THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.
Dwight Williams, circulation 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 December, 1910, was as follows:

1	43,570	17	42,610
2	44,000	18	44,800
3	43,720	19	43,580
4	45,50	20	43,050
5	43,670	21	43,640
6	43,49	22	44,200
	44,250	23	44,330
8	43,83	24	44,080
9	42,550	25	44,250
10	42,400	26	44,400
11	44,300	27	44,250
12	42,500	28	45,250
13	43,400	29	43,990
14	42,230	30	43,500
15	43,970	31	43,540
16	42,650		
Total			1,355,760
Returned Copies			11,463
Net Total			1,344,297
Daily Average			43,364

DWIGHT WILLIAMS,
Circulation Manager.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 31st day of December, 1910.
ROBERT HUNTER,
Notary Public.

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

Bromo-seltzer king sues for divorce. Fsh-st!

See the Land show once and you will want to see it again.

Aviators earned $940,000 last year. And, let's see, how much did they lose?

Now the women are trying to tell us they never liked the horrid rats, anyway.

Mr. Hopson's thirst for trouble is insatiable. He still demands four new battleships.

A drop in the price of eggs is, after all, only a drop in the bucket of the cost-of-living matter.

They have formed a "League of Politeness" out in San Francisco. Has New Orleans joined?

We are ready to listen to further details of Mr. Edison's plans for making gold more common.

Omaha will furnish the bridge across the Missouri for the transcontinental automobile highway.

No grafters should fail to see the wonderful grafts made by Burbank on exhibition at the Land show.

Another thing demonstrated by that democratic feast at Baltimore was that the unterrified had not lost their appetites.

Nat Goodwin reiterates he did not call the girl "baby doll." But what is the difference between that and "doll baby?"

Those scientists who say there will be no more babies after 100 years are probably merely playing in with the janitors of their flats.

It is barely possible that, to preserve peace and harmony in the party, "Joe" Bailey might consent to take that presidential nomination himself.

Rev. Thomas Dixon's latest novel is "The Root of Evil." If it proves to be among the six best sellers, some of the root may find its way into the author's pocket.

The various interests concerned doubtless recognize in the ancient and honorable hold-up bills reintroduced at Lincoln the customary invitation to "come across."

"Diplodocus carnegii," recently erected in Carl Hagensack's prehistoric zoo in London, sounds like a flip thrust at one of our most prominent philanthropists.

Champ Clark's insistence upon the statement that there is no oratory in congress today is yet liable to provoke hostilities between "Jeff" Davis and "Pitchfork" Tillman.

Speaking of who shall succeed Norman E. Mack as chairman of the democratic national committee, we nominate Mr. Bryan. Why not? He bosses the job, anyway.

Probably Mr. Sheehan, who went out and raised $300,000 for the last democratic ticket in New York, will have a word or two on the "Sting of Ingratitude" should a cog slip and deprive him of that toga.

Excessive Express Charges.

It is quite significant that the big express companies in joint action should announce a reduction of through rates just as the Interstate Commerce commission places in circulation its first annual report on the "statistics of express companies." That report discloses many reasons why reductions should be made. It easily confirms the general impression that has existed as to the relative earnings and investments of these corporations and the "joint action" to reduce rates is, in itself, evidence of the common belief that "gentlemen's agreements," to use a mild term, have governed the express business.

This report, which covers business for the year ending June 30, 1909, shows as to earnings that the "operating income for the year is 51 per cent of the value of the property used in operation." It shows that the "record value of the property actually used in operation by the express companies is but 12 per cent of the assets shown by their balance sheet statements." The statistician for the commission interposes the comment that "This is, perhaps, the most significant fact contained in this report as indicating the 'peculiar' business of express companies." Certainly it is significant enough to justify the demand for a change in those conditions. The report further discloses that "the total investment as shown by the value of real property and equipment is but 25 per cent of the capital liability of the companies as represented by the capital stock and funded debt." It shows also that the companies have an accumulated surplus of $164,000,000, and then this, stated in the commission's own words:

> The balance sheet statement shows very clearly that it is through the profits of the business that the large assets have been accumulated and it may be safely asserted that the original investment in this business was relatively insignificant. The express business is, perhaps, the best illustration which the country affords of the accumulation of considerable assets out of revenues.

