

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE  
FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.  
VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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47,621

State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss.  
Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the average daily circulation for the month of February, 1911, was 47,621.

Published in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of March, 1911.  
ROBERT A. LUTHER, Notary Public.

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

Come, all you lame ducks, limp along home.

And Mr. Lorimer stood pat throughout the Bailey fiasco.

Never mind, the legislature will stay with us a little longer.

Carter Harrison is the latest champion to try to "come back."

Extra sessions of congress are getting to be regular things with President Taft.

Somebody always appears in the nick of time with off to smooth Joe Bailey's troubled waters.

Champ Clark will have time in this month, before congress reconvenes, to slick those mules up a bit.

"Why do girls go to college?" is the uppermost question in the east. Our guess: "To get an education."

If the next democratic national convention is held in Baltimore mint probably will be the favorite flower.

It is a month before congress gets back in action, which ought to give those Mexican warriors a good chance.

Easter hats! Heavens, yes, in our rhapsody over the beautiful weather we had all but forgotten the inevitable.

"Why Hogs Are Thinner" is the subject of much market page discussion. Probably worrying over their price.

Postmaster Thomas has "come across" pretty thin ice, but he seems ever to be skating on the thinnest snow.

In other words, Nevada does not propose to give up its divorce mills until some other home industry has been developed.

It might be noted that the candidate for mayor in Chicago, who promised as a campaign slogan, "I'll rob no one," lost out.

That special bond election in Dundee brought out about 300 votes. It is pretty hard to interest all the people in a special election.

In spite of their "Jim Crow" fluke, the democrats will be around again before long telling the negro voter how much they love him.

"I'll take my doll rings and go home if you don't let me play boss," says Joe Bailey. It must have been a terrible shock for the moment to the "interests."

Having failed in Wyoming, the prize fight promoters are trying to slip a bill through the Missouri legislature. There is where they will have to show them.

Governor Dix finally comes out with an appeal to Sheehan to withdraw from the New York senatorial race. Better advice, your remarks to Charles E. Murphy, care of Tammany Hall.

"Not next month, or next year, but NOW" has been the rallying cry of the Water board for eight years, and we are still in the midst of "immediate" purchase, and paying the same rates for water as before.

The Chicago Daily Socialist is now being sold on the streets of Omaha with some of the identical contents put out locally by our Junior Yellow. These socialists should not compete with one another in such a way.

If Senator Brown has deluded himself with the idea that the appointment of Cadet Taylor to a fat federal job carrying \$20,000 in salary during the four-year term will be popular with the poor people whose money all disappeared in Taylor's bank, he has another guess coming.

Reciprocity and Extra Session. Reciprocity, which failed in the Sixty-first congress and for which the president has called the extra session of the Sixty-second, should, on the face of returns, be approved by the incoming senate. Fourteen of the new senators are for this Canadian reciprocity plan, according to a poll made by the New York Herald. That, it is figured, will in the senate give a two-thirds majority for the proposition and the house probably will vote again for it. Had there been a single ardent friend of the measure capable and desirous of leadership in the last senate, it might have been put through that body, for on preference reciprocity, it is supposed to have had a majority of at least twenty-two senators. But many of these did not care enough about it to get behind the plan the president was so anxious to push through.

Of the most ardent opponents of reciprocity, Senator Hale will be succeeded by Johnson, who favors it, and according to this poll makes a net gain of two votes. Hitchcock of Nebraska voted for it in the house and will displace Burket, marked on the poll as opposed; another net gain of two. Townsend takes the place of Burrows from Michigan, adding two more. Atlee Pomeroy displaces Dick of Ohio, two more. John D. Works comes from California to succeed Flint, opposed; two more. The same gain is made in Poindexter's succession of Piles from Washington. Of the eight other new senators, each succeeds a man who was in favor of reciprocity. Montana's new senator, Meyers, has not made his attitude known as yet. New York, Iowa and Colorado are to elect senators. But reciprocity is figured to have enough now to win.

But if the democrats play politics with the reciprocity agreement, the extra session may continue far into the summer and undoubtedly a reopening of several schedules of the tariff will ensue. Should reciprocity be thus held back, such a thing is possible as a deadlock on party lines, with reciprocity and tariff revision confused and used to block one another. Nor may we suppose that congress will be content to rest with only tariff matters; it is likely to include in its operations a large variety of measures. For the first time since the Cleveland regime, the country will have a senate republican by a slight majority and a house democratic by a big margin. Results under such conditions must be problematical at every turn.

