

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily Bee (without Sunday), on year, \$4.00. Daily Bee and Sunday, one year, \$5.00. Illustrated Bee, one year, \$5.50. Sunday Bee, one year, \$2.50. Saturday Bee, one year, \$1.50. DELIVERED BY CARRIER. Daily Bee (including Sunday) per week, 7c. Daily Bee (without Sunday), per week, 5c. Evening Bee (without Sunday), per week, 5c. Evening Bee (with Sunday), per week, 10c. Sunday Bee, per copy, 2c. Address complaints of irregularities in delivery to City Circulation Department.

OFFICES. Omaha—The Bee Building, South Omaha—City Hall Building, Council Bluffs—10 Pearl Street, Chicago—210 Unity Building, New York—465 Home Life Bldg., Washington—601 Fourteenth Street. CORRESPONDENTS. Communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed: Omaha Bee, Editorial Department.

REMITTANCES. Rem't by draft, express or postal order, payable to The Bee Publishing Company. Only 2-cent stamps received as payment of mail accounts. Personal checks except on Omaha or eastern exchanges not accepted. THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.: C. C. Rosewater, secretary 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, 1905, was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Circulation type and quantity. Includes categories like Total, Less unsold copies, Net total sales, Daily average.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 13th day of December, 1905. (Seal) M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

WHEN OUT OF TOWN. Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. It is better than a daily letter from home. Address will be changed as often as requested.

The republican insurgents will always be popular with the democratic press. San Francisco is about the only city in the country where the brutal art of prize fighting is still tolerated and countenanced.

Chinese have decided that they will no longer be a subject race; but until the "master" races have spoken the question is still undecided.

The suggestion of making President Roosevelt president of the Chicago Rockefeller university caps the climax of sublime profligateness.

Hawaiian politics would indicate that the officeholders of the island had imported their methods as well as their sentiments from the mainland.

The Standard Oil magnates will hereafter swear their female stenographers to strict secrecy, not only in the office building, but on the witness stand.

Now that President Roosevelt has been made an honorary member of the Improved Order of Red Men the solution of the Indian problem is in sight.

Castle Chadwick, alias Madame Devere, the woman bank wrecker, is safely lodged in the Ohio penitentiary, but hundreds of men bank wreckers are still at large.

The Minneapolis hotel fire has revived reminiscences of Baltimore and Chicago and inspired a demand for better fire protection by the leading newspapers in the large cities.

Cleveland financial institutions should hereafter buy securities with the distinct understanding that the vendor shall assume all responsibilities in case of his death by suicide.

Attorney General Brown will be in position to put a feather in his cap before he delivers his forthcoming address on "Railroad Taxation" before the Nebraska State Historical society at its session this week.

Speaker Cannon is represented as expressing a change of heart in favor of the public buildings bill during the present session of congress. The question is, Will it be a Mercer-inary omnibus with catch as catch can.

Grover Cleveland has congratulated Perry Belmont upon his recent magazine article condemning large campaign contributions by bankers and corporations. This is tangible proof that Grover does not propose to run another political race.

The feeling between Kentucky and Indiana was more intense than was imagined, since Kentucky seriously considers a proposition to place a statue of Goebel in the place reserved for the state's distinguished men at Washington.

From now until "time" is called some congressmen will be more interested in the question of public buildings than in all questions which have more than district interest. Some promises have to be kept, as elections are to be held this fall.

From the way in which women interest themselves in British politics it would seem that across the water they are not satisfied with the distinction given them by "society." Is it possible that the "gutter stamp" of rank has at last given away to the honors conferred only by ordinary voters?

THE RAILROAD TAX DECISION.

The people of Nebraska have cause for self-congratulation over the decision rendered by Judge Munger in the United States district court dissolving the injunction to restrain the collection of railroad taxes for 1904-1905 levied in the various counties under the assessment of the State Board of Equalization. The case involved not merely the collection of the respective amounts of taxes which the Burlington and Union Pacific had arbitrarily refused to pay into the respective county and municipal treasuries, but the basic principle of railway assessment and taxation under the constitution and laws of Nebraska.