These corporations, four of which—the American, Adams, United States and Wells-Fargo—control 95 per cent of the total value of the real property used in operation by the whole thirteen, have decided at last to reduce rates. It will not hurt for the government to see that this reduction is actual and not merely apparent and that it is somewhere near adequate. We have no difficulty, in reviewing this annual report of the commerce commission, in determining why the express companies are so violently opposed to the parcels post. It contains some excellent argument for the furtherance of the parcels post legislation.

Detectives Watching Democratic Legislatures.

The sensational report comes that detectives are on watch at the capitals of New York and New Jersey to see that no corruption enters into the selection by the legislatures of United States senators. If this be true, it is a severe commentary upon the present method of choosing senators and a suggestion of the wisdom of popular elections. It goes to show the possibilities of fraud, of thwarting the will, not alone of the people, but of the majority of honest legislators. But more than all this, it reflects seriously upon the political conditions of these two states. It is repugnant to a decent sense of popular or representative government to think of a contingency calling for a detective patrol of the election by state lawmakers of members of the highest legislative body in the world.

Perhaps this is not the first time that such precautions have become necessary, but it should be the last time and not being the first does not tend to ameliorate the case any. Democratic bossism in both states, Tammany in New York and another clique of political pirates in New Jersey, it is said, have by their high-handed methods provoked this action on the part of the law. If that is what democratic victory there means, if it is a fact that such conditions exist in those states, it is to be hoped that the corrupt powers will be unable to carry out their schemes and that whatever men are elected will be the honest choice of the majority unfettered by sinister influences.

Our Unnecessary Fire Losses.

According to a report to the State department by the American consul at Prague, the average annual fire loss in that capital of Bohemia has been less than $20,300 and not a life has been lost by fire there in the last fifteen years. In the ordinary city in this country with 500,000 population the fire loss would, we are told by an architectural authority, be at least $1,000,000 a year, while the deaths from fire would be numerous. Prague's freedom from fire losses is explained by the superior building construction required by law, together with the careful habits of the people and the responsibility that fire damage entails upon the owner of the property. In Prague most of the buildings are built of brick or stone with tiled roofs, the hallways are usually of concrete and the stairs of stone, and the kitchen floors are built of concrete with tile wainscoting. The erection of hazardous buildings is not permitted, and when a man is so unfortunate as to have a fire he is looked on as an offender in the eyes of the law and is held responsible for any damage that may be done to adjoining property.

The mere recital of the conditions that make Prague, a city of more than 500,000 people, practically a city without fires is a terrific indictment of the negligence and wastefulness of the American city that sacrifices up to the god of fire every year millions of dollars' worth of property and precious lives that can never be replaced. Our unnecessary fire losses are a disgrace to American civilization.

Prohibition in the South.

At the last state election the people of Texas voted for a proposition authorizing the legislature this winter to submit to the voters at the next general election a proposed constitutional amendment for state-wide prohibition. The people of that state may find in the experiments recently made in Alabama, Tennessee and other southern states something to guide them in their action.

Alabama has gone back on state-wide prohibition. In Tennessee the law has not proved satisfactory to some of its original advocates. The mayors of the four largest cities, Memphis, Nashville, Knoxville and Chattanooga, declare it has not proved a success and should be repealed or amended to permit a compliance with the will of the people who wish to have the liquor traffic effectually controlled. Consequently, these four mayors have gone before the Tennessee legislature with a plea to this end. They argue that the law has not been enforced, which, of course, is arguing that it will not be enforced by them. Rather in this case, at least, it comes of a belief that it is not the law the majority of the people want enforced.

