THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER.

VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss:
Charles C. Rosewater, general manager of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of November, 1906, was as follows:

1	33,760	16	31,180
2	31,660	17	31,290
3	31,860	18	30,600
4	30,500	19	31,420
5	31,070	20	31,770
6	35,180	21	31,400
7	30,520	22	31,160
8	32,450	23	31,200
9	31,220	24	31,680
10	32,020	25	30,450
11	30,560	26	31,400
12	31,550	27	31,850
13	31,040	28	31,480
14	31,290	29	31,550
15	31,220	30	31,930

Total 951,910
Less unsold copies 9,878

Net total sales 942,032
Daily average 31,401

CHARLES C. ROSEWATER,
General Manager.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of December, 1906.
(Seal.) M. B. HUNGATE,
Notary Public.

WHEN OUT OF TOWN.

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

The president went the "standpatters" one better by not speaking of the tariff at all.

In asking for a "torpedo planter" San Francisco should specify one that can remove the explosives without danger to itself.

In declining to be quietly deposed Rev. A. S. Crapsey showed a determination to miss no publicity coming in his direction.

The fate of negro troopers may be considered "Exhibit A" in the case of the canteen against uncontrolled grog shops near army posts.

That Arkansas judge who is introducing business methods into the practice of the federal court is not likely to become locally popular.

With two national conventions and constitutional convention in progress, Oklahoma seems to be approaching the sisterhood of states under full pressure.

If Major Lacey has been able to maintain his law practice while serving as congressman he has demonstrated ability of an order seldom found among statesmen.

Almost $300,000 has been turned into the state treasury as fees collected during the biennium. This is a showing of which the state officers may be very proud.

In that flood which blotted out sixty lives in Arizona, fate showed the foolishness of those who declare the territory needs more water. What it needs is better distribution.

United States district judges may be surprised to learn that mittimi are elastic when the government transfers over 100 prisoners from state prisons to Fort Leavenworth.

President Van Cleave of the Manufacturers' association struck a popular chord when he declared it the duty of employers and employes to co-operate rather than to conflict.

If Japanese are able to establish the allegation that, strictly speaking, they are not Mongolians, the San Francisco problem may be solved without recourse to the big guns.

New York is waging war on "fake" fortune tellers and the real test of municipal omniscience will come when the "fakirs" are to be segregated from the genuine "prophets."

Kansas has discovered fraud in connection with school land leases, and, as it has been found too early to influence the next state election, the discovery may be based on facts.

The statement that Japan threatens to drive Russia out of Manchuria recalls the fact that Russia promised to leave without trouble—which the czar may have forgotten in the excitement at home.

The suggestion that Prof. Woodrow Wilson be the democratic candidate for president in 1908 evidently comes from men who think the pendulum is swinging in the same direction as when it struck Judge Parker.

The statement that President Roosevelt is anxious to report to congress all facts regarding the discharge of negro troops may cause the authors of the resolutions to insist that they follow the regular course.

A NOTABLE TRUST DECISION.

The decision of the United States court of appeals at Cincinnati, preventing the Continental Wall Paper company as a conspiracy in restraint of trade from recovering on a large claim of debt from one of its customers, while it is based on no new principle of law, is at this juncture an adjudication of far-reaching import, because it lays illegal combinations wide open to attack on their most vulnerable side. The full record of the case will be necessary for ascertainment of the precise technical effect of the decision, but the abstract in the press reports discloses the fundamental point that the equity power of courts in all its amplitude can be interposed as a bar in the operation of trade conspiracies at the most vital point of contact in business. If illegal combinations or trusts cannot collect at law claims for debt in the ordinary course of business which when untainted with conspiracy against trade are legal and enforcible, they are practically at the mercy of every individual, firm or corporation with which they deal.

The equity resources of the courts thus become a reinforcement and a supplement to all those penal sanctions with which legislation has lately been arming public authority. The latter indeed are of vital importance, but hardly more for their direct and specific results than for their influence in concentrating and stimulating public sentiment, which courts as well as legislators and executive officers respect, to an extent emboldening individuals to bestir themselves against invasion of their rights. Therefore, as this process progresses, trade conspiracies will be antagonized by the full power of the people exerted under the spur of individual interest at every point of the compass, instead of the comparatively few points that organized public prosecution ordinarily strikes.