Judge Munger's opinion discloses a profound study of the vital issues involved, an impartial consideration of the facts in the case and a righteous interpretation of the law governing railway assessments in conformity with the decisions rendered by the highest tribunal in the land. Preliminary to an expression of his own views Judge Munger recites the frivolous, irrelevant and immaterial allegations embodied in these petitions of the railroad attorneys praying for an order of court to enjoin the collection of taxes alleged to have been excessive and illegal.

1. Because the Board of Railroad Assessment was beset by politicians and intimidated by popular clamor and the press from an impartial discharge of its functions, when as a matter of fact, the board was on the other leg. From the opening to the close of its session the board was harassed, bullied, ragged and pursued night and day by railroad lobbyists, tax agents and railroad attorneys, who exercised all their persuasive powers to induce the board to re-nact the criminal force that had for years been annually perpetrated by succeeding assessment boards in the appraisal of railroad property.

2. That the board in fixing the value of railway properties considered and valued the franchise they had received by acts of congress. This absurd objection is not merely brushed aside by Judge Munger as groundless, but on the contrary he affirms the right and duty of the board to take the value of franchises under consideration in the appraisal of railroads whether they were originally granted by congress or the state.

3. The objection raised by the railway attorneys to the consideration of the value of the interstate traffic over Nebraska railroads as part of their aggregate earnings within the state, is disposed of by Judge Munger in the declaration that it was the right and duty of the board to include within its valuation of the local traffic the value of the through traffic in making its estimates of the whole traffic within the state for the purpose of computing the earnings of the respective railroads.

4. The court dismissed as untenable the assumption that the railroads were over-valued by 20 per cent in ratio with the assessment of other property by pointing to the well-established principle that the boards of assessment and equalization are clothed with discretionary power which cannot be attacked and reviewed in the manner proposed.

5 and 6. The complaint of the railroad attorneys that the stocks and bond value divided by the total number of miles is not the proper basis for estimating the true value of a railroad is not well grounded, but, on the contrary, repeated decisions of the supreme court have pronounced this mode of ascertaining values of railroads for taxation purposes as fair and equitable.

In reaffirming these principles clearly and boldly Judge Munger has enunciated the cardinal principles of equitable taxation for which he is entitled to the thanks of every taxpayer of Nebraska.

FRANCE AND VENEZUELA.

The severing of diplomatic relations between France and Venezuela may not have any serious results, but it is manifestly a circumstance in which there is possibility of trouble in which the United States may become involved. There can be no doubt that the French government is fully justified in taking the course it has. To have done otherwise would have been to compromise its self-respect and placed itself in a humiliating position before the world. France has shown a great deal of patience in her issue with Venezuela. She has sought by every diplomatic expedient to bring about a satisfactory understanding, but at every point has found the Venezuelan government stubbornly indisposed to adopt a position essential to an amicable arrangement. It was thought that when France dispatched naval vessels to a point in proximity to Venezuelan waters President Castro would show a disposition to yield, but instead he appears to have become more obstinate and his conduct since has been regarded by the French government as insulting. The efforts of the American minister to bring about an adjustment of the differences were to a large extent futile and it is said have caused him to be regarded with disfavor by Castro.

France is well within her international rights in the action she has taken. The severance of diplomatic relations does not necessarily mean that there will be war between the two countries, but it creates an acute situation that may very easily lead to hostilities. France, of course, will still insist that her rights must be respected, and if Venezuela persists in disregarding those rights it is not to be doubted that measures will be taken to enforce them. In that event, what will be the attitude of the United States? There will be presented another opportunity to invoke the Monroe doctrine, but whether or not Venezuela would ask for protection under that doctrine is a question. President Castro has no friendly feeling toward this country and therefore would hardly be likely to call upon it for assistance or protection against hostile action on the part of France. According

to a report from Paris, a perfect understanding exists between the governments of France and the United States and they are in absolute accord on the question at issue. Just what this means can only be conjectured, but probably that in case of France adopting punitive measures, which it is intimated may be done, they shall not go so far as an invasion of Venezuelan territory, or if that should become necessary the territory occupied should be held only during hostilities.