What will be the action of Texas one is left between two criteria to judge. The proposition to submit a constitutional amendment carried last autumn along with the defeat of the prohibition candidate for governor. Somewhere between these two must be a medium of sentiment, but it is a matter of doubt as to its endorsement of experimental state-wide prohibition, especially in the light of the experiences in other neighboring states. There are peculiar reasons why the liquor question is acute in the south and the effort to prescribe a proper check is part of the effort to reach a satisfactory adjustment of the race difficulties there.

Keep History Straight.

With evident intent to magnify his election as United States senator, Congressman Hitchcock's paper reproduces an article from the Sioux City Tribune which contains this false and misleading statement:

> Nebraska is naturally as republican as Iowa. Never before in her history has she elected a democratic United States senator. Even the father of the new democratic senator served in the senate as a republican.

Reversing the order, first, the father of the new democratic senator from Nebraska, although professing to be a republican, was elected by votes of democratic members of the legislature.

Second, Nebraska has not now elected a democratic senator, but a fusion senator, whose name was on the official ballot twice, once as a democrat and once as a populist. Nebraska once before elected a fusion senator and has several times had legislatures with fusion majorities on joint ballot.

Third, Nebraska is not naturally as republican as Iowa. Nebraska gave its electoral vote twice to Mr. Bryan, while Iowa has always voted for republican presidential candidates. In Nebraska the republicans have five times failed to elect the governor, while Iowa has had but one democratic governor since war times, and has had only republican United States senators.

Nebraska is naturally republican, but by no means as republican as Iowa.

One of the first bills favorably recommended by committee at Lincoln is to raise the pay of jurors from $2 to $3 a day. The Bee first emphasized the necessity of doing something to make jury service less burdensome to wage earners who have to forego their regular employment to sit in the jury box. More adequate compensation for the jurors should relieve the pressure to be excused from the panel.

As an offset to the intimation by Theodore N. Bell at the Baltimore meeting that Mr. Bryan would like to see Champ Clark the democratic standard-bearer in 1912, Mr. Bryan gives over the front page of his Commoner to an address by ex-Governor Folk on "The Religion of Democracy." Mr. Bryan is not going to play a fiddle with only one string.

In Los Angeles a judge has sentenced a woman shoplifter to stay away from bargain counter sales for one year. Taking the very bread and butter out of her mouth. Are not such cruel and unusual punishments prohibited by the bill of rights

So far as is ascertainable, Nebraska is now the only state where fusion of political parties is not only countenanced, but encouraged, by law. The fusion fake should have been scotched here long ago as it was in Kansas and other neighboring states.

That erudite citizen of Boston, Mr. "Sam" Langford, is to be accorded the opportunity of wresting from Mr. "Jack" Johnson a certain title long held by another eminent citizen of Boston many years ago. We hope Boston may come into her own.

In spite of the work of our juvenile court, Omaha is infested with altogether too many footpads and burglars just below or above the juvenile age line. The way to repress professional crime is to punish willful criminals.

Congressman-elect Lobeck, breathing the atmosphere of Washington for the first time, is moved to pick out the democratic ticket for 1912. Here, now, no dictation! Let the people rule!

The lumbermen are making sparks fly over alleged short bundles of shingles. We move for a pure lumber law with a misbranding clause requiring every bundle to tell just how many full-sized shingles it contains.

The proposal to establish a limit of one saloon to every 1,000 population would reduce the number of Omaha "life-saving stations" down one-half. That would be real revision downward.

The same balance of Governor Wilson's inaugural address seems to have thrown the whole camp of democracy into consternation—that is, those not favorable to Dr. Wilson's progression.

Mr. Bryan is understood to have recommended to Texas the use of steam rollers on its country roads. There is some expert testimony which Texas cannot well afford to ignore.

One Controversy Settled.

Washington Post.

The Baltimore banquet settled at least one controversy—the democratic party has not gone dry.

Levelheaded Caution.

Pittsburg Dispatch.

