

THE OMAHA BEE

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It is a poor city ordinance that doesn't bring a lawsuit.

Don't overlook top-notch democratic taxes as an element in high living cost.

"The harp that once through Tara's hall" affords little hope of producing soulful music from strings of broken promises.

Off-center, those pie-counter congressmen are all hell-bent for civil service, but not in such big doses as the president is administering.

Banishing the pie counter along with liquid sobriety from the District of Columbia strips Washington of its charm as a political mecca.

While lid-tilting deserves regular attention, some of the new born zeal for reform could be profitably employed reforming the strongarm gangs and auto thieving squads.

The right of a United States senator "to be heard" is not seriously denied in any quarter. The sole objection is to hearing those who talk against time and avoid the expense of hiring a hall.

People inclined to disparage the fighting power of Chinamen should glimpse the periodical tong wars on the Pacific coast. Fourteen victims of the recent brief outbreak proves that celestial are quite handy with short arm guns.

The closing chapter of Nebraska's semi-centennial of statehood celebration is scheduled for Lincoln in June. It is the task of the Lincolmites to envelop the windup in as big a blaze of glory as the startoff at Omaha last fall, and that's some job.

That prisoner sentenced by a Sioux City police judge to study Vice President Marshall's inaugural address during a seven-day jail sojourn should appeal forthwith. The bill of rights in the constitution prohibits cruel and unusual punishments.

Incidentally, let it be reasserted that our democratic senator and his local newspaper organ are on principle against King Caucus and conscientiously opposed to steering committees enforcing caucus edicts—unless the senator is on the committee.

As to the possibility of a negro passing highest in a competitive examination for the postmastership in a southern city, let it be remembered that the southern bunch is still in control of the democratic party and that the party in control will control the examining.

Oh, no, it is not quite so bad as all that! While Omaha has been issuing bonds and more bonds to raise money for all sorts of improvements, it has promptly met its interest payments and paid off a respectable part of the principal, and its credit is as good right now as it ever was.

The South Dakota legislature piled up appropriations totaling \$4,900,000, surpassing the best previous record by \$1,600,000. Unexpected drafts on the public treasury and increased cost of maintaining public institutions necessitated extraordinary appropriations, all of which may lead emphasis to the rising cost of government.

If the new federal land bank is to be conducted with a view to financial success, it should have an advertising and promotion fund the same as private concerns loaning money on their own account. The principal capital of the land bank right now is the immense amount of free publicity it has had in the newspapers throughout the initial stages, but which it cannot count on enjoying indefinitely.

Sugar and War

America's armor has so many vulnerable places that it would be fulsome flattery to speak of anyone as the "heel of Achilles." But selecting one at random we might pick up the question of the cane fields of Cuba.

Half our sugar supply comes from Cuba. The imports in the last calendar year from that island were 4,881,000,000 pounds. Our domestic consumption in the last ten years increased nearly 43 per cent, while the population increased by 21 per cent. The countries now at war have discovered that sugar is one of the most essential of foods. Germany learned this to her cost. In the first year she ordered the sugar beet acreage cut down in order to give more room for cereals and potatoes. The experience she gained caused a reversal of the program next season.

Should we go to war, it is probable that our domestic demand would be larger per capita. Then too, molasses is necessary, because alcohol is needed to treat nitrated cotton for the manufacture of smokeless powder. The great demand for it has in this time of war have discovered that sugar is one of the most essential of foods. Germany learned this to her cost. In the first year she ordered the sugar beet acreage cut down in order to give more room for cereals and potatoes. The experience she gained caused a reversal of the program next season.

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Austria disclaims, reiterates, asserts and cogitates through columns of diplomatic hot air and manages to smother the main point with professions of good intentions. Considering the perils of diplomatic aviation, the dual empire shows uncommon skill in returning safely to the point it started from.

Wholesale indictments of coal dealers and coal operators promise to shed judicial light on the rigged up fuel market of midwinter. In addition to the educational value of the coming trial the pinched consumer may derive some satisfaction from the certainty that the combine must dig up to the lawyers.