Possibly now that Castro is unmistakably assured of the determination of France to enforce respect for her rights he will recede from the provoking position he has taken and make such concessions as are necessary to avert further and more serious trouble.

STAND UP AND BE COUNTED.

The Board of County Commissioners started out with good New Year's resolutions. Each of its members and particularly the new members proclaimed their intention to use the pruning knife fearlessly in cutting out the dead branches, trimming off the suckers and lopping off graft. The board has an opportunity to make good. The rankest piece of graft inherited from its predecessors is the price for feeding prisoners in the county jail. It is a matter of notoriety that this is nearly three times as high as the charge paid by the city for feeding prisoners in the city jail. The city pays 17 cents for two meals a day and the county 45 cents for two meals a day. The Associated Charities sell a much better meal than is furnished by either city or county for 10 cents. In other words, the Associated Charities gives a better meal for 10 cents than the county gets for 22 1/2 cents.

On business principles the county should not pay more than 20 cents a day for feeding prisoners. Every penny above that sum is no better than a downright theft. An allowance of 25 cents per day, or 50 per cent more than the city is paying, would leave a profit of from five to seven dollars a day or \$1,825 to \$2,555 a year besides the profit from feeding state and federal prisoners and other perquisites enjoyed by the sheriff exclusive of his salary of \$2,900 a year.

It is now up to every member of the board to stand up and be counted. There is no excuse for compromises and concessions by which the money is filched out of the pockets of taxpayers and put in the pocket of a high-salaried official. The issue presented has but one side to it and cannot be dodged. There is no reason why the county should pay three prices for feeding prisoners. Further procrastination under various specious pleas will not deceive the people. The burning resolution to pay 30 cents instead of 45 cents a day was merely a feeler. The reduction should have been from 45 to 25 cents per day. This would have been a very liberal allowance for low grade day board, considering the fact that the boarders are housed by the county, and the county pays for the fuel and for everything except the provisions.

BETTER SOUTH AMERICAN TRADE.

It is gratifying to know that our trade with South America is making some progress, though it is still by no means what it should be. According to the statistics for last year, in part estimated, the exports to the southern countries amounted to \$65,000,000, which is nearly double what it was ten years ago and a gain of nearly \$12,000,000 over 1904. It appears that more than two-thirds of the increase in the last decade has been with Argentina, that progressive and prosperous republic which is destined to become one of our strongest competitors in some respects in the markets of the world. Our exports to Chile have also materially increased, as have those to Peru. On the other hand there has been a loss of trade with Brazil, Venezuela and some of the other southern countries.

The balance, however, still runs heavily against the United States and probably will continue to do so for many years to come, or at any rate until much greater effort and enterprise than have yet been exerted are put forward to secure this southern trade. Several things are necessary, such as studying the markets by our manufacturers, being properly represented by competent and active commercial agents and the extension of long credits, but perhaps more important than any of these is the supplying of adequate transportation facilities. While Great Britain, Germany and France have lines of steamships engaged in the South American trade and the flags of those countries are seen in every port, the flag of the United States is rarely seen in any southern port. That this operates to our disadvantage is not to be doubted and this well-established fact is one of the most potent arguments in favor of legislation for the building up of our ocean-carrying merchant marine. There is every reason to believe that with adequate transportation facilities our South American commerce would more than double within the next ten years.

BANKRUPTCY LAW SECURE.

A number of bills have been introduced in congress proposing the repeal of the national bankruptcy act, but the indications are that they will fail to get out of committee during the present session of congress. At a recent conference of representatives of the American Bar association, National Board of Trade and other organizations, a resolution was adopted declaring that the conference favored a bankruptcy law as a permanent feature of American jurisprudence and opposed the repeal of the present law. It was ordered that the resolution be sent to each member of congress.