The announcement that Mr. Taft is to keep out of state politics is further evidence of his levelheadedness. State politics in most states nowadays is no place for a peace-loving gentleman.

Recasting an Old Process.

Louisville Courier-Journal.

Mr. Edison says gold will eventually be made out of common clay. It is now when a person of superior powers of analysis and a high order of courage sits across the table from a lump of clay that lacks the grit to raise on three of a kind.

Sociable Times in Iowa.

Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

People in the west are more "folksy" than we of the east. We note as an instance of this that a day or two after the inauguration ceremonies in the state capitol of Iowa at Des Moines, last week, a reception was given there which was participated in by the legislators and their wives and the state officers and their wives. The decorations for the two occasions were the same. In this way the Iowa wives are given some share in that acquaintance which comes to the legislators by virtue of their office, and these social occasions are the means of starting friendships that last.

LUTHER BURBANK'S WONDERS.

Novel Results Come from Scientific Cultivation.

Hampton's Magazine.

Luther Burbank has evolved a walnut tree that grows to commercial value in twelve years; he has developed a flower that will not fade, a pitless plum, a plum with the flavor of a Bartlett pear, a white blackberry, a plum cote (combined of an apricot and a plum), the wonderberry (a cross between a raspberry and a California dewberry), given perfume to flowers that did not possess it, changed the odor of others, and produced new scents and new blossoms by various processes of selection and crossing. He is seeking now for the seedless apple and the downless peach and doubtless he will find them—or make them.

Burbank does not believe that his methods are applicable to plants alone. He asserts that in this nation, where so many types commingle, there will be produced eventually, the finest race the world has ever known. He declares that the nation must consciously strive toward that ideal, giving its young an environment of love and health and wholesomeness. Though ruthless in his destruction of the plants which do not fit his botanical purpose, Mr. Burbank advocates no destruction of the unfit in the human race. He claims that our modern system of education forces the child far too much, and that there should be no school save play and out of doors until the child reaches the age of 10.

People Talked About

James A. Farrell, new president of the United States Steel corporation, will have to worry along on $50,000 a year. Charles M. Schwab and W. E. Corey, as presidents, each received $100,000.

Edward Grannis, representative to the New Hampshire legislature from Claremont, is the third generation of his family to represent Claremont. His father, Laurens Grannis, represented Claremont about seventy years ago, and Timothy Grannis, Edward's grandfather, was representative about 100 years ago.

The genealogical and historical researches of W. Lewis Kane of West Chester, Pa., have convinced him that Uncle Joe Cannon is a descendant of a Norman baron who made the incursion into England with William the Conquerer. The insurgents have insinuated more than once that the strain is still effective.

No record has yet appeared of the champion oyster-eating democrat at the Baltimore banquet. Whoever claims the heavyweight belt must first settle with the national chairman, J. L. Morris of Van Fleet, Mass., who at a Christmas dinner disposed of 141 oysters, when the restaurateur shut off the supply, fearing Morris would burst.

After disappearing twenty-two years ago and believed dead by his family, John Reed, aged 72, was reunited recently to his wife and three children in Daingerfield, Tex. He has returned to find seventeen grandchildren. Reed's children accidentally got a clue that the father was living in Arkansas. They invited him to return and he did so.

Every time the young emperor of China is taken ill the royal physicians are notified that their salary is cut off until his majesty is perfectly well again. The passionate zeal with which the physicians of the royal household work to get the emperor back into a condition of health where their salaries will begin again is said to be something astounding.

In the twenty-four years of his life Walter L. Gardner of St. Charles, Mo., has had the misfortune to suffer twenty-four fractures of various bones of his body. He also has suffered five dislocations and lost by accident one finger on his right hand and three on his left. He is still somewhat disabled from his latest accident, when a horse kicked him, breaking his left arm for the eighth time.

