible to feed in mule style. We have reflected as follows: 1. The mule can hold his own only as a pack animal for mountain trails and boggy country. 2. As a wagon-pulling animal on a road he loses to the auto-car because equal efficiency is gained for 25 per cent of the cost; the mule is always as tired as the soldier when a day's march is over, and his load-hauling speed is about the same. The auto-car, with a drink of gasoline, is ready to carry provisions on out from the main camp to the outposts and cavalry scouting camps—branches of field service that have always gone hungry in actual warfare, through isolation from the wagon train. 3. To replace the wagon train of an army brigade on the move, an auto-car train of from thirty to forty cars would be needed, one of the cars to be fitted up as a traveling repair shop. Each car would haul a load equal to a six-mule team. 4. The auto-car for this service is still undeveloped. There are suitable engines and underparts, but the bodies lack adaptability for the army's needs. They must be suitable for sleeping quarters, built to withstand the roughest kind of usage, and capable of rapid repair when injured by underbrush or other cause. They must solve the problem the old-fashioned wagon bow solved for the prairie freighter. 5. The most practicable step that could be taken immediately would be to appoint a commission of three army officers, engineers who are thoroughly familiar with automobiles, and set them at the task of developing a model army car, which model in time of emergency could be furnished to builders along with specifications that would guarantee the greatest utility in the field. 6. There is no reason why the next time an army takes the field it should not go almost muleless, with its base of supplies tucked away with its rear guard, and as mobile as its cavalry scouts ahead.

Around New York

Ripples on the Current of Life as Seen in the Great American Metropolis from Bay to Bay.

Heart whole and fancy free for half a century, Miss Louisa Ewen of New York, one of three bachelor daughters of General John Ewen, eloped with and married a bogus German baron, Boto von Koenits, last week. Boto, as he is called for short, is a fine, gentlemanly crook, with a jail record and some escapades that would not look well in print. In his zeal for money to maintain himself in a life of ease he commissioned matchmakers to secure him an American heiress, and diligently searched the country from the Atlantic to the Lakes. New York proved to be the best market for a matrimonial swindling game, and Boto stuck to it until he landed the prize. One of the sisters of the victim is convinced the bogus baron hypnotized Louisa. Two days after the elopement she issued a statement from the honeymoon retreat at Lakewood, N. J., indicating only a partial return to consciousness. She said:

"My husband has told me of his past, and I am sure that whatever the mistakes he may have made, he will not err again. I don't care what they may say about him. I believe in him and love him, and will stay by his side."

A few days before the elopement the bride-to-be executed a mortgage for $50,000 on her home at 23 West Eighty-sixth street. When the reporters cornered Boto after the marriage he flashed a wad of bills at the bunch, exclaiming, "I am no fortune hunter."

This last summer 7,000,000 to 8,000,000 people made 20,000 trips to Coney Island. They spent there $40,000,000, mostly in nickels and dimes, and the total sum was three times what this nation paid to Napoleon for Louisiana, or six times what we paid Russia for Alaska.

There are in Coney Island peanut stands the size of a broad top desk which rent for $1,800 a season. The men who sell frankfurters pay enormous sums for the right to stand where they do, and get their money back in the nickels of the 20,000,000.

On week days the attendance is large, but on Sundays and holidays it rises to a point where each visitor has room only to be happy standing still. On the Fourth of July 400,000 people crowded into the little island, bathed, shot the chutes, were photographed and ate "red-hots." It was believed that Coney would not hold a single additional visitor, but on August 15 a new 100,000 came, making 500,000 in one day.

It is a wonderful business—this Coney Island—but a very risky one. The 900,000,000 nickels depend upon the weather. When the mercury drops, profits fall to nothing. If a plague should break out and the island be quarantined, boats would stop running and the people would stay in their city homes. The Coney Island farmer must harvest his crop of nickels while the sun shines.

New York's largest skyscraper will cast its shadow over the Battery. Towering thirty-one stories above the ground, it will contain 1,000,000 cubic feet with a rentable area of 556,000 square feet. In it will be ten miles of plumbing, twenty miles of steam pipe, sixty-five miles of conduits and wiring, and 3,600 electric fixtures.