A Far-Reaching Order.

The forthcoming executive order, presaged through Postmaster General Burleson, providing for the selection of all postmasters, except fourth class postmasters already under civil service, by competitive examination, promises a far-reaching innovation in the public service. The postmasters jobs constitute the largest batch of appointive places still distributed by political favor as a reward of party service and while this proposed plan does not necessarily bring them within the classified lists, it extends to these offices the principle of merit appointment, though, as we take it, for the usual definite term and subject to senate confirmation or rejection. Even so, it is a tremendous forward step toward permanent tenure and possibly toward promotion from one grade of postoffice to the grade next higher.

It goes without saying that much will depend upon the spirit that governs in the administration of the plan and in having the examinations honestly and impartially conducted. The president is also open to criticism for delaying the inauguration of the merit test for postmastership appointments until the advent of his second term instead of issuing such an order during his first term, when he was just as strongly committed to civil service reform, and before all the republican incumbents had been supplanted by deserving democrats. Strict adherence to the method of selection by examination, however, will in course of time, equalize the political advantages and disadvantages accruing from the fact that in the beginning the democrats are in possession of the spoils.

To the congressman who is merely a patronage distributor, the order will come as a grievous shock, but the congressman who wants to devote himself to big subjects of legislation and the public generally, will hail it with satisfaction as a relief from embarrassing postoffice fights and offering hope of improvement in the service.

Schoolma'ams and the Public.

A lamentable lack of appreciation, not to speak of gallantry, was shown by the democrats at Lincoln while discussing a bill relating to pensions for school teachers. One honorable gentleman supported his argument against the measure by citing the fact that his daughter daily wades through snow to reach the school she is teaching and does it without expectation of a pension. Another cited the fact that he had three red-headed girls who were all experienced school teachers, and if they were not married before they had taught twenty-five years he would chloroform them.

Women who give their lives to the training of other people's children deserve better than this. A psychological aspect of the teacher's vocation is that the maternal instinct fits the woman for better service in dealing with the younger children. That some impulse beyond immediate reward and apart from expectation of a pension moves them is shown by the daughter of the one legislator, who braves the rigor of winter that she may give something to the youngsters of her district they would not get were all school teachers to first consult their own comfort. The chief end of a teacher's life is not to get married. That so many of them do is due to the fact that they are mentally alert as well as physically attractive, and that young men are appreciative of mental as well as bodily charms.

If the teachers are not to have pensions, their pay should be raised to a point where those who escape matrimony—and some do—may save sufficient to provide against days when they can no longer work. Wages paid country schoolma'ams in Nebraska will not permit the accumulation of a competency.

Postmortem on a Ghastly Military Blunder.

A British parliamentary commission has just made its report on the failure of the Gallipoli campaign, the majority censuring Lord Kitchener by inference and Colonel Winston Churchill, who was first lord of the admiralty when the venture was undertaken. It is found that the expedition to capture the Dardanelles was at the instance of Churchill, who blundered in making a naval affair out of what should have been a combined land and water assault. Kitchener is blamed for undertaking to do too much, more than one man might expect to do well. He did not avail himself properly of the services of his staff, and confusion resulted from his inability to properly attend to everything. Other war lords and sea lords are involved in the implied censure of the majority report, which has been revised with utmost care that feelings be spared as far as possible. Little enough of consolation will be found in this after-the-fact examination and effort to put the best face on a real disaster, the effects of which are yet felt by the Allies. The project was sound enough in its conception, and its carrying out would have been of immense advantage to the anti-German cause, but it failed, partly through the inability of a great soldier, apparently, to understand what really was involved in the undertaking, and partly through the impetuosity of a man who had just brought off one decided coup and sought to achieve another. His lesson is for naval and military experts rather than for the public.

Among the lesser tragedies of the senate filibuster the shocking death of the federal judge retirement bill deserves a passing term. The bill which slipped through the house on greased skids provided for compulsory retirement at the age of 70. Sixteen fine openings for eminent public servants would have been available instantly. Public wrath over the filibuster hardly equals the suppressed indignation which rules the judicial temperament of aspirants.