The fact that trade conspiracy has not been thus attacked in its modern obnoxious forms is in large part due to their very modernity, and not so much to lack of remedies under the common and statutory law. It has taken time to arouse the public to the changes in industrial and commercial methods and abuses during the last few decades and to find ways to enforce and apply for their correction just principles of law which were long ago evolved and vindicated against like abuses under different conditions. Much has been now accomplished, and with the people aroused and the courts responding to the exigency the work is going forward more rapidly than is yet generally appreciated.

THE MILWAUKEE TO THE COAST.

The filing of amendments to its articles of incorporation, adding $150,000,000 to its present stock capitalization of $107,838,300, is interpreted in railroad circles as conclusive evidence that the Milwaukee system is resolved to push with all speed extension to the Pacific coast, and to foreshadow an even more strenuous struggle between the Hill and Harriman groups for mastery in transcontinental transportation. For it is becoming clearer every day that the controlling forces in the Milwaukee are identical with those in the Harriman confederacy. The transcontinental project of the Milwaukee, which in the form of extensive construction westward has indeed been in actual progress for a year, would seem therefore in one aspect to be a renewal of the gigantic strife for control of the Northern Pacific in 1903, the settlement by agreement under the form of the Northern Securities company having turned out only a truce, and the Hill interests in the end winning on the main point.

In a broader view, however, the Milwaukee extension must be inspired by the tremendous development now in progress or in sight in the mountains and the grain and grazing regions of the northwest. With existing transportation facilities greatly overtaxed by the unparalleled activity in trade and industry and with the certainty of immense inflow of population and capital into those regions, the temptation to railroad investors and managers to be forehanded therein is simply working out its natural result and fulfilling the prediction of E. H. Harriman eighteen months ago that the west was about to enter upon an era of unprecedented competitive railroad construction.

DANGEROUS GRADE CROSSINGS.

Omaha has been very well supplied with overhead crossings by the railroad companies, but these have been placed only where the conformation was favorable. A number of much traveled streets have been left without protection. The "deadly grade crossing" is still too much in evidence in the city. That no serious accident has been recorded is due more to good luck than good management. Many crossings along the Belt Line and the Elkhorn tracks in the northern part of the city are entirely unprotected, while similar conditions exist in other sections.

The city of Omaha was forced by the railroad companies to carry on a long and expensive fight in court before the viaducts were built. Three times the matter was taken to the supreme court of the United States and each time the decision was given in favor of the city. When the viaducts were built the railroads seemed to have concluded that they had done all that was needed to be done and have left the grade crossings unprotected by viaducts and in such condition that other traffic uses the streets at its own risk.

At different times it has been proposed that watchmen or automatic gates be established for the protection of surface traffic, but these moves have never reached any definite result. Omaha is probably the only city in the country where such a state of affairs exists. The railroads have been very enterprising in providing block signals and other safeguards for the protection of their own traffic and should be compelled to establish some sort of system that will protect the users of the streets and avoid the danger that now threatens. If the city council desires to effect a real reform here is a splendid opportunity.

THE CHAGRES FLOOD.

The flood of the Chagres river, which rose twenty-eight feet in a day, and which drains a region in which ten inches of rain fell within the same time, conveys some suggestion of the difficulties to be dealt with in constructing the Panama canal. Its route is crossed and recrossed by that capricious stream, now flowing placidly and again a destroying torrent. We in this country are familiar with no river phenomena approaching in suddenness, violence and extent the torrential floods of the Chagres, which must be completely controlled as the first condition of canal construction and maintenance. The plan adopted includes dams of a magnitude unprecedented in engineering work to retain these prodigious inundations, in fact converting them into vast lakes that are to form important sections of the interocean waterway.

The flood that is now in full sweep, destroying no small amount of the results of labor along the canal route, is only a sample of the refractory natural forces that must be dealt with and permanently conquered before the historic work which the United States has undertaken can be completed, and which altogether is the most formidable now in progress anywhere on the planet.