Croker Discredits Murphy. Richard Croker, whose claim to fame depends upon his years of service as boss of Tammany hall and New York democracy, is out with a direct criticism of his successor, Boss Murphy. Croker thinks Murphy has made a grave mistake in persisting with his determination to elect Sheehan senator from New York; when it has been made plain to everybody else that he could not succeed. Croker thinks a wise boss would have stopped aside when Shepard retired from the race and allowed the legislature to elect the senator.

Croker's publicly expressed opinion is not likely to have any weight with Murphy, but if results may be taken as a criterion, we may conclude that Croker made a much more effective dictator than his present successor. Murphy's reign is really not prolific of big results. When the smoke of this senatorial battle clears away and, if Tammany fails to land its man, things are likely to look serious for Murphy. Even Tammany has no use for a boss who does not boss, or cannot win a fight.

Murphy still has the chance left of withdrawing Sheehan and siding in the election of some other less objectionable democrat. By that course he might do much to redeem himself. But he probably will not do that. He will probably fight blindly on to the end. He really is another of the relics that will be swept away with the rising tide of new methods in politics very soon. He and his ring at Albany have done much this winter to advance the cause of the popular election of senators. This negative service is perhaps the only real service he has ever rendered the people.

Mr. Bryan's Blacklist. If anyone has entertained doubts that Mr. Bryan expects to be a factor in the next democratic national convention he should be convinced by the declaration of intention in the current issue of the Commoner. In this he declares that newspapers friendly to different candidates seem disposed to misconstrue his comments upon the different democrats whose names have been suggested for the nomination, and continues:

Some weeks ago four names were mentioned, and questions which have been asked concerning them have been answered. Some of the eastern papers at once declared that Bryan had declared the four gentlemen named to be available candidates. More recently the Commoner has referred to different public men in connection with their official work. It might be as well understood now as later that commendation of particular acts does not necessarily mean that the parties are available as reasonable candidates or that their nomination would be desirable. Mr. Bryan is not prepared to express an opinion yet as to which one of the many gentlemen named would be the most available; but that the Commoner may be free to commend such acts of Governor Harmon's administration that seem worthy of commendation, it is stated now for the benefit of the readers that the Commoner does not consider Governor Harmon as an available man for the democratic nomination for congress, that he will be given when the discussion of the subject seems proper.

From this announcement it must be clear that whether or not Mr. Bryan

picks a favorite for the democratic nomination in 1912, he has a blacklist already prepared on which are written the names of democratic undesirables, and that the name of Governor Harmon of Ohio heads the list. If there are any Harmon democrats in Nebraska who want to organize to give the Ohio man the vote of the Nebraska delegation in the next democratic national convention, here is a chance for them to get busy and have a real issue to fight over.

Cannon and Bailey. Two figures loom large in the shadows of the Sixty-first congress—those of Joseph W. Bailey, senator from Texas, and Joseph G. Cannon, representative from Illinois and speaker of the house. In their farewell moods they represent opposing types of manhood and statesmanship. Bailey, peevish and angered at his party's repudiation of his attempted leadership, resigns, playing the quitter, representing weakness. Cannon in his farewell speech, as he retires from the speakership, plays the game to the end, with power in every utterance, with malice toward none of those who in the last congress so bitterly assailed and all but unseated him.

For nearly forty years Mr. Cannon has been in the house and for eight he has been speaker. Whatever his critics may say of him, and The Bee has been one of them, they have not and can not charge him with being a quitter. Always he could be found on any issue and always he could define and defend his position, which not always happened to be popular. But for Bailey in his latest role not much can be said creditably. Proud, vainglorious and sensitive, he sought to dictate his party's policy in the senate and when he could not he hid behind a subterfuge and tendered his resignation. The country could have suffered no ill had it been accepted. Now it remains to be seen whether the democrats in the next senate will submit to the Texan's leadership, or call his bluff. He is not the man to lead any party in congress today. His day is in the past and we do not care to turn backward now in order to follow him.