Reports of plots and plotters in this country and in Mexico and Cuba serve a good purpose. The country needs an awakening from its lethargy and indifference to alien troublemakers. While the schemes and schemers do not get very far, greater watchfulness becomes an imperative duty of citizens during the present strained relations.

The marquis of Bute, one of the wealthiest members of the peerage, enlisted early in the war as a private and is now an officer in the Welsh regiment.

A remarkable joyride of a car of onions, impudently by a waverer, was reported by Commissioner Hartigan of the bureau of weights and measures at New York. The itinerary began at Syracuse, then to Boston, over to Philadelphia, west to Chicago and finally to New York City. Each leg of the journey lifted the price, but the speculators paid the freight from start to finish. The shipment collided with a boycott in Chicago and struck a slump in New York that produced a cramp in the owner's checking account. It is only just to say that throughout a joyride of some 2,400 miles the robust strength of the onions remained undiminished.

Taxes and More Taxes

Just now when thousands of individuals and corporations are filing their income tax returns, in accordance with the federal income tax law, one must become impressed with the fact that we have become a heavily taxed nation and have to face continually climbing taxes. The tendency of taxes to rise has become evident in the last fifteen years, and now they are the highest in the history of our states and nation. And there is no saying when these advances in taxes and the creation of new taxes will halt. There is no county or town in the land in which local taxes have not become almost oppressive.

Recently the federal income tax has been doubled and now our legislators are planning all kinds of new taxes, and it looks as if the saying that nothing in this world is sure except death and taxes will have to be paraphrased to read that nothing in this world is sure except death and rising taxes. Of whatever kind new federal income taxes may be, they will undoubtedly become a heavy burden on business and check on enterprise, for they will hit the successful, the ambitious and the industrious. Taxes must be equally distributed so as not to make the payer feel that he has been singled out as the beast of burden and that success and honestly acquired wealth are penalized. That heavy taxes must discourage business enterprise goes without saying.

It is true that conditions are forcing the nation to provide itself with ample resources to meet every possible emergency, but whatever is done for the safety of the nation will not only benefit the present generation, but generations to come. Why should the present generation assume all the burdens? Why not make the future carry a share of them? A big national bond issue, to run fifty years and to be partly redeemed each year, would be more just and equitable than any additional income taxes. Nobody knows what the future has in store for us. A bond issue of one or two billions, to be retired by annual redemptions, would affect business less than new heavy taxation, which in times of business depression, which are sure to come, for every period of prosperity is followed by one of reaction, is liable to cripple the country's industries and create hard times, the effects of which will hit the masses, whom present tax laws try to favor, and not the classes.

We have to take upon us heavy burdens under present clouded political conditions, but upon the character of these burdens also depends the future welfare and progress of the nation. Our present national debt is less than a billion dollars. It was twice that much when the civil war closed. Why should not our country, with its present great wealth, again carry a national debt of the size of fifty years ago? We were able gradually to reduce it after the civil war. It will be easier to reduce a three-billion dollar debt in the next fifty years. What ought to be done now is not to tax incomes too high, as it will check progress and enterprise.

Boom in American Toys

Among the many American exports which have increased tremendously during the last two years is the American made toy. The total value of the exports of American toys for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1916, was \$2,030,069, more than double the total value of the exports for 1911, which reached a little over one million dollars, and still higher in proportion to the total exported in the fiscal year ended June 30, 1914, the year preceding the European war, which reached \$809,000.

In the toy trade Germany's loss is America's gain. In the years before 1914 the German toy trade had risen to mighty proportions and German toys went to the uttermost corners of the globe. An idea of what the war has meant to German toy makers may be gained by perusal of the figures for German exports of toys for the last few years. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 1914, just preceding the outbreak of the war, the exports of German toys to the United States reached a total value of \$7,718,000, where, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1916, they fell to \$1,758,000, or less than one-fourth the former total.