THE SECRETARY-TREASURER OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CREDIT MEN IS REPORTED AS OF THE OPINION THAT THE PRESENT ACT WILL STAND FOR AT LEAST ANOTHER TWO YEARS.

He said the law in itself is all right and the only failures charged against it have been in cases where it was not properly applied. He observed that the only senators and representatives who are advocating the repeal of the law are those coming from states whose merchants are not engaged to any extent in interstate commerce. Another member of the Association of Credit Men denied the statement of opponents of the law that there exists throughout the country a feeling of restlessness as to the merits of the law and a desire that it be either materially amended or repealed. Some amendments of the act, he said, are needed, but there is no widespread demand for its repeal. On the contrary, public expression, as far as the association had been able to gauge it, and the means employed have been through, has been almost unanimously in favor of the retention of the law.

So far as we are aware no commercial body of importance has asked that the law be repealed and inasmuch as all such organizations urged the enactment of the law it is reasonable to assume that they are favorable to its retention. Of course there are some changes needed which would improve the law and these will doubtless be made, but on the whole it has worked well and its repeal would be a very great mistake. General Solicitor Manderson feels sure the people in the counties affected by the railroad tax fight will suffer no loss by the delay incident to the litigation over the tax issue, because the railroads will have to pay 10 per cent interest on the amount withheld, while county warrants only draw 7 per cent. This is a presumption that the people will be satisfied with the course pursued by the railroads if they finally pay their taxes with 10 per cent interest. We apprehend, however, that this is not the ground of popular resentment over the tax fight. It is not a question of interest on delinquent taxes, but of resistance to the payment of taxes on the part of railroads, while other property owners are obliged to put up or have their property sold for taxes. The charge is openly made that the State Board of Purchase of Supplies has wittingly or unwittingly played into the hands of a firm of coal dealers whose record for square dealing is not the very best. It is alleged that in order to favor that particular firm, which for years has had the practical monopoly for furnishing coal for the state institutions, regulations have been made for particular brands of coal for the sale of which the favored firm has the sole agency. The natural inference is that the members of the board, to put it mildly, have been hypnotized into countenancing methods that have so often caused great scandal in this state. It seems to us the charge is too serious to be ignored.

ported as of the opinion that the present act will stand for at least another two years. He said the law in itself is all right and the only failures charged against it have been in cases where it was not properly applied. He observed that the only senators and representatives who are advocating the repeal of the law are those coming from states whose merchants are not engaged to any extent in interstate commerce. Another member of the Association of Credit Men denied the statement of opponents of the law that there exists throughout the country a feeling of restlessness as to the merits of the law and a desire that it be either materially amended or repealed. Some amendments of the act, he said, are needed, but there is no widespread demand for its repeal. On the contrary, public expression, as far as the association had been able to gauge it, and the means employed have been through, has been almost unanimously in favor of the retention of the law.

So far as we are aware no commercial body of importance has asked that the law be repealed and inasmuch as all such organizations urged the enactment of the law it is reasonable to assume that they are favorable to its retention. Of course there are some changes needed which would improve the law and these will doubtless be made, but on the whole it has worked well and its repeal would be a very great mistake. General Solicitor Manderson feels sure the people in the counties affected by the railroad tax fight will suffer no loss by the delay incident to the litigation over the tax issue, because the railroads will have to pay 10 per cent interest on the amount withheld, while county warrants only draw 7 per cent. This is a presumption that the people will be satisfied with the course pursued by the railroads if they finally pay their taxes with 10 per cent interest. We apprehend, however, that this is not the ground of popular resentment over the tax fight. It is not a question of interest on delinquent taxes, but of resistance to the payment of taxes on the part of railroads, while other property owners are obliged to put up or have their property sold for taxes.

THE CHARGE IS OPENLY MADE THAT THE STATE BOARD OF PURCHASE OF SUPPLIES HAS WITTINGLY OR UNWITTINGLY PLAYED INTO THE HANDS OF A FIRM OF COAL DEALERS WHOSE RECORD FOR SQUARE DEALING IS NOT THE VERY BEST.