Crop Prospects. Agricultural and horticultural experts say it is too early to turn in the alarm about perished winter wheat or premature buds; that the weather conditions will not warrant it as yet. The ground went into the fall very dry and there has been a deficiency of precipitation during the winter, but the last snow and rain Nebraska had did immense good. After the mixed snow and sleet disappeared a brief period of warm weather followed and then when the rain came it was able to sink deeper into the soil owing to the shallowness of the frost, thus accomplishing great good. While in some parts of the state there is still need of more moisture and more could be received with advantage in all parts, the situation is not yet regarded as distressing anywhere. Nor is it time to get uneasy about premature bursting of buds as a result of the warmth. Though the weather has been mild, it has had enough of freezing in it to hold back the buds. In fact, there is expert authority for the statement that with normal conditions from now on, winter wheat and fruit should come into the spring season most promisingly. Certainly the outlook is much better than it was a year ago this time, when farmers were losing hope and arranging thus early to plow up fields sown to wheat, which later they did, some of them to their own regret and loss. Accepting this view as correct, that what moisture we have had thus far leaves wheat in a safe condition, with what we may fairly count on from now, there is certainly no reason to become discouraged, for our springs generally bring us all the rain we need.

The Bee has always favored legislation designed to safeguard insurance enterprises that take people's money on agreement to pay it back to their heirs or on other contingencies, but we also believe that insurance regulations should have reasonable regard to the established methods of doing business without imposing hardships on Nebraska insurance companies that will handicap them as against outside companies doing business here. The home companies should not be specially privileged, but neither should they be discriminated against.

Opponents of Canadian reciprocity are bringing up the specter of other nations demanding similar concessions in case we go into this pact with the Dominion. No other nation is in like position to make such a demand, for the reason that no other nation bears the relation to the commercial, social and industrial conditions of the United States that Canada does.

John Temple Graves pronounced Joseph W. Bailey "the greatest forensic orator congress has ever produced," not excepting Clay, Calhoun and Webster. Having heard all these gentlemen, Mr. Graves, of course, is able to form an expert opinion.

If you had employed an agent to buy some property for you on his assurance that he could get it for not over \$3,500,000, and when you came to foot the bill you found that you were in for \$5,250,000, would you use the recall on him?

City Comptroller Cosgrove need not lose any sleep. No democratic legislature in Nebraska has ever acquired

the habit of legislating a democrat out of office, although they have occasionally thrown a scare for reasons best known to themselves.

Every successive legislature is always filled at about this stage of its career with incipient governors, congressmen and supreme judges galore, but the voice of the lobby is not always the voice of the people.

The public is advised by the modistes that either a very large or a very small hat will be the style this spring for women. Thanks, that is what we wanted to know.

The Houston Post recently stated "Senator Bailey has saved the country \$50,000,000." What he has cost the country is another thing.

In His Proper Place. Washington Herald. President Taft has proved distinctly that he is not only progressive, but also that he means to be at the head of the procession.

Foreign, Trust in Had Standing. Springfield Republican. Australia has declared war against our beef trust, and now Canada has started out after our shoe machinery trust. Those countries seem to be fortunate in not having trusts enough of their own to keep them busy.

Platforms to Get in On. Louisville Courier-Journal. With representatives of both the democratic and republican parties voting against the alleged security of senators, it seems more than ever that political, like railroad, platforms are to get in on—not to stand on.

No Trouble on the Score. Pittsburgh Dispatch. Despite the alleged security of senators, we venture to predict that the Missouri Pacific railroad's advertisement for a \$100,000 man for its president will elicit a flood of answers from a horde of men, all of whom are confident that they can draw the money.

Where the Penalty is Needed. St. Paul Dispatch. Congressman Hobson has secured the passage of a law by congress for the punishment of Japanese and other spies. There should also be a law providing for the punishment of congressmen who insist upon getting up war scares every few days.

Key to True Success. Henry L. Higginson in the Atlantic. The question of true success is of worldwide interest, and it remains unanswered. Socialism can give no reply, because it cripples and destroys individual effort—and individuals make the world. Government can do little, for it accomplishes far less than individuals. Education, which strengthens each unit and binds all together, can alone bring us in sight of our goal. Education may be immeasurably widened in extent and raised in value by our able men, who have won their spurs, and who are ready now to work for the common weal. Is not this the key to true success?