From curb to roof it will measure 416 feet. In building it will be used 14,000 tons of structural steel, 7,500,000 common bricks, 900,000 face bricks, 45,000 barrels of cement, 535,000 square feet of floor arches, 206,000 cubic feet of cinder fill, 125,000 square feet of girder covering, 450,000 square feet of partition tile, 120,000 square feet of column covering, 210,000 square feet of wall furring, 5,000 cubic yards of caissons, 17,000 cubic yards of earth excavation, 2,150 cubic feet of granite, 20,000 cubic feet of Indiana limestone, 3,000 tons of ornamental terra cotta, 65,000 square feet of wire lath, 85,000 square yards of plaster, 400,000 lineal feet of spruce sleepers, 500,000 feet of comb grain yellow pine flooring, 2,500 windows, 60,000 square feet of glass, 3,000 doors, 280,000 pounds of window weights, 30,000 feet of copper chain, 450,000 feet of ground, 80,000 feet of picture mold, and 80,000 feet of base.

Cinders required for floor arches and between sleepers of the floors will fill 500,000 cubic feet, approximately 35,000,000 pounds, it represents the consumption of 125,000 tons of coal, sufficient to develop 55,000,000 horse power hours of energy.

There will be 2,100 horse power boilers, 2,000 horse power in engines, 1,200 kilowatts in generator capacity, 65,000 square feet of radiator surface, 120,000 candle power in electric lights.

Old buildings on the site are being torn down. The structure will be an addition to the twenty-five story Whitehall building. The completed skyscraper will front 307.3½ feet on Washington street and 160.8 on Battery place, covering 51,515 square feet, or twenty-one city lots. It will cost $8,000,000.

Out of the Grand Central station the other day came a couple the sight of whom caused citizens who saw them to admit to themselves that there might be, after all, some basis of truth in the "Uncle Josh" jokes of the allegedly funny papers. The old man grasped his carpet bag and bulging green umbrella firmly, and looked up and down the street, his mouth agape.

"There's a heap o' sights in New York, I guess, Maria," he said. "I misdoubt if we see them all."

The old lady's mouth set grimly.

"Well, Silas," she replied, and her manner was more than significant, "bein' as I'm with you, there's some, I expect, that you ain't goin' to see!"

They are still wondering at a hotel near the park over the extraordinary request made the other night by a young Englishman who is on his first visit to New York. Just about 7 o'clock he went up to the office desk in evening dress.

"I am going downtown for dinner," he said, "and it may be rather late before I get in. I shall take my key with me, and will you please let me have a key to the front door?"

At the same hotel a woman from out of town approached the desk a night or two ago and asked: "At what time do you lock the front door?"

RAILROAD EXPANSION.

Some Comparisons Calculated to Excite Wonder.
Leslie's Weekly.

In 1909 the railways of the United States have a capital of $15,000,000,000, which is almost equal to the value of the country's entire property of all kinds at the time of Lincoln's election. Its gross earnings for a single year, $2,600,000,000, are nearly three times as great as the whole of the interest-bearing debt of the national government. The 1,500,000 persons on the payrolls of the railways of the United States represent a larger force than were under Grant, Lee and the rest of the union and confederate commanders at Appomattox. They are a bigger army than Japan and Russia combined had in Manchuria when, in 1905, President Roosevelt brought the peace of Portsmouth.

PERSONAL NOTES.

The recent death of Richard Watson Gilder makes the volume of essays entitled "Lincoln, the Leader," his last book, as it is also his first and only book of prose.

John Masterson Burke, who in 1902 gave $4,000,000 for the institution and maintenance of a home for convalescents, died of bronchial pneumonia in New York in his 85th year.

Lord Strathcona, the veteran high commissioner of Canada, has returned home from London. He is 89 years old and holds the record as a transatlantic passenger, having crossed and recrossed more than 150 times.

The fact that the estate of the gentleman who was host to the president last summer amounts to $10,000,000 may be no surprise to the heirs, but the figures surprise the assessor about nine and a half million dollars' worth.

Final accounting in the estate of Bloodgood H. Cutter, the "farmer-poet," who died at his country home at Little Neck on September 26, 1906, was filed at Mineola, L. I., by Richard W. Smith, as executor. It shows that the estate of the dead poet amounted to $676,977.

When the cruel war is over and the smoke of battle cleared away, it is to be hoped that whoever caused the Prairie to butt into Delaware mud will come forward with something in the nature of explanation and apology. Even a landsman knows that the ship of the present is imperfectly equipped for cutting across lots.

John Hays Hammond is chairman of the National Civic federation's committee on prevention of mining accidents. Other members of this committee are John Mitchell, Dr. J. A. Holmes, mining expert of the United States geological survey, and D. W. Brunton, president of the American Institute of Mining Engineers.

PROSPERITY OF THE FARMERS.

Calculations and Comment Inspired by Rich Fields.
Philadelphia Record.