Among the best customers for American-made toys during the last few years have been Great Britain and the more important British colonies. In the two years preceding the war the imports of American playthings into England, Scotland and Ireland totaled about \$120,000. In 1915 they went up to a little over \$300,000, and in 1916, to over \$760,000, or more than six times the aggregate imports for each of the two years before the outbreak of the war.

A similar rise is apparent in the figures covering imports of American playthings into the principal British colonies. Those for Canada rose from \$327,000 in 1913, and \$349,000 in 1914, to \$594,000 in 1916. During the first year of the war there was no increase in the imports, the total being \$321,000, somewhat lower than during the preceding two fiscal years.

The imports of American toys into Australia rose from \$40,000 in 1913, and \$57,000 in 1914, to \$98,000 in 1916; those into New Zealand from \$9,500 in 1914 to \$38,000 in 1916.

An interesting point in connection with the above is that the figures for certain other British dependencies show no such rise as is apparent in the principal colonies, and, in some cases, even a decline. In British India, for instance, the imports of American toys totaled a little short of \$13,000 in 1914, and rose only to \$14,500 in 1916. In the Straits Settlements they dropped from \$2,100 to \$1,090.

People and Events

Sir Thomas Lipton began his working life as errand boy for a merchant in Glasgow.

The Duke of Devonshire, as governor general of Canada, receives a salary of \$50,000 a year.

Ireland's richest man is Lord Pirrie, who owns his millions to the Belfast shipbuilding industry.

The youthful ambition of Bonar Law, the British statesman, was to be a trapper in the wilds of Canada.

Dr. Christopher Addison, the new minister of munitions in the British cabinet, is a physician by profession.

Wisconsin's oldest active lawyer is Captain Thomas L. Kennan of Milwaukee, who was 90 years old on Washington's birthday.

Sir Johnstone Forbes-Robertson is believed to be the only prominent actor of today who began his career as a leading man.

Father Bernard Vaughan, the famous Jesuit preacher, recently celebrated the golden jubilee of his ordination to the priesthood.

In eighteen years Nat Gould, the English novelist, has written seventy-five novels, the aggregate sales of which exceed 10,000,000 copies.

Dr. James M. Peebles, the famous physician and psychologist, who is now a resident of Los Angeles, will celebrate his ninety-fifth birthday this month.

The marquis of Bute, one of the wealthiest members of the peerage, enlisted early in the war as a private and is now an officer in the Welsh regiment.

A remarkable joyride of a car of onions, impudently by a waverer, was reported by Commissioner Hartigan of the bureau of weights and measures at New York. The itinerary began at Syracuse, then to Boston, over to Philadelphia, west to Chicago and finally to New York City. Each leg of the journey lifted the price, but the speculators paid the freight from start to finish. The shipment collided with a boycott in Chicago and struck a slump in New York that produced a cramp in the owner's checking account. It is only just to say that throughout a joyride of some 2,400 miles the robust strength of the onions remained undiminished.

TODAY

Health Hint for the Day. In order that indoor air may be of the utmost purity, there must be no contamination from faulty plumbing, badly made stoves or furnaces.

One Year Ago Today in the War. Russians continued advance on Trebizond. Norwegian bark Silius torpedoed near Harstad.

French recaptured village west of Meuse in Verdun battle. Italian chamber endorsed Premier Salandra's conduct of war against Austria.

In Omaha Thirty Years Ago. Ex-Senator Blanche K. Bruce, the colored statesman, lately register of the treasury, passed through Omaha and was met at the depot by a delegation of colored citizens consisting of William H. and T. J. Vindgar, E. R. Overal and Henry Scroggins.

At Sunday school observance meeting, held at the Walnut Hill church, the following little folks gave recitations: Nellie Eppeneter, Nellie

Riley, Percy Stewart, Grace Sheely, Bradley Eward, Albert Moore, Minnie Riley, Harvey Moore, Ed Riley and Jennie Whitely.

The horses attached to Allan's fish wagon became frightened and dashed down Sixteenth street at the corner of Douglas, they ran into a buggy which was occupied by Isaac D. Clarke and his little grandson, Lewis Clarke, who were badly bruised but not seriously hurt.