Around New York

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

The 1911 wage scale of the 100,000 men who are members of the New York Building Trades council has just been issued. The schedule is based on eight hours' work per day, with Saturday half-holidays, and all legal holidays observed. Work on Sunday or holidays, or after the noon hour on Saturdays, must be paid for at overtime rates. The schedule includes: Bricklayers, $5.60 per day, overtime, per hour, $1.40; plumbers, $5.50 and $1.40; carpenters, $5 and $1.25; masons, $5 and $1.25; ironworkers, $5 and $1.25; metalworkers, $4.75 and $1.20; decorators, $4.50 and $1.15; boilermakers, $4.25 and $1.10; painters, $4 and $1.65. Helpers in the various trades receive from $3 to $3.50 per day, with overtime at 75 cents an hour.

In his article in the American Magazine on the futility of the laws governing personal property taxation in New York, A. J. Nock describes the following method used by one concern to evade this tax:

"One concern doing a large business in New York refused its assessment, and reported its headquarters as at Wading River, in Suffolk county. The office of such a corporation ought to be as conspicuous as the Statue of Liberty in a place like Wading River, but the local assessor could not find it, never did find it, and the assessment lapsed.

"The inwardness of the case was this. The attorney for the corporation had a country house at Wading River. He had the firm's name painted on a very small tin sign, posted unobtrusively above his kitchen door. Once a year or oftener he addressed a letter to himself at Wading River in care of the firm, dropped it into the local postoffice in the morning and took it out at night, thus being able to take oath, if necessary, that the firm received mail at Wading River. Then once a year he gathered the directors together, brought them down from New York in his automobile, under cover of darkness, and together, as the law requires, they held the annual meeting of the corporation at its principal office at Wading River.

"It was an easy matter. The corporation was there, its sign was there, it received mail there, its annual election of officers was held there, all strictly as the law directs, and it was simply up to the local assessor to find and assess it if he could."

Six undertakers and their assistants, armed with instruments and embalming fluids, stood in front of the bar of Brady's hotel on upper Third avenue just at the 1 o'clock hour one morning last week and demanded to know of Mr. Keenan, the bartender, why he was not dead. Every one of the six had been summoned by telephone with calls for service for "poor Mike Keenan, rest his soul," who had died of "pneumonia, Bright's disease, delirium tremens and smallpox," according to the notifications. Keenan thinks some joker in the back room of the saloon where the telephone booth is at the service of the public is responsible. The management of the hotel offered a reward of $100 for the discovery of the miscreants. The police were called in, but declined to act.

The chairman of a New York committee in search of a pastor has discovered a new financial posibility.

"I was at my table in the club the other day," he said, "and happened to mention the need of our church. One of the men at the table turned to me hopefully and said: 'I'll give you $25 if you will take our minister.'

"Said another, 'Hold on, there. How many are on the committee?' I answered that there were seven. 'I'll give you $50 apiece if you will take ours,' he said eagerly."

Begging is said to be a calling that sharpens the faculties. It certainly develps sometimes an ingenuity of impudence, as may be seen in a letter which recently came to the office of the New York Post and which the paper prints, omitting names and places:

"I am a married man, 38 years old, employed as electric car motorman seven years. I work thirty days per month. With losing only one day in fifteen months my salary affords us only a moderate living.

"I have a daughter who is a stenographer.

"With a full determination I started a campaign some time ago to make us a home in —— by donations from the wealthy. I have a good portion towards it already; but not enough. Please slip a $5 or a $1 bill in enclosed envelope and send it to me and see if you ever miss it.

Help me succeed.

"Use hospitality one to another without grudging." I Peter 4:9.

"The young chap whose morals I tremble for just now is my nephew," the city salesman remarked. "He has a position as errand boy in a banking house. He is a bright lad and as steady as they make 'em, but since he got that job in the bank his women relations are urging him into crime. They do not advise him to pick his employer's pocket or run away with the day's deposits, but the principle involved is just as reprehensible. They ask him to abstract a few bags that the silver money is carried in. The women want those bags for sofa pillow covers. They are made of material that will never wear out and feathers and down simply cannot sift through. By boldly asking for what he wanted the boy has secured enough bags to encase his mother's sofa pillows, but if he supplies the rest of the family I see nothing ahead of him but a career of crime."