It is alleged that in order to favor that particular firm, which for years has had the practical monopoly for furnishing coal for the state institutions, regulations have been made for particular brands of coal for the sale of which the favored firm has the sole agency. The natural inference is that the members of the board, to put it mildly, have been hypnotized into countenancing methods that have so often caused great scandal in this state. It seems to us the charge is too serious to be ignored.

ST. LOUIS REPUBLICAN.

It is not exactly a confession of guilt which Standard Oil officials make in resorting to petty and contemptible methods to defeat a Missouri inquiry into the operations of the monopoly in that state, but it is a revelation of temper which angrily reveals an impertinence any assertion of public authority in relation to the doing of this concern. This has long been the attitude of the Standard Oil ring, and there is a bare possibility that it may be persisted in too long for the happiest consequences to the Rockefeller and Rogeres. Meantime no doubt the Yale sense of satisfaction over the recent alliance of its endowment with the Standard Oil millions steadily appreciates.

SERMONS BOILED DOWN.

Love is a poor kind of foresight. Love lasts long after pity is worn out. Little duties are a school for larger ones. A little modesty often hides a lot of vanity. He rejects all rewards who refuses moral responsibility. The logic of love convinces more than the love of logic. A golden heart is not gained by setting the heart on gold. A man who is breaking his back under a bag of shadows. Getting on to the ropes of trickery ends in getting into them. The judge may not ask what you have done, but why you did it. There is a remedy for ignorance, but none for knowing too much. Morals to many mean only a chance to meddle in other people's affairs. The man who carries a family Bible under his arm may carry none in his heart. The man who always has the sins of others before him puts his own in his pocket. Hilarity is the man who has a friend who loves him enough to be willing to seem to be his enemy. People who try to get billed to riches on the short line find themselves routed through to ruin. It is a good thing to remember that your celestial standing does not depend on your terrestrial fallor. Money has a mighty persuasive tongue, but a sadly deficient hand, when it comes to delivering the goods. No man pays more for a thing than he who seeks it for nothing.—St. Louis Republic.

SECTARIAL SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.

Chicago Inter Ocean: An Iowa pastor who converted a wealthy man two years ago is about to take a trip at the expense of the penitent to the Holy Land. Occasionally one of the Nine turns up. Boston Globe: The Beverly minister who says that the three things necessary for the successful church are "grace, grit and greenbacks" seems to have covered the situation in a line. New York Evening Post: The debate between Rabbi R. S. Wise of Portland, Ore., and the trustees of Temple Emanuel-Ed. of this city cuts to the quick of our ecclesiastical polity. When the trustees were considering the question of extending a call to Rabbi Wise he made the stipulation: "If I accept a call to Emanuel-Ed's pulpit, I do so with the understanding that my pulpit is not to be muzzled." To this the reply was: "The pulpit shall always be under the control of the board of trustees."

Portland Oregonian: Dr. Washington Gladden, thinks America is in the midst of a great revival of religion. If by "religion" he means acceptance of creeds and ceremonial functions, he is mistaken. If he means a quickened perception of the difference between right and wrong and a growing preference for right, all the evidence of recent events in church and state goes to sustain him. To call a revival of common honesty a revival of religion may warp language somewhat, but it is fine to hear a theologian like Dr. Gladden approve of "mere morality" under any name. Washington Times: America has too many churches. Towns which might be well administered spiritually by one clergyman or two have six, eight or ten. No one of the six or more congregations can pay for a good preacher. Few of them can pay all the cost of any preacher, however poor. Nor can any one of them pay for all the time of their spiritual leader. So only very young men are to be had and the demands upon their time cover so wide a territory that preaching would be almost their exclusive occupation and pastoral duties be almost entirely disregarded. One of the clergymen observes tersely and justly: "No business could flourish by that and few churches can."