Buffalo Bill arrived in Omaha from New York on his way to North Platte to visit his home before leaving for Europe on the steamship Nebraska.

W. G. Ingram, of the Union Pacific telegraph corps, besides being an expert man at the key, is an inventive genius, his latest invention being a little device for holding a spool of thread so that the thread can be rapidly unspooled.

Mr. Charles A. Birney has accepted a position with C. L. Erickson, the State court clerk, at Lincoln.

R. D. Hills obtained the Oxford League of the First Methodist Episcopal church at his residence, 2013 California street.

This Day in History. 1749—Count de Mirabeau, one of the greatest orators and statesmen that France ever produced, born near Nemours. Died in Paris, April 2, 1791.

1829—The postmaster general was made a member of the president's cabinet.

1839—End of the three months' war between Mexico and France.

1847—American army under Winfield Scott landed at Vera Cruz.

1862—Battle between the Merrimac and Monitor in Hampton Roads.

1869—Hector Berlioz, celebrated French composer, died. Born December 11, 1802.

1877—Oliver Ames, one of the builders of the Union Pacific railroad, died at North Easton, Mass. Born at Plymouth, Mass. November 5, 1807.

1888—William I, German emperor and king of Prussia, died in Berlin. Born there, March 22, 1817.

1901—Count Tolstoy, the Russian author and reformer, was excommunicated by the orthodox Greek church.

1914—Thirty lives lost in a fire that destroyed the home of the Missouri Athletic club in St. Louis.

1916—A large force of Mexican brigades under Villa crossed the border and raided the town of Columbus, N. M.

The Day We Celebrate. Ellis U. Graff, superintendent of the Omaha schools, was born March 9, 1872, at Red Oak, Ia. He graduated at Lake Forest college and Chicago universities and has taught in Omaha, Rockford, Ill., where he had been principal of the high school.

John Francis Potter, teacher of music, was born March 9, 1874. Mr. Potter studied music in New York and Chicago and has toured the United States and Canada as a mandolin soloist.

John Erickson, Jr., a captain of the city fire department, is just 47 today. He was born in Sweden and came to this country in 1881.

Edward G. Acheson, the chemist to whom the world owes the invention of carborundum, born at Washington, Pa., sixty-one years ago today.

Eddie Foy, well known as a comedian in musical extravaganzas and vaudeville, born in New York, sixty-three years ago today.

Walter Clark, celebrated landscape artist, born in Brooklyn, N. Y., sixty-nine years ago today.

Daniel J. Sully, who attained prominence some years ago by his attempt to corner the cotton market, born at Providence, R. I., fifty-six years ago today.

Terry McGovern, former champion featherweight pugilist, born at Johnstown, Pa., thirty-seven years ago today.

Timely Jottings and Reminders. Today is the fortieth anniversary of New England's "great gale" when the wind in Boston and vicinity attained a velocity of seventy-two miles an hour.

The first conference of college women's athletic associations is to meet at the University of Wisconsin today and will continue over tomorrow.

Several hundred members of the Lake Superior Mining institute are to depart tonight from Calumet, Mich., for Birmingham, Ala., where they are to hold the sessions of their annual meeting next week.

Stoyette of the Day. During the recent campaign a Tammany leader on the East Side, a self-made man and one not entirely completed yet in some respects, was addressing a mass meeting of Italian-born voters on behalf of the democratic ticket.

"Gentlemen and fellow citizens," he began. "I deem it an honor to be permitted to address you upon the issues of the day. I have always had a deep admiration for your native land. I venerate the memory of that great, that noble, Elysian who was the original and first discoverer of this here land of ours."

"Why, gentlemen, at me mother's knee I was taught to sing that inspiring song, 'Columbia, the Gem of the Ocean.'"

Whereupon there was loud applause.—Saturday Evening Post.

HERE AND THERE. Public schools in the United States have an average daily attendance of 14,216,459 pupils.

Kansas leads all the states in the number of its cities under the commission form of government.

An ice yacht, under favorable conditions, can make far greater speed than the fastest express train.