Ice water, tea, sandwiches and magazines had been sent up to room 417 in a New York hotel, but presently the bell rang again. The boy who had been dispatched to attend to the woman's needs returned with the report that what she wanted that time was six empty spools.

"Spools?" said the proprietor. "You are crazy."

"Maybe so," said the boy, "but if I am 417 is crazy, too. That is what she said, spools."

The proprietor's wife found the spools among the children's playthings and the proprietor took them up.

"I was afraid," he said, "that the boy had made a mistake. Six empty spools."

"Yes, that's right," she said. "You have no clothes hooks in this room; nothing but nails, and rusty nails, at that. I don't like to hang my clothes on nails, but by slipping these spools over them the cloth is protected from rust and the nails can't punch holes."

Japan's Grapple with Anarchy.

New York World.

The sentence to death of twenty-four persons concerned in the anarchist plot against the emperor of Japan may be taken as a measure of its seriousness or of the severity of Japanese justice. Whichever conclusion is accepted, the fact is clear that Japan under modern conditions of development is confronted with a problem familiar to all civilized countries and which seems inseparable from national progress everywhere.

The Bee's Letter Box

Contributions on Timely Subjects Not Exceeding Two Hundred Words Are Invited from Our Readers.

Initiative and Referendum.

OMAHA, Jan. 21.—To the Editor of The Bee: We have been somewhat amused to note the care with which the politicians are approaching the initiative and referendum, about the same amount of caution the prudent man manifests in going behind a mule with which he is not acquainted. These leaders of modern thought, look upon it as being of the nature of the late primiary, uncertain in its results. The amount of gush and oratory expended at and before the primaries and election, in sounding the slogan let the people rule, was accompanied with an assurance that has quite disappeared now that they are up against the real thing. But why should they hesitate? the proposition is not so very new, it had its birth as far back as 1898, when the populists polled over 70,000 votes in the state. At that time it was looked upon by both of the leading parties as wild and fanatical, it was even ridiculed and dismissed with a wave of the hand. The proposition as now advocated at this time amounts to this, that the people at the polls can pass more intelligently on matters that they desire in the way of legislation than their representatives when assembled for that purpose. But now that the time has come to act, some questions arise, among them the following "Shall a Majority of All the Votes Cast at the Election Decide, or Just a Majority of Those Voting on the Proposition?" It must not be forgotten, however, that the cry has been "Let the People Rule," and in matters of this kind the people are those who vote at the election where the proposition is determined, and a majority of all who vote is necessary in order to get an expression of the people. If this were not the case a very small minority might pass a measure and in that event the people certainly have not declared for it. Now keep in mind that the reason given for the referendum, is that legislatures do not reflect the will of the mass of the citizenship, but often only the minority, the thing the referendum seeks to remedy.

Does it follow that those who do not expressly vote "no," fail to make themselves felt? By no means for the reason they know that their vote will count as much as if they had written "no" on their ballot. We can safely assume that is what the framers of the constitution understood when they drafted the instrument. There are many who vote for amendments that do not understand what they are voting for. For example a large number at the late primaries voted for the amendment on suffrage, who thought they were voting for woman's suffrage, when in fact they voted to deny the franchise to a certain class of men for five years.

In the legislature we require a majority of all the members elected thereto to pass a bill, no matter how trifling the bill may be. Minority rule is out of harmony with all the reformed movements of the times. It is safe to assume that the man who does not vote for a measure does not want it and he should be allowed to express his disapproval by not voting for it. That is the reason amendments have not carried in the past, the people did not want them and refused to go on record in their favor. In these times of lightning reform "Let the people rule."

J. H. PRESSON.

What Are They Afraid Of?