PLENTY OF WORK AHEAD. Increasing Population of the World and the Food Supply. Wall Street Journal. The following table roughly exhibits the European population of the world in the last-named year:

Europe, proper, nearly.....	475,000,000
North America, about.....	100,000,000
Mexico, Central America and the West India Islands, about.....	25,000,000
South America, about.....	65,000,000
Africa, about.....	200,000,000
Asia and Oceania, about.....	1,000,000,000

Grand total..... 2,805,000,000  
Facts of this magnitude and character admonish us to recast our views concerning the consumption and supplies of food, the demands for railway and steamship transportation, the requirement for international banking facilities, and many other matters of the highest commercial importance. The pressure of population is making America, North and South, the granary of the world. We shall have to adopt a new policy, and one that is more than a mere trade mission, to cultivate our foreign connections, and provide an international basis of banking and credit. There is plenty of work ahead for us, and it is time we laid plans for doing it in a proper manner. The old policy of selfishness, prejudice, and parochial politics must be cast aside, or we shall have to make room for more progressive nations.

Retiring Senator Dewey enlivened his sweet song with this story:  
"President Hayes once said to me: 'We have been fortunate in our presidents in their abilities, their characters and their high appreciation and fulfillment of the duties of the chief magistracy of this country, but no American of the like praiseworthy conditions which most of them have to meet after their retirement from office.'"  
"There is no place in the United States for an ex-president. If I could go into any of the great business enterprises of the country I would hardly fit in with your country, I think it proper, so I country would not think to deliver lectures before schools, academies and colleges."  
"As he passed me one day in New York, carrying his own grip, I called the attention of a street vendor of fruit to the fact that he was Rufus B. Hayes, ex-president of the United States and the opportunity was rare to see a man who had occupied such a high place."  
"Oh," he answered, "I don't care to see him. He is down and out and of no account."

Joy In Divorce Colony. Philadelphia Ledger.

The divorce colony at Reno is wearing a joyous air this week because the Nevada senate indefinitely postponed the divorce bill extending the required residence in the state to one year where the applicant alleges that the cause of action occurred outside the state. Under the rules the bill was killed for the present session. Public opinion was ranged on the side of the proposed measure, as the scandal of easy annulment of the marriage tie had become glaring, but the hotel and associated interests proved more powerful. It is another instance of commercialism defeating sentiment.

Have We Too Many Doctors? Pittsburgh Dispatch.

The fact that there are more doctors proportionately in this country than in England or France is not remarkable. The territory is larger, white Americans being more prosperous, are more ready to summon the physician. Also being, as a nation, better informed upon the necessity for the prevention of disease and of prompt precautionary treatment they require a larger proportion of doctors than the people of Europe, many of whom call upon a physician only in the most urgent extremity.

### Washington Life

Some Interesting Phases and Conditions observed at the Nation's Capital.

Last October moral Washington professed to be awfully shocked by the appearance of a status of an undraped woman in the lawn of the residence of Mrs. Alice F. Barney. Prudes screamed and sent a multitude of people to view the landscape decoration. The statue was too large for the doors or windows of the mansion and was placed outside until a suitable opening could be made. Meanwhile the figure was draped with emergency trosserettes and a mantle, and was finally removed from the rude gaze of an inartistic world. The incident occasioned unwelcome notice, spoiling the social activities planned by Mrs. Barney and she hurried off to Paris to escape the scoffers. Now the merry widow hands Washington a supplementary shock, announcing her engagement to Ronald Herick, former consul at Geneva. Mr. Herick is 26, about thirty-five years younger than his bride-to-be.

Mrs. Barney, who was Miss Alice Fluke, was born in Cincinnati. Her father was the proprietor of Pike's theater there, and a whiskey manufacturer. As a girl Miss Pike wrote several plays for charity, and then went abroad and studied art under Whistler. When she returned to America she married Alfred Clifford Barney, an Ohio banker. When he died, about seven years ago, it was said he had left \$500,000 to his widow and \$200,000 to each of his daughters. Mrs. Barney has had several of her paintings hung in the Paris salon. She built the Neighborhood House in Washington. She designed the "Studio House," which she and her daughter occupy in Washington, making it combine the features of a home, a studio and a garage.

Buffalo Bill will have two near-doubles in the new United States senate. One is Senator Briggs of New Jersey and the other is Senator James E. Martine of New Jersey. Briggs and Martine both wear grotesque hats and are astonishingly alike and also of the same pattern as Colonel Cody. Moreover, they wear their hair much after the manner of the famous scout, dead shot, and wild west hero.