The city council has passed up to the street railway company the most difficult problem it has faced since it was born. Just how to eliminate the possibility of a round-trip ride for a single fare and at the same time provide a universal transfer is not going to be solved in a day. In the meantime the present unsatisfactory transfer system will prevail. All the council's tinkering with the proposition has not materially aided in the solution of the question. If the convenience of the public were consulted rather than that of the company, the transfer question would soon be settled.

Many legislators-elect are visiting Lincoln at present making preliminary arrangements for their residence during the winter and each emphatically announces his intention to vote for bills intended to carry out the platform pledges. This feeling among the republican members should be taken advantage of and carefully prepared measures aimed at the objects to be accomplished should be presented early in the season in order that the splendid spirit now exhibited be not dissipated in consideration of conflicting proposals.

Lincoln is just now enjoying the sensation of having rival street railway companies contending for the city streets. This situation must be refreshing. Heretofore Lincoln people have been accustomed to stand aside while the corporations took such streets as they desired. It ought to be explained, however, that in the present instance the row is entirely between the companies.

Governor McDonald's refusal to grant requisition for a Mississippi negro until assured he would not be lynched shows that he has made material progress since he joined in refusing the protection of Colorado laws to Moyer and others.

The South Omaha live stock market reports shows a very large increase in receipts of all kinds of stock over those for last year. This with prices maintained at the top notch is certainly a most encouraging condition.

The city council is determined to allow the paved streets to go just as far to ruin as the heavy traffic will take them. Twice within a week it has refused to appropriate money to make needed repairs.

Mayor Jim is writing letters to the council, which are receiving about as much attention as though they were not written. The mayor seems to have very little influence with his own administration.

The Commercial club is finding out that it has other functions besides those of attending to railroad rates and is becoming more active in various directions. This is an encouraging sign.

The attempt of the interested corporations to isolate Douglas county and estrange the rest of the state from it is now becoming apparent to all. Having been exposed, it is certain to fail.

Knocks from All Sides.
Baltimore American.

The troubles of the oil men are getting to be almost as numerous as those of the ice man. Australia is now on the trail of a branch of the Rockefeller octopus.

An Exaggerated Notion.
Indianapolis News.

From day to day we are informed by experts that the days of political bossism are over, but as yet no one has heard of any political boss applying for a job at real work.

Undertaking a Large Contract.
Springfield Republican.

Tobacco smoking is prohibited on the campus or within the precincts of the university of Nebraska, but under a rule just promulgated by Chancellor E. Benjamin Andrews students who chew tobacco will be expelled. This rule would not have been deemed good Americanism fifty years ago, but national habits in this respect have a good deal changed since then.

Jeff Davis as a Thriller.
Louisville Courier-Journal.

Persons who expected a thrill for their jaded nerve center from the entrance of former Governor Jeff Davis of Arkansas into the senate may be doomed to disappointment. Mr. Davis has announced an anti-evening clothes platform that is as conspicuous for banality as for boorishness.

Wait for the Verdict.
Philadelphia Ledger.

An Omaha judge made forty-seven men, all of them rich and some of them millionaires, stand for two hours while an indictment against them for conspiracy in restraint of trade was being read. Probably the shrewd jurist figured that this would be the only real chance of dealing out punishment.

Afraid of a Square Deal.
Kansas City Times.

A fight may be made in the senate against the confirmation of William H. Moody for associate justice of the supreme court. Many questions of great national importance will come before the supreme court for settlement within the next few years, and the "interests" want just as few square deal justices as possible.

An Amusing Phenomenon.
Baltimore American.

The Oil trust is making a pathetic plea to the public for aid and sympathy in its troubles with the law. The sight of an octopus weeping crocodile tears may interest the naturalist as an unusual phenomenon, but it is feared it will only aid to the gayety of an unfeeling public now in the full and delightful zest of the new sport of "trust-busting."

An Uplifting Incident.
New York Tribune.