TRAVEL FROM ST. LOUIS TO CHICAGO BY TROLLEY CARS WILL BE POSSIBLE WITHIN A MONTH, ACCORDING TO THE LATEST ADVICES.

but trolley travel between Omaha and Lincoln is not among the possibilities of the present year unless the promoters inject greater motive power in their project than hot air. While restrictive immigration laws may be necessary, the search for a man in Chicago with the object of returning him to Russia, from which country he fled to escape death, is just as repugnant to American sentiment, as was the enforcement of the fugitive slave law.

ATTORNEYS FOR H. H. ROGERS COMPLAINT BECAUSE THE ATMOSPHERE SURROUNDING THE HEARING OF THEIR CLIENT IS NOT DIGNIFIED.

Missouri lawyers have ever been more noted for their intensity than for their dignity, but they have sometimes been able to accomplish results. Colorado is making so much noise over the bill granting concessions to Philippine sugar that it is easy to believe that it learned nothing from the free silver campaign, in which it went

into similar hysterics and still was able to enjoy the universal prosperity which followed the settlement of the monetary issue.

If Sir Horace Plunkett really desires to learn the "dietary" of the "American farming classes" he can know it by learning that the average American farmer sells to others what is left after having used all he desires for his family.

Iowa is about to be torn from center to circumference over the selection of a state printer and state binder, which is conceded to be the first test of strength between the stand-patters and Cummins' rec-proct-laters in the Iowa legislature.

A RECORD OF NOTES.

Philadelphia Record. In the estimation of necrologists last year was remarkable for the demise of many eminent politicians without the formality of burial.

IS IT WORTH THE PRICE?

Philadelphia Ledger. Statistics show that the cost of living in this country has increased 53.7 per cent in eight years. Nothing yet evolved, however, to show it worth the enhanced price.

PREVENTION FOR MIRTH.

Indianapolis News. The Standard Oil magnates can afford to joke with their investigators. Almost anything which money as they have regulated and outpuzzled out of the public would be willing to be even funnier.

SPEED ACROSS THE CONTINENT.

St. Louis Republic. The two great oceans which wash the shores of the United States are drawn nearer together when a man mails a letter to a correspondent in San Francisco gets his answer on the seventh day thereafter. As the distance one way is more than 4,000 miles, the letters must be sped at an average of nearly 1,000 miles a day.

BETTER BE SLOW AND SURE.

Philadelphia Record. There have been within the last month a surprising number of railway crashes involving a very considerable loss of life and property. Some of the wrecks were brought about by murderous design, but they were in the main due to preventable causes. At the bottom is the fact that nearly all the railroads of the country have more business than carrying equipment. They are overtasked.

SILENCE A CONFESION OF GUILT.

Springfield (Mass.) Republican. It is not exactly a confession of guilt which Standard Oil officials make in resorting to petty and contemptible methods to defeat a Missouri inquiry into the operations of the monopoly in that state, but it is a revelation of temper which angrily reveals an impertinence any assertion of public authority in relation to the doing of this concern. This has long been the attitude of the Standard Oil ring, and there is a bare possibility that it may be persisted in too long for the happiest consequences to the Rockefeller and Rogeres. Meantime no doubt the Yale sense of satisfaction over the recent alliance of its endowment with the Standard Oil millions steadily appreciates.

SERMONS BOILED DOWN.

Love is a poor kind of foresight. Love lasts long after pity is worn out. Little duties are a school for larger ones. A little modesty often hides a lot of vanity. He rejects all rewards who refuses moral responsibility. The logic of love convinces more than the love of logic. A golden heart is not gained by setting the heart on gold. A man who is breaking his back under a bag of shadows. Getting on to the ropes of trickery ends in getting into them. The judge may not ask what you have done, but why you did it. There is a remedy for ignorance, but none for knowing too much. Morals to many mean only a chance to meddle in other people's affairs. The man who carries a family Bible under his arm may carry none in his heart. The man who always has the sins of others before him puts his own in his pocket. Hilarity is the man who has a friend who loves him enough to be willing to seem to be his enemy. People who try to get billed to riches on the short line find themselves routed through to ruin. It is a good thing to remember that your celestial standing does not depend on your terrestrial fallor. Money has a mighty persuasive tongue, but a sadly deficient hand, when it comes to delivering the goods. No man pays more for a thing than he who seeks it for nothing.—St. Louis Republic.