SOUTH OMAHA, Jan. 21.—To the Editor of The Bee: I read that our lawmakers shy at accepting an invitation to lunch as guests of the Stock Yards company while visiting in South Omaha. What are they afraid of? Have they so little confidence in themselves that they fear they may be influenced by a bite to eat offered them in pure hospitality? If we have any lawmakers who would be suspected of being bribed with a free lunch, the Nebraska legislature must be in a bad way this year.

J. H.

A Word for the Retailer.

OMAHA, Jan. 22.—To the Editor of The Bee: Many people are inclined to blame the retailer for high prices without giving him any credit for doing business on small profit. I am familiar with the grocery trade and know that success is seldom attained and then only by most economical methods and personal application. Its not a bed of roses by any means, the average grocer has to start out before daylight to buy his market supplies and he returns to his store by 7 o'clock. He then unloads and puts his horse in the stable and hitches up the same or another horse to his delivery wagon. The cost of delivery is usually overlooked by those who complain.

Not long ago I overhead a grocer talking over the phone: "Yes, this is Meyer; yes, ma'am. Is that all you want? Will it do if I send it about 5 o'clock this afternoon? My wagon will be making deliveries in your neighborhood at that time. Oh, you must have it at once? All right I'll send the boy as soon as he comes in."

I asked what the lady had ordered. "She wanted a package of yeast," said Meyer, "and I have already made two deliveries to her house today. I must send the boy with this yeast, although my profit on it is less than a cent. I cannot afford to lose the lady's custom."

In the old days, customers used to go shopping with a market basket and carry their purchases home with them. The present day customer wants a whole grocery store brought to the back door in response to a telephone call. A. S. K.

SAID IN FUN.

"It is said that distance lends enchantment to the view."

"Yes, but I have always noticed that the nearer I can get to a stack of bank notes the more enchanting it appears."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Employer—Are you a married man?

Applicant—No, sir; that scar on my face came from being knocked down by an automobile.—Philadelphia Telegraph.

Bacon—And you say your brother has settled in Canada?

Egbert—No, I didn't say so. I think he went there to get out of settling.—Boston Transcript.

Sapleigh—Are you positive that Miss Cutter is not in?

The Maid—Yes, sir. I'd lose my job if I wasn't.—Boston Transcript.

The governor of North Carolina had just made his memorable remark to the governor of South Carolina.

"Yes," sighed the chief executive of the Palmetto state; "and this is the dark of the moon, too!"

But they found some native moonshine and indulged.—Chicago Tribune.

"What makes you so sure that young man will make a great diplomat?" asked one statesman.

"I heard him talking to a policeman who held him up because the lights were out on his automobile."—Washington Star.

"Why is that woman sitting so lonely and apart from the group of busy talkers?"

"She has no conversation worth listening to. Never in her life had any kind of an operation performed."—Baltimore American.

"What's the hardest thing about roller skating when you're learning?" asked a hesitating young man of the instructor at a rink.

"The floor," answered the attendant.—Youth's Companion.

REDMOND STIRS UP IRELAND

Says Veto of the Lords Will Be Abolished.

DISMAY SEIZES ONE FACTION

Irish Leader's Statement Most Definite He Has Made and Causes Furore in All of British Isles.

LONDON, Jan. 22.—(Special Cablegram.)—Intense feeling has been caused throughout Ireland by John Redmond's definite prediction in Dublin at the banquet to celebrate the success of the envoys to "Erin's friends in North America," that the veto of the lords would be abolished before the coronation and without enlargement of the chamber for "swamping purposes."

It is the most definite prophecy he has made since he assumed the leadership of the "regulars," who believe it to be based upon a hint received from the prime minister, despite the fact that Redmond bracketed with a warning to the liberals of what would happen if promises were not kept.

In Ulster the sentiment is one of dismay. Nor is the anxiety in that quarter lessened by the action of the Nationalist press in reminding Irishmen that this year is the one hundredth anniversary of the beginning of O'Connell's agitation for Catholic emancipation and the repeal of the union.

"Let us push on boldly and patiently," says a Dublin paper, "never forgetting the motto of O'Connell, 'agitate, agitate, agitate.'"