When Mr. Martine appeared on the senate floor the other day and sat down alongside of Senator Briggs, and their respective goatees waved and waggled in unison, it was cause for much comment. All that was lacking to complete the gem was the presence of Colonel Cody and of Associate Justice Hughes.

While congress was wrestling with the high cost of living, the United States government advised people to eat cheese and save some of the money that now goes into the pockets of the beef trust. Experts of the Agricultural department have demonstrated that American, or Cheddar, cheese, from its green and ripe state, is highly digestible and exceedingly nourishing. Skimmed milk cheese is given a good name by the government experts and cottage cheese gets a fine send-off, both as a nourishing product and as a cheap meat. It is declared that a pound of fresh cheese possesses little more than half the food value of an equal amount of meat, and that the same is true of practically all other fresh meats, with the exception of bacon or fat pork. In other words a pound of cheese is as good as two pounds of fresh meat, equal in a pound of ham and also equal in two pounds of eggs or three pounds of fish. So far as prices go, of course, there is no comparison.

Inasmuch as Americans eat from 100 to 150 pounds of meat per capita each year, not counting fish and poultry, it can be seen what a lot of money they could save if they would eat more cheese and less of the products of the beef trust.

Chief Justice White, who is one of the most amiable men in the world off the bench, says the Washington Times, is a terror to the lawyers that appear before the supreme court to argue cases. He can argue a case himself in French, Spanish or English, and perhaps in some other languages. He is a student of philology and when a lawyer is threatening about as to the meaning of some word the chief justice is apt to break out with something like this: "Give me the Greek derivative of the word. A common expression of the chief justice is: 'Illustrate it! Illustrate it!'"

To have the chief justice lean over the bench and explode a question at a green lawyer is apt to make the latter lose his feet completely. Some days ago, when the equal rights bill was under consideration in the Senate, Chief Justice White, who was sitting in the United States Supreme Court, turned to the lawyer who was opposing the bill and said: "Give me an illustration of it."

Kearney Hub: An Omaha syndicate has started a Louisiana boom and will appeal to the gentlemen with "easy money" with special ones, luxury accommodations on route, and a glittering prospect of the advantages of investment in that locality. Of course Nebraska money is needed for these investments and it is safe to say that most of it will stay where it is "put," whether it be in rice swamp or cotton plateau.

"JACKPOT" REFLECTIONS.

New York World: Direct election of senators by the people has its foins. Naturally. Would the people of Illinois have elected Lorimer?  
Kansas City Times: Of the twenty-four republicans who favored the rule of the people, twenty-one appropriately sided with Lorimer. There is a tie that binds.  
New York Tribune: The public will never have much faith in the value of things procured under circumstances as suspicious as those which attended the choice of Mr. Lorimer. It would have a far greater respect for him if he should now resign and ask Illinois to re-elect him.

Louisville Courier-Journal: Of course, nearly all the senators who voted against senatorial election by the people voted against the vacation of Lorimer's seat.

What are the people among the Lorimers who know the advantages of legislatures over the mob in the senatorial business? Boston Transcript: The best thing for Senator Lorimer to do, now that he has been confirmed in his seat by a narrow majority, is to resign the seat and appear before the legislature which is now in session in Illinois and ask for a re-election. It would be still better for him if some way could be devised by which the matter might be fought out in a popular primary.

Warning to the Beef Trust. Indianapolis News.

Profiting, no doubt, by the horrible example we have set, Australia clearly hopes to prevent itself from being afflicted by similar conditions. It is so small that it has set for itself, for it is exceedingly difficult to keep the stock and graze a rich field; but as Australia is young, confident and strong it should at least make a good industrial fight for the maintenance of freedom. This country will watch the fight with great interest.

### The Bee's Letter Box

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

Which Constitutency? WFMORE, Neb., March 4.—To the Editor of The Bee: I see that our Senator Peter Jansen is the one to introduce and advocate the resolution in the legislature for Canadian reciprocity. Peter Jansen is only nominally senator from Gage county. He is really senator from Manitoba and Saskatchewan where he inherited in Canadian lands by the tens of thousands of acres and got rich from them. As senator from Manitoba Peter Jansen should be for reciprocity, but as senator from Gage county in Nebraska he should be against it as his former constituents are. J. W. S.