SECTARIAL SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.

Chicago Inter Ocean: An Iowa pastor who converted a wealthy man two years ago is about to take a trip at the expense of the penitent to the Holy Land. Occasionally one of the Nine turns up. Boston Globe: The Beverly minister who says that the three things necessary for the successful church are "grace, grit and greenbacks" seems to have covered the situation in a line. New York Evening Post: The debate between Rabbi R. S. Wise of Portland, Ore., and the trustees of Temple Emanuel-Ed. of this city cuts to the quick of our ecclesiastical polity. When the trustees were considering the question of extending a call to Rabbi Wise he made the stipulation: "If I accept a call to Emanuel-Ed's pulpit, I do so with the understanding that my pulpit is not to be muzzled." To this the reply was: "The pulpit shall always be under the control of the board of trustees."

Portland Oregonian: Dr. Washington Gladden, thinks America is in the midst of a great revival of religion. If by "religion" he means acceptance of creeds and ceremonial functions, he is mistaken. If he means a quickened perception of the difference between right and wrong and a growing preference for right, all the evidence of recent events in church and state goes to sustain him. To call a revival of common honesty a revival of religion may warp language somewhat, but it is fine to hear a theologian like Dr. Gladden approve of "mere morality" under any name. Washington Times: America has too many churches. Towns which might be well administered spiritually by one clergyman or two have six, eight or ten. No one of the six or more congregations can pay for a good preacher. Few of them can pay all the cost of any preacher, however poor. Nor can any one of them pay for all the time of their spiritual leader. So only very young men are to be had and the demands upon their time cover so wide a territory that preaching would be almost their exclusive occupation and pastoral duties be almost entirely disregarded. One of the clergymen observes tersely and justly: "No business could flourish by that and few churches can."