The Bee's Letter Box

Perplexities of H. C. L. Omaha, March 8.—To the Editor of The Bee: It will soon be time for us common people to put into practice some of the teachings of the living-again to reduce the high cost of living by raising a few vegetables at the back of the house. I have plenty of ground and plenty of muscle to work it, but, on account of the high cost of living my landlord cannot afford to build a fence around the lot and neither can I. My neighbors to the right and to the left, in the rear and in the front, keep chickens to reduce the high cost of living and every few days, by actual count, twenty-one dogs of both sexes, make night hideous in my back garden. If I buy a spade, a fork, etc., and garden seeds, several hours of work on said garden and my neighbor's chickens scratch it up or the dogs dig it up, please tell me how I reduced the high cost of living to myself.

If I take exception to the chickens living off my lawn, I shall have to go to law. I presume, to compel him to keep them shut up and that will help the lawyer solve the problem, but not me. Now, please tell me where I stand; if I shoot the dogs and chickens I help the city of Omaha solve the problem, by my paying a fine for discharging firearms. You may tell me there is a law compelling people to keep their chickens off my garden. But I have noticed obnoxious law in Omaha is a joke. INQUIRITOR.

Kind Words for the Reporter. Omaha, March 7.—To the Editor of The Bee: Someone unknown to me very kindly reported a sermon which I preached in the Grace Baptist church last Sunday night on "What Made Ruth Beautiful?" and it was printed in the Monday morning issue of The Bee. It was an exceedingly satisfactory report, and I wish to express my appreciation for it. If that reporter reports other things as well as he did that sermon, he is a good one. Thanking you for the courtesy shown me, I remain, E. B. TAFT.

Not Ready to See Congress Abolished. Oxford, Neb., March 7.—To the Editor of The Bee: So far as I have observed The Bee is the only leading daily in Nebraska willing to accord justice to Senators Norris, La Follette, Stone and other stalwart statesmen who do their own thinking, and who have the courage to follow the dictates of a sense of duty and patriotism.

So eager is Mr. Wilson to obtain power, he is willing to involve the United States in war to further his own ends; to pose as a great man; to assist in the accumulation of vast amounts of money at the price of blood, and last but not least, to court favor with Great Britain, at whose beck and call he has acted in harmony with Europe's entente since the devastating war began.

I am not pro-German, pro-British or pro anything else except America. It does not, however, follow that because we are true American citizens we should be subservient to any man, though he happens to be president, in an attempt to force this nation into war for no cause, except that it would meet the approbation of the entente who would gladly welcome aid from the United States to assist them in "bringing Germany to its knees."

So great is Mr. Wilson's craving to become a czar that he is unwilling that little fellows, in his estimation, such as Senators Norris, La Follette, Stone and other celebrated statesmen, think much less act out of harmony with this great chieftain. "What mean doth Caesar eat that makes him so great?" How long will our representatives in the upper and lower houses of congress suffer themselves to be hoodwinked by Wilson.

Let my article become as lengthy, suffice it to say that thinking patriotic people of this republic will endorse the course of these stalwart and courageous senators. A president who covets more power than the constitution vests in him, that he may pose as a great man—greater than the noble Lincoln, in my own estimation, and that of his weak and vulnerable cabinet—should be divested of the power he has. N. B. GRAHAM.

Mrs. Catt Side-Sets. New York, March 5.—To the Editor of The Bee: Having been almost continuously in Washington in connection with the federal suffrage amendment since February, my attention has only just been called to your editorial of February 15. In it you take me to task for having relied on the published utterances of a former Nebraska official as authority for my statement that the attorney general of Nebraska had said that the amendment was counted out there.

I put the above in quotation marks because your correspondent who first challenged me on this score so understood my alleged "charges" and so phrased it. The whole first of the opposition, you may recall, was at that moment directed toward obscuring the issue by making it appear, not that I had made any charge on my own account but that I had quoted a Nebraska official who had not said what I attributed to him. To this end a letter from Mr. Grant Martin was requisitioned in which he denied ever having said that he believed that the amendment was counted out in Nebraska official who had not said what I attributed to him.