A negro shoemaker was buried in Summerville, Ga., the other day. For forty years he had been sexton of the white Presbyterian church, of which he was a member. He had the affections and respect of whites and blacks alike for his Christian virtues, and his shop was the resort of those in trouble and in need of comfort and counsel. His townspeople of both races filled the church to pay the last honors to "Uncle" Smith Knox, and the white people of the community will raise a monument to his memory. If some wretched black criminal had been guilty of "the usual crime" the news would have been telegraphed all over the country. May not the press of north and south do something for the alleviation of the negro problem by recording such incidents as this, even though they are lacking in sensational quality, rather than by dwelling continually upon the misdeeds of the worst specimens of the race?

BLOW FOR SIMPLIFIERS.

Wave of Spelling Reform Recedes from Sight.
Pittsburg Dispatch.

It is doubtful if public interest can be revived in the late simple spelling ukase even by the news that the New York Board of Education has formally voted it down by 32 to 4. The United States supreme court has looked askance at it, congress is discussing a revolt against a Congressional Record in hasht English; the newspapers carefully restore the elided letters before giving government reports to the public; Speaker Cannon has left spelling to his stenographer and the rest of the country has forgotten about it.

The New York decision is of interest because the change was recommended by the school superintendent, and had therefore a sort of official standing. Seeing that the board would have none of it, however, Superintendent Maxwell urged that he only desired if any children should adopt the simplified style it should not be held as wrong spelling. One of the board members summed up the majority view when he said if any individual adult wanted to adopt the new spelling he could do so; the public schools should not be used to fasten the clipt spelling on helpless future generations.

So, despite the presidential favor, the new spelling must await the slow procession of the centuries. Those who want to spell that way can do so if their correspondents do not kick, but there must be no discrimination in the schools. If a child should not be checked for spelling a word Carnegie fashion, why should it be if it adopts a Smith or Jones fashion? In this matter of spelling reform one reformer is as good as another—or as bad.

A FAVORED PEOPLE.

Sugar Plums of Prosperity in Statistical Garb.
Washington Star.

As a people we like to have the signs of our prosperity brought to our attention. We are fond of the statistics that roll up into the millions. We have become rather used to millions. We have even begun to think in billions. The tenth figure was rarely employed a century ago. In some comparisons recently compiled relative to American progress it occurred only once. In 1806 the total wealth of the country was estimated at $1,000,000,000. In 1906 it was placed at $106,000,000,000, more than one hundred times as much. The per capita wealth, it is comforting to know, grew in those 15 years from $130 to over $1,253. That is one reason why the individual American likes to see the figures that tell the story of his affluence, both as a unit in the great community and as a member of the richest state in the world. Just one more contrast of this same sort before passing on, showing that we are not specialists in our affluence. In 1820 there were only 1,000 savings bank depositors in the United States, or one for every 5,308 of the population, while in 1906 there were 8,500,000 depositors, or one for every sixteen people in the country. The average of deposits in this class of institutions fell from $350 in 1820 to about $400 in 1906, but the total leaped from $500,000 to $3,300,000,000.

One of the surest signs of our growth and prosperity is furnished by the statistics of railways. According to preliminary calculations by the Interstate Commerce commission in preparation for the forthcoming report on railway earnings, the 200,000 miles of road constituting about 90 per cent of the total earned during the last fiscal year $2,319,700,000 gross, or about $577,596,577 net. The gross earnings were $10,543 a mile, and the net earnings $3,080.

These are highly significant figures. They are even more significant in the light of the fact that they represent heavy advances over the year previous. Thus, the net earnings for the last fiscal year were $97,000,000 larger than the previous twelve months. That means that more goods were carried and more people traveled, both items standing for increasing prosperity.

Will the future be as marvelous in its own way? What of the statistics of a century hence? Will our present day wonders of contrast, our proudly exhibited signs of growth and gain be shrunk into insignificance by the overwhelming totals of 2006? Or have we gained already at the most rapid pace possible, leaving for future generations to score advances in other directions than that of piling up billions? If we as a people manage in the next century to solve our social problems as successfully as we have acquired riches during the hundred years now past, we will have in truth earned the praise of all the world as a nation blessed by fate

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot.