Say Irish Are Too Hasty.

Unionists in London challenge the prediction as one more case of "Irish counting chickens before they are hatched."

According to the tory view, when the Asquith parliament bill reaches the lords the latter will meet it squarely with a scheme for self reform and with amendments going to the root of the controversy."

King George's intervention at this late stage will effect the compromise which, according to the unionist oracles, is "really as much desired by liberals as by unionists."

It is the possibility of unsatisfactory amendments to the bill that accounts for the warning Mr. Redmond has given Mr. Asquith—the possibility that the measure of self control to be given Ireland will fall short of her necessities.

His assertion that he has no objection to a home rule bill so drafted as to fit in with a "larger plan" is not novel. He has made it frequently.

The crux of the dispute is the undisclosed and as yet undetermined character of the broad project of devolution of local government in all parts of the United Kingdom now forming in Mr. Asquith's mind. The devolution might prove inadequate from the Irish viewpoint, though deemed ample by Scotland and Wales.

What amendments the lords have up their sleeves is the question in nationalist circles. At the moment there is not the least symptom of a cleavage in the ranks of the coalition.

Mr. Asquith leads with jaw set hard and gives no signs of fear of nationalist revolt. Redmond's promise to stand firm "without regard to minor issues, provided the cabinet is true to the pledges as to veto and home rule," means that Asquith is not to be badgered by him off any question of tactics.

Irishmen are notoriously staunch allies. Mr. Balfour has admitted as much. They will cling to the coalition unless, and until, vent infringement upon police regulations.

SENATORIAL DRIFT.

New York Sun: The Sacred Codfish, that old palladium of Massachusetts liberties, is plunging and leaping in most ungodly glee. Let it beware, let the accursed reactionary beware! Foss is entirely capable of ordering it into cakes or oil.

Sioux City Journal: Senator Hitchcock, addressing the Nebraska legislature in acknowledgment of his election under the Oregon plan, gave earnest assurance of being a party man. The Oregon plan, however, is not a party measure. It is intended to impair party rule in the election of senators of the United States and to promote the influence of independent voting. The Oregon plan calls for a nonpartisan election, and it is a long step toward bringing all primary elections to that basis.

San Francisco Chronicle: Senator-elect Works declares that there must be a new alignment of parties. If he can contribute to that result he will deserve credit, provided the lines are so drawn that sensible men will know just what politicians of his kind really desire. Such knowledge would prove a great assistance to those who would like to know where they "are at," but who cannot do so because of the vagueness of the demands and the utter impracticability of much that the professional reformers are urging.

Springfield Republican: Rhode Island's tendency to send to the senate at least one man of business—and usually the other senator does not count—is illustrated again in Mr. Lippitt's election. Senator Aldrich was successful as a wholesale grocer before entering public life, and Senator Lippitt will take to Washington a profound knowledge of cotton texiles. Mr. Lippitt might almost be called the senator from Manville and the social (where so much of his cotton cloth is made). It is also to be said concerning him that the Lippitts are an old family and have been a power in the plantations for many generations.

IF I WERE CARNEGIE

Detroit Free Press.

If only I were Carnegie,
With coin to give away,
I'd hang up money prizes for
The things we need today.
I'd give a million to the man
Who would invent a scheme
Whereby the janitor could sleep
And still let us have steam.

I'd give a heap of money for
A fountain pen, I think,
That one could fill and not appear
As though he'd bathed in ink.
I'd hire somebody to invent
A keyhole with a light
For use when I come home from lodge
At 10 o'clock at night.

I'm sure I'd give a million to
The man who would devise
A flannel undershirt that would
When washed, not shrink in size.
And when he had invented that
I'd make him doubly rich
If he'd denaturize the stuff
And cure it of its itch.

If only I were Carnegie,
With coin to give away,
I'd offer money to the man
Or woman for a play
That wasn't built on naughty themes
Or filled with silly slush,
A play that grandma might behold
And never have to blush.

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