The White Light Signals. Indicating a clear, clean track ahead, gives the engineer a feeling of safety and confidence. The Hospe plan is just such a white light signal of safety and confidence to the piano buying public. It has eliminated the guessing contest that a customer goes into when he tries to find out what pianos are worth in other stores, because the sliding price dealer and the commission paying piano seller will always get the most money he possibly can; he will sometimes make a pretense of being one price for good manners, but he rarely sells the same piano to two people at the same price. This is proof that his intentions are not the best. And even when the would-be friend tells you that he or she will return you the commission you can depend upon it that you will never get all of it. The sliding price, the commission paying dealer and commission taking friend are danger signals. None of them will bear the pure, searching white light of investigation. Keep in mind the white light. We sell pianos of the highest quality, such as Knabe, Kranich-Bach, Kimball, Hallett-Davis, Needham, Krell, Mathushek, Weser Bros., Hospe, Whitney, Hinze, Burdum, Cramer, Brush & Lane and others. A. HOSPE CO., 1513 Douglas St. Angelus Piano Player is the One. Best Place to Buy a Piano.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE. DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES. As a weather prophet the goosebore is several leaps ahead of the ossified man. The Hull family linen has been shaken off the line in Washington and correspondents are turning their thoughts to matters of public interest. Statistics published by the Philadelphia Ledger show that Omaha ranks second in percentage of pupils of all schools attending the high school. A Philadelphia woman who swore off smoking late last year is dead at the age of 38 years. Breaking away from fixed habits is always dangerous. A quaint bit of humor comes from Kentucky with the new year. The Louisville Courier-Journal prints with evident pleasure a sure cure for snake bite. It should be noted as a significant musical fact that the strike of New York chorus girls was settled without the intervention of Pittsburgh millionaires. Pittsburgh papers devote considerable space to the probabilities of a certain husband visiting his wife. The chances favor the visit, as the regular attraction is out of town. It is hard to believe the report that 40,000 men in Chicago got drunk on New Year's day. Such things are liable to happen in a town where people are warned to "boil the water." Andrew Carnegie stands highest in the personal tax roll of New York City, with \$5,000,000 to his credit. It isn't much for Andy, but it is big when compared with the assessments of other millionaires. When a section of Admiral Evans' fleet struck a mud bank while looting the coast of New York harbor the wind did not dissolve on orders from the flagship, but several ice cakes near by melted away under the pressure of hot air. Much sympathy is extended to the Iowa man who wants to marry a Milwaukee girl, believing all of the Cream City girls are as handsome as a famous calendar makes them. The Iowa man should pull the cork and annex an eye-opener. Mrs. Chicksey (at wedding)—The bridegroom seems to be in the seventh heaven of happiness. Mrs. Stobbes—You are looking at the wrong man. That isn't the bridegroom. That's the young fellow the bride jilted about a month ago.—Chicago Tribune. "Now," said the architect, who was putting the finishing touches upon Mr. Nutt's palatial home, "what color do you prefer for the parlor decorations?" "Oh, they've got to be red," replied Nutt. "Well," was the dear girl's ambiguous reply, "he keeps me a good deal in the dark."—Indianapolis News. Alice—Pa was talking about young Mr. Slowboy last night and he said that he is thoroughly trustworthy and honest. Kate—Yes, I think he is. He wouldn't even steal a kiss.—Somerville Journal. "Upon what grounds do you seek a divorce?" asked the lawyer whom she had just retained. "Non-support, cruelty." "Both," she cried quite tearfully. "He wouldn't support my passionate longing for a diamond necklace, and if that isn't cruelty, I'd like to know."—Philadelphia Ledger. LET SOMETHING GOOD BE SAID. James Whitcomb Riley. When over the fair face of friend or foe The shadow of disgrace shall fall, Instead of words of blame, or proof of thus and so, Let something good be said. Forget not that no fellow-being yet May fall so low but love may lift his head; Even the check of shame with tears is wet, If something good be said. No generous heart may vanity turn aside In ways of sympathy; no soul so dead But may be wakened strong and glorified, If something good be said. And so I charge ye, by the thorny crown, And by the cross on which the Saviour died, And by your own souls' hope of fair renown, Let something good be said.

Browning, King & Co. ORIGINATORS AND SOLE MAKERS OF HALF SIZES IN CLOTHING. Collars. A collar is a collar, but all collars are not alike. If you have been having collar trouble—trouble in style—trouble in fit—trouble in durability, try our kind. The Arrow Brand. Quarter size collars. 15c two for 25c. Fifteenth and Douglas Sts. OMAHA NEB. Broadway at 32nd Street NEW YORK Factory, Cooper Square

EQUITABLE ENDOWMENT COMPANY. W. H. WIGTON, PRESIDENT. 214 First National Bank Building, OMAHA, NEB. FIRST ANNUAL REPORT RECEIPTS. \$58,915.37. Interest 1,092.34. All other sources 544.32. \$60,552.03. DISBURSEMENTS. \$4,303.93. Total Disbursements \$11,096.87. Balance \$47,455.16. GROSS ASSETS. \$50,586.55. Loans 1,471.72. Accrued Interest 1,773.86. Cash in Office and Banks 840.80. Agents' Balances 298.82. Furniture and Fixtures 500.00. Supplies 500.00. Total Gross Assets \$51,726.70. Deduct Assets not admitted: Agents' Balances 340.00. Furniture and Fixtures 298.82. Supplies 500.00. \$1,138.82. TOTAL ADMITTED ASSETS \$50,586.55. Net present value on all outstanding policies in force December 31, 1905, as computed on the Combined Experience Table of Mortality, with 4 and 1/2 per cent interest \$46,090.04. Bills Payable, not due 500.00. SURPLUS 3,996.54. \$50,586.55.