Commissioner of Internal Revenue John W. Yerkes recently received a letter from a farmer who wanted to know if farmers would be permitted to make alcohol on their premises "as they manufacture cheese." The commissioner replied that there was no objection to a farmer making alcohol in his backyard, provided he established a distillery there. "This office," said the commissioner, "knows of no processes by which alcohol can be manufactured except by distillation, and as 'regular' distilleries are the only kind recognized by law, alcohol manufactured under the supervision of this department must be manufactured at 'regular' distilleries. For your information, however, I will state that there is nothing mysterious or complicated about a 'regular' distillery, and that the manufacture of distilled spirits at a 'regular' distillery is probably simpler than the 'manufacture of cheese.'"

Instructions are given for the farmer who wants to make alcohol in his "back yard." He will be required to give bond to prevent him defrauding the government of the tax on spirits produced by him. He will be required to establish a distillery warehouse and to tax pay or denature, as he may wish, the alcohol produced by him. All of this will be done under governmental supervision, but the government pays for supervision. The manufacturer of alcohol does not.

"If you investigate," writes the commissioner, "you will find that the manufacture of denatured alcohol is simply a business proposition, so far as the American farmer is concerned, and he will not be deterred from the business by what you term 'ridiculous red tape of the regulations and instructions.'"

Representative Nicholas Longworth, son-in-law of the president, had some visitors at his home at Eighteenth and I streets.

"Have a cigar," said Mr. Longworth, wishing to do the honors of his home. He went to his cigar humidor, a big, handsome one that stands in his office. "I have got some of the best cigars here you ever smoked. You will enjoy them."

The door of the humidor was locked. Mr. Longworth searched through his pockets and could not find the key. He looked on his desk. It was not there. Then he ran for the butler.

"Open that humidor, please," said Mr. Longworth when the servant came in. The butler stood on one foot and then on the other.

"Beg pardon, sir," he said, "but Mrs. Longworth has the key to that case."

Secretary Bonaparte is just now the object of more attention by that class of big lawyers of the country who are employed by the large corporations than is any other member of the cabinet, says the Washington Herald. The reason is not far to seek. In a few weeks he will be attorney general of the United States and will personally conduct the prosecution of the Standard Oil company and cases against other trusts of huge aggregation of capital that are liable to be attacked by the administration. Through their agents in Washington the big corporations lawyers in all parts of the country are making careful inquiry into the character, capacity and temporal qualities of Mr. Bonaparte. They want to get his measure before they have to face him in court. The first thing they will learn of him is that he is an artistocrat in feeling and deportment. He is too proud to be bossed and too cynical to be fooled. No "interest" or no person does or can control him. He does his own thinking—and a very clear article of thought his mental machinery turns out, too, with barbs of wit and sharp edges of cynicism that inflict smarting wounds on the adversary who arouses his ire. Mr. Bonaparte has never had a large law practice, because he has been too busy with his own affairs, but he is a lawyer of profound learning, great industry and a genius for detail. Whether he is ambitious or not, in the sense that most men who get into high office in the United States are, is a question which even the very few persons who are his intimates are able to answer. They give it as their opinion that he would rather be attorney general than president, and that with his natural hatred of vulgar and greedy rich men he will prove a terror to every trust magnate in the country who comes under that head.

For a good many years Speaker Cannon has had critics galore, but the one person on whose judgment he ever depended implicitly was his late wife. Mrs. Cannon was kindly but severe in her criticism. Many a time after a speech in the house Uncle Joe, disregarding all other opinion, went home to hear what she had to say. Sometimes it was unstinted praise and congratulation, but again there were times when Mrs. Cannon would begin: "Well, Joe, that was very good, but not nearly as good as you are capable of doing. If you had given that one point a little more study and investigation you would not have floundered about so in that last colloquy you had," or, "Joe, you dragged miserably in your speech. That last story you told was so drawn out that you quite lost the point you were trying to make. While I knew what you were driving at, I believe I was in a hopeless minority in your audience."

Francis Marion Cockrell, formerly United States senator from Missouri and now a member of the Interstate Commerce commission, is in a somewhat precarious condition, not having recovered at all rapidly from his partial breakdown of a month ago. He is compelled to remain closely in his Washington residence and at the recent election, for the first time in thirty years, was unable to cast his vote. For more than thirty years he probably has been the hardest worker in public life. Several years ago his physicians warned him to perform less labor, but he disregarded this admonition and even now his family has a hard time to keep him from overworking himself. He has not gone to the offices of the Interstate Commerce commission for a month, but insists upon doing a certain amount of official work at his residence every day, including Sunday.