Method of Deaf Instruction. SEATTLE, Wash., Feb. 28.—To the Editor of The Bee: A bill is before the legislature of Nebraska to change the method of instructing the deaf at the state school in Omaha to the oral method and abolish the sign language and manual spelling. This bill would do far more harm than good to the deaf of Nebraska.

The method now used at the Omaha school is the combined system. Under this method all who can learn it are taught to speak. They also have the privilege of learning the sign language. This is as it should be. The deaf need both. The combined system is used in the instruction of 80 per cent of the deaf in this country. It is approved by 95 per cent of the deaf themselves and by a very large majority of the teachers engaged in instructing them.

Many deaf who have been instructed by the oral method severely condemn those who would exclude the sign language. We do not object to oral instruction. It is all right with those who can profit by it. But we object to the exclusion of the sign language. We want both speech and sign. That is what the combined system does us and therefore we favor the combined system.

Without the sign language a deaf person can never understand a sermon; can never enjoy a lecture; can never take part in a debate. With the sign language we can enjoy and profit by such things as well as our hearing friends. Abolish the sign language! Never!

The question of methods should be left to experts. Nebraska has good ones at the school in Omaha. Leave it to them. It would be just as sensible for the legislature to order that all sick persons must have osteopathic treatment, or no other.

OLOP HANSON, President National Association of the Deaf.

Enlightenment. MOOSOMIN, Province of Luak, Feb. 17.—To the Editor of The Bee: Under separate cover I send you copy of the Free Press for your enlightenment on things Canadian. You give us the greatest rubbish on Canadian independence ever saw in print. Why, my dear sir, it is only in the "fertile brain" of The Bee wherein such a question has taken root. But the wish is father to the thought, and you have a speech in hand which you can separate from from anything else.

If you wish to write on something Canadian, and which would be of interest and profit to us and our neighbors south of the forty-ninth parallel, give us an article on closer trade relations, and not being a knifing everything Canadian and British, which is only "baldy talk," and tail-twisting being a thing of the past. BRITISHER.

HANDOUTS FOR OMAHA.

Grand Island Free Press: A Grand Island hide company advertises in an Omaha paper for 1,000,000 skunks. Good place to locate them.

Plattsmouth Journal (dem.): To treat John O. Yelzer right the legislature should refuse to pay him a cent for the trouble he has put Omaha to, and if he is to bother with City Clerk Butler should bring suit against him for damages.  
Beatrice Sun: A woman wearing the new trouser skirt was mobbed on the streets of Paris. But the trouser skirt goes in Omaha. This should suggest to the governor another opportunity to appoint a commission to regulate the metropolitan of Nebraska.

Kearney Hub: An Omaha syndicate has started a Louisiana boom and will appeal to the gentlemen with "easy money" with special ones, luxury accommodations on route, and a glittering prospect of the advantages of investment in that locality. Of course Nebraska money is needed for these investments and it is safe to say that most of it will stay where it is "put," whether it be in rice swamp or cotton plateau.

"That man is a fanatic." "I don't see how you can say that of him. He is always right. There are old beliefs and taking up a new one."  
"Yes, but he never takes up any of the beliefs that I hold."—Chicago Record-Herald.  
The bad man leveled a big revolver through the window of the country post-office.  
"This is a magazine gun," he hoarsely said. "It means sixteen dead men at every loading."  
The spectacled clerk looked at the weapon doubtfully.  
"A magazine gun," he repeated. "Well, if it contains any advertising it comes under the 4-cent-a-pound rate."—Cleveland Plain-Dealer.  
"Bad luck is sometimes good luck." "Ridiculous."  
"Not at all. Did you ever get a club to fill a heart flush and afterward discover some one else had a full house?"—Detroit Free Press.

"What do you think of the idea of an extra session of congress?" "Well," replied Farmer Cornssett, "some extra sessions, when the election papers, they ain't enough in 'em to justify the hollerin'."—Washington Star.  
"Can you give my constituent here a job on your railroad?" asked the state senator.  
"But he can't talk English."  
"Well, give him a job calling trains."—Washington Herald.  
Doctor—You must put a porous plaster on the small of your back.  
Lady—That's impossible, doctor. I'm going to the opera tonight; how would I look?—Toledo Blade.  
"No, deary," he said, "I don't miss the delayed spring. How can I when I have here with me all the time that 'George'." "He's quite good," said the man. "Why don't you speak up like a man and say you want to stay out all night?"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.  
"Now this car," said the agent, calling Billings attention to a handsome limousine in the dandy, "is a dandy. It runs so smoothly you wouldn't know you were in it. Ride just like a rocking chair."  
"What do you think I am, an escaped inmate of an old lady's home demanded Billings. "I want a car that I'll know I'm in when I'm in it, and when I get out looking for a rocking chair I'll go to a furniture store and not to a garage."—Harper's Weekly.