We are eating more than we used to, and that is the reason—or one reason—why our food costs more. Secretary Wilson says that beef costs more because farmers are feeding high priced corn to their stock. But why is corn high? Fourteen or fifteen years ago there was a big crop of wheat, and the demand for it was so poor that the price was low, and in one year the farmers were estimated to have fed 75,000,000 bushels of wheat to their stock. But that did not make the stock high.

The bureau of statistics calculates that in the last twelve or thirteen years the per capita consumption of wheat has increased more than a bushel and a half. That is an increase of nearly one-third. We know of no attempt to show how much meat we eat, but the figures of the Cincinnati Price Current show that the total number of cattle killed at the four great western centers of the beef industry and the total hog killing in the west increased close to 30 per cent in the last ten years. The total consumption of meat may not have increased as much as that. The eastern hog killing showed practically no growth. But while these figures are sufficient proof, they suggest a larger consumption of meat per person. During the ten years covered by the comparison we have made the exports of hog products fell off more than one-fourth, and the Department of Agriculture reports that the number of cattle in the country has increased almost 50 per cent in ten years. Yet the price goes up, presumably because more people are eating meat freely.

This is the best year the farmers ever had, and they have had thirteen years of unbroken prosperity. They have had only two short crops in that time, and in both cases the high prices more than made up to them the decline in quantity. The prosperity of the farmers makes the country prosperous, because the farmers buy so much when they have plenty of money. But how can the farmers have high prosperity unless there is a keen competition for their products? We despair of identifying the point at which this circle of prosperity may be said to begin. The consumers of food buy freely, and that gives the farmers money enough to buy freely of manufactured goods, and the industrial population is well employed, and being well employed it buys more wheat bread and beefsteak, which means prosperity for the farmer, and so it goes around and around.

LINES TO A LAUGH.

Mrs. Myles—Who is that man throwing that kiss to?

Mrs. Styles—It must be you, dear. He wouldn't be throwing me a kiss.

"Why not?"

"Because it's my husband."—Yonkers Statesman.

"I give you my word, the next person who interrupts the proceedings," said the judge sternly, "will be expelled from the court room and ordered home."

"Hooray!" cried the prisoner.

Then the judge pondered.—Judge.

"Where does Leulla get her beautiful brown eyes?"

"From her mother. She has eyes just like them."

"And where does she get her ruddy complexion?"

"From her father's drug store."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Warden—He was the coolest and most polite convict that ever escaped from prison.

Reporter—That so?

Warden—Yes. He left behind him a note to the governor beginning, "I hope you will pardon me for the liberty I am taking."—Kansas City Journal.

Drum—The trouble with you, Cornet, is that you never do anything except when you are on a toot.

Cornet—Well, at any rate, they don't have to pound me to make me do my duty. —Boston Transcript.

"What degree did that explorer mention as the place where he made his most interesting observations," said one geographer.

"I don't recall," answered the other. "But my impression is that it was something like the 'third degree.'"—Washington Star.

"Pop?"

"What is it, son?"

"Is an osteopath an end man in a minstrel show?"

"Gracious, no, child! What put such an idea into your head?"

"Well, they told us at school he was a specialist in bones."—Baltimore American.

"If you want to be an orator, my boy, you've got to practice whenever you have an opportunity."

"I do, uncle, but I never can get anybody to listen to me and what's the good of talking to yourself?"—Chicago Tribune.

"You and that playwright are fast friends since you fought a duel."

"Certainly," answered the French playwright. "Have we not risked our lives to advertise each other?"—Indianapolis News.

"Have you any place open for me in this establishment?" asked the conceited young man.

"Two or three places," said the stern employer.

"What are they, please?"

"The front, side and back doors."—St. Louis Star.

A MARVELOUS STORY.

W. D. Nesbit in Chicago Post.

Her hair was wondrous fine
And brighter than spun gold,
An aureole divine
Of graceful coil and fold;
Heaped high upon her head,
Or bound within a net,
Or, glinting gold and red,
Wound in a coronet.

Such hair as poets sing,
Such hair as artists paint,
In loop and strand and ring,
In curls both odd and quaint—
The sunlight came to play
Amid its glossy strands
When it she would array
With her bedimpled hands.

Men paused to give her praise,
Not for her comely grace,
Not for her gentle ways,
Not for her lovely face,
But for her wondrous hair,
Which had the subtle gleam
Of sunbeams in the air
Above a laughing stream.

And when it was unbound
It fell below her waist
Its waving ringlets wound
The curves that beauty traced.
Such hair the mermaids combed
And sang their siren lays
When brave Ulysses roamed
The seas in olden days.

But it is not of this
We started out to write;
The point of all we'll miss
If 'tis not kept in sight.
The wonder of her hair
That all so richly shone
And was beyond compare,
Was—it was all her own!