It is generally agreed in Washington that Viscount Siuzu Aoki, ambassador from Japan to the United States, is the spunkiest diplomat ever seen there. When the viscount made his first call at the State department to protest against the separation of Japanese from white children in the San Francisco public schools there is said to have ensued the most heated colloquy Secretary Root has ever had with a foreign diplomat. The ambassador of his imperial majesty was wroth all through and he let the calm-tempered Mr. Root know it without mincing words a bit. Mr. Root forthwith communicated with the president and the result was the immediate dispatch of Secretary Metcalf to San Francisco to look into the situation carefully and make a full report to the president. Viscount Aoki's wife is a German of high birth and he seemed to feel that the treatment accorded the children of Japanese at San Francisco was a personal insult constituting an international incident of grave portent.

Overflow of Hot Air.
Chicago News.

People who prophesy war between the United States and Japan may have overlooked the fact that both nations have statesmen who are over 6 years of age.

GORDON FURS

A picture's a picture, but there's thousands of dollars difference between the value of a masterpiece produced by inspired genius and highly developed talent, and a sign-painter's chromo—there's a like difference in furs.

Genius conceives and the best talent completes *Gordon Furs* into masterpieces; yet in the most expensive garments the element of utility is not lacking.

Lionel

Gordon Alaska Seal Skins

More than in any other fur is the "Gordon Way" necessary to make a seal garment what it should be.

The garment pictured here is one of the Gordon masterpieces. With semi-fitting back and loose front, it is a woman's ideal of elegance and comfort, and can be had in many sorts of furs in addition to London-dyed Alaska Seal, at prices from $50 to $500.

Ask your dealer for
GORDON FURS

PERSONAL NOTES.

Peary and Wellman are very good friends now, but if one gets to the pole first there will be coolness between them.

Seventy-two hunters were killed throughout the country this season, with some back counties to hear from. The danger of this sport must be what lends it zest.

Louis N. Parker, the dramatist, was born in France; his father was an American; his mother an English woman; his first language was Italian and he was educated in Germany.

It is said that the trustees of the University of Chicago, at their next meeting, on February 1, will elect the present acting president, Harry Pratt Judson, to succeed the late Dr. William R. Harper as the university's president. It is understood that John D. Rockefeller is backing Dr. Judson.

Frank H. Mason, the American consul general at Paris, has been designated by the State department as an additional manager of the American commission now in Germany to investigate tariff conditions. Mr. Mason is a tariff expert of wide experience, and is especially well posted in all matters pertaining to textile trade.

Prof. William M. Howe, son of Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, is being mentioned as the next president of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He was graduated from Harvard and also from the institute. The czar of Russia recently conferred on him the degree of knighthood of the Order of St. Stanislaus for his achievements in metallurgical science.

One result of Mr. Hughes' election to the New York governorship is to deprive the United States government of his services in the prosecution of the eastern coal-carrying roads under the anti-trust law. His place is to be taken by George C. Todd of New York, who has before been associated with the Department of Justice in trust prosecutions.

James J. Hill, president of the Great Northern railroad, takes immense pleasure in recalling that he cut the first stencil and marked the first barrel of flour ever manufactured in Minneapolis. This was in 1859 or 1860, when he was agent for a line of freight steamers running on the Mississippi. The particular stencil was kept by the milling company for years, but at last was destroyed in a fire.

LAME DEFENSE OF TRUST.

Standard Oil Apologist Dodges the Main Point.
Chicago Chronicle.

Sometimes even great logicians will miss the point of a question.

This is exemplified in the case of a Standard Oil attorney who shows that prior to the organization of the trust the price of kerosene was 45 cents per gallon, while it is now 15 cents per gallon, and that as against the former price of 70 cents for lubricating oil the present price is 16 cents.

"With these facts in view," he says, "what grievance can the public have against the so-called grinding trust?"

It does not occur to the lawyer that there are other things than high prices that are charged against trusts, and especially against the Oil trust. He reasons that the kerosene monopoly has reduced prices to the consumer and that it has thereby obtained a clean bill of health. That is a non sequitur.