KEEPING LENT.

Robert Herrick (1633). Is this a fast to keep? The ladder leans And cleans and cleans From fast of scales and sheep? Is it to quit the dish Is to restrain, yet still To fill The platter high with fish? Is it to fast an hour, Or ragged goe. Or show A downcast look and Bow? No! 'tis a fast to dole. Thy sheaf of wheat. And meate that I know I'm Unto the hungry sowe! It is a fast from strife, From old debate And hate. To circumscribe 'thy Life." To show a hearty grief-rent. To starve thy sin. Not pin, But that's to keep thy Lent!

### PRODING THE COFFEE TRUST.

Congressman Norris on the Trail of Octopus.

Philadelphia Record. Congressman Norris is on the warpath after a combine that is big enough to really scotch the efforts of a Nebraska reformer. What are such puny combinations as the Standard Oil, the tobacco trust and the steel corporation compared with a conspiracy of Brazil, the Rothchild banking houses and the coffee importers of the world to enhance the cost of the cup of coffee with which Mr. Norris washes down his breakfast roll?

Some of Mr. Norris' figures look as though he were barking up the wrong tree. What has particularly excited him is that a certain grade of coffee, at the beginning of its present rocket-like movement, "sold at 7 cents; that grade has gone up as high as 13 cents. Prices at retail have advanced 40 to 80 per cent in a few months." We find that the regular grade of coffee is selling on the New York exchange at 38 to 36 and 11 cents. If retail prices of 30 to 40 cents have been advanced from 40 to 60 per cent, or from 2 to 18 cents, the nefarious conspiracy of the Republic of Brazil, the greatest bankers in the world and the importers does not go very far toward explaining it. As a matter of fact, Mr. Norris' statement of the advance of retail prices is a great exaggeration.

Why the retail grocer should sell sugar at 12 cents and coffee at 20 cent per cent profit we do not understand. Probably no one outside of the grocery trade does understand it. But, as Mr. Norris points out, the difference between the wholesale price of the common grades of Brazil coffee and the retail price of coffee which is strongly suspected of being an immigrant from Brazil, but purports to come from Java, Mocha, Venezuela, Porto Rico and Mexico, is wide enough to attract attention and arouse curiosity. It is so wide as to indicate very little relation between the wholesale and retail prices, and therefore the price Mr. Norris has to pay for his domestic supply can be charged only in a subordinate degree to the reprehensible conduct of Brazil and the Rothchilds.

ALMOST A NEW WORLD.

Passing of Men and Events in a Quarter of a Century.

The Forum Magazine. In 1886 Grover Cleveland was president of the United States; Queen Victoria had not yet seen the last of her reign; the jubilee; William I was German emperor, Francois Paul Jules Grey the head of the French Republic, Humbert I king of Italy. They have gone. Four other presidents have entered the White House, two kings have sat on Queen Victoria's throne, two salvers have held the scepter of the first lord, America has seen the rise of human beings who were then living, men, women and children, more than two-thirds have passed away. In 1886 there were 50,000,000 people in the United States; 20,000,000 of them are left. In the 40,000,000 of the present population, 20,000,000 have died—the harvest of a quarter of a century.

The Boer war has been fought and our war with Spain and in the Philippines. The air has been conquered. The Panama canal has been brought into being. The genius of Edison and the great inventors has made the miraculous commonplace; motor cars, the phonograph, wireless telegraphy, aeroplanes, and a host of the products of these twenty-five years. Science has moved forward magnificently; the arts have followed—perhaps a little less conspicuously. New York has more than doubled its population; San Francisco has risen from 50,000 to 350,000; the states in the union, 20,000,000 more people, 50,000,000 more wealth. The times change indeed, and the children of time and circumstance change with them. Perhaps it were unkind to suggest that while our imports and exports have doubled, and our population will soon have the same numerical distinction, the