It is not necessary, not even wise, to have gray hair nowadays. But don't use dangerous, dirty, sticky dyes. "Turn Back to Nature."

Restore the uniform color of your hair with the aid of Q-Ban Hair Color Restorer. Thousands have done so and are proud of the result. Years of study by expert chemists resulted in Q-Ban, the one preparation that actually works hand in hand with Nature in banishing gray hair in a healthful way.

You simply apply Q-Ban like a shampoo, and your hair will assume a natural color, evenly, gradually, safely and surely. Your hair will become soft, glossy, abundant and beautiful. You will look as young as you are. But beware of imitations as they will do you harm. There is nothing like Q-Ban.

Q-Ban is all ready to use—is guaranteed to be harmless, and is sold under the maker's money-back guarantee if not satisfied. It is the only preparation of the purpose so guaranteed. At Sherman & McConnell Drug Stores and all good drug stores, 50c a large bottle, or 25c a small bottle. Write to Sherman & McConnell, Memphis, Tenn. "Hair Culture," an illustrated, interesting book of lectures, sent free.

Q-Ban Superior Hair Tonic; Q-Ban Liquid Shampoo; Q-Ban Toilet Soap; Q-Ban Depilatory for removing superfluous hair.—Advertisement.

tin, "the attributed statement was intended to refer to some other person."

No doubt it was. Not until I had made this clear, and shown that Mr. Martin had nothing to do with the case, except to be dragged in by the ears in the effort to score against my credibility, was there any effort to intensify my quotation from a Nebraska official into a "charge" of my own.

Having made that shift, you present a strong argument to prove that Mr. Reed's assertion that the amendment was counted out in Nebraska was not well founded. You may be entirely correct, but so far as I know, Mr. Reed has never repudiated the belief with which you take issue. The whole case lies within the confines of Nebraska. Whenever Mr. Reed does repudiate his published utterances, I shall be the first to withdraw my quotation from those utterances.

In the meantime I am in no position to judge of the relative merits of your contentions and Mr. Reed's. It is a good deal to ask of a stranger to your state that she be familiar with what you yourself term "complicated and duplicated mechanism of constitution changing." Nor are you, I think, justified in accusing me of "thoughtlessly circulating" a counted-out charge because I quoted from the published utterances of a Nebraska attorney general. I might quote The Omaha Bee on some mooted point in Nebraska and some one might take issue with me because he did not consider The Bee's statements well based. But so long as I name my authority instead of usurping its functions privately, I am, I believe you will admit, adhering strictly to approved procedure under the rules of evidence.

It is very far from my desire to make any charge against the good name of Nebraska or any other American commonwealth. On the rare occasions when I have been obliged to do so has been nothing but "thoughtless" about it. I have based upon what seemed to be reputable testimony and credible evidence. I have named my authority and abided by the facts. I am and have ever been reluctant to impugn the good faith of government. And I am and always shall be glad to find reason for believing in the good reports of commonwealths rather than in ill reports.

CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT, National American Woman Suffrage association.

CHEERY CHAFF. "I suppose the picture business is a very risky one?" "Not necessarily. What makes you think so?" "I notice it is always going to the wall."—Baltimore American.

Cholly—Do you think it would be foolish for me to marry a girl who was my intellectual inferior? "Dolly—More than foolish—impossible.—Cleveland Leader.

Knickers—Don't you mind pulling the bed-died uphill? "Knicker—No, it is a comfort to see something that has a hard time rising.—New York Times.

"I want to cancel my lease." "Cancel! Why, isn't the apartment just as I represented it?" "Too much so. You advertised, 'Gon-fineous hot water,' but I didn't know that it referred to the neighbors.—Boston Transcript.

Play Your Own Accompaniment THE Edward B. Healy PIANO PLAYER

easy to pedal \$375 \$2.50 Per Week 10-YEAR GUARANTY. GENUINE MAHOAGANY, WALNUT OR OAK.

This Gulbransen-made Player Piano is FIT FOR A KING!