We have to consider, in the first place, whether the reduction in prices would not have come if the Standard Oil trust never had been organized; whether the reduction was not in spite of the trust rather than because of it. Then we have to consider whether the trust did not employ illegal methods in crushing out competition, and, most important of all, whether the trust by its very existence does not violate the law today.

These considerations, it is plain, are not to be brushed aside with the mere assertion that the trust has reduced the price of oil to the consumer. A man might steal a dozen gold watches and sell them at half their value, but he could hardly put in the defense that he had reduced the price of gold watches. The point would not be well taken.

So it is with the Kerosene trust. It can not answer all charges by pointing to the price of oil. It must explain how it is able to reduce the price. After that it must explain why it persists in violating the law which prohibits it from being a trust at all.

The doctrine of the Standard Oil attorney is that the end justifies the means. Have you throttled competition? Oh, yes, but we have reduced prices. Are you a combination in restraint of trade? Yes, but we sell oil at 14 cents a gallon.

If that sort of a defense were valid no larcenist, grand or petty, ever would go to the penitentiary

GIVES HIS CASE AWAY.

Army Canteen Opposed by Doctor Who Cares for Drunkards.
American Medicine.

The army canteen was discussed at the recent meeting of the section on hygiene of the American Medical association, where it was shown that the sale of beer in the old canteen, though undoubtedly an evil, was much less objectionable than the low dives around army posts which it drove out of existence. We can never reach perfection in this world, and our whole lives are passed in selecting the better of two things or rejecting the worse of two evils. It was assumed that every physician had that much sense, yet there were present some who thought differently, and one speaker actually stated that the increase of army drunkenness caused by the abolition of the canteen was a step in the right direction. What is the logic of that statement in view of the fact that he makes his living by caring for drunkards? Should we presume that to be the reason why he favors an increase of drunkenness? It is a shock to know that he approves a principle of prohibition which increases intemperance in the army.

PLEASANTLY POINTED.

"We are making a fine showing this season," pathetically murmured the railroad president as he proceeded to count up the penalties assessed against his company for rebating.—Baltimore American.

"Jimmy's got a great scheme to get out of school these days."
"How does he work it?"
"He goes out an' washes his face an' the teacher thinks he's sick an' sends him home."—Philadelphia Inquirer.

Tim—There goes a man who has done much to arouse the people.
Bim—Great labor agitator, I suppose?
Tim—Naw; alarm clock manufacturer.—New York Times.

"Father," said the small boy, "what is a prominent citizen?"
"'A prominent citizen,' my son, is a man who always has time to get up and make a speech on the slightest provocation."—Washington Star.

"What's that you're mixing, dear? A cake?" asked Newlwed.
"No," replied his wife, "it started out to be, but I think it'll turn out to be something entirely new."—Philadelphia Press.

Prospective Purchaser—Is there any way to get rid of the odor of an automobile?
Dealer—Certainly, sir. Always run the machine at a rate of speed sufficient to keep ahead of it.—Chicago Tribune.

"Can any little boy tell me," asked Dear Teacher, "why these are the shortest days in the year?"
"My pop sez," spoke up Tommy Smart, "it's because you have to spend so much money fur Chris'mas presents now."—Baltimore American.

"The monarchs of today are wise in their generation," remarked the shade of Diogenes, as he carefully filled his lantern with the best automobile oil. "In olden times the kings used to keep fools; now they let the fools keep them."—Baltimore American.

DECEMBER.

Baltimore American.

Gone is dreary, dull November; in its place
is gay December,
With its hint of Christmas sunshine and
its boast of Christmas cheer.
'Tis the month of festive graces, of bright
hearts and happy faces—
'Tis the gladdest and the merriest month
that comes in all the year.

'Spite its snows, 'tis always jolly with its
mistletoe and holly,
Green and fresh as April's springtime, red
and warm as glowing June;
And the life it sets a-humming, with the
cry of "Christmas coming!"
Has the sound of carols in it, and of bells
in merry tune.

'Tis the month of children's longing, and
the little ones are thronging
In anticipation eager of its pleasure and
its pride;
Soon will be all move and bustle, everything will hum and hustle,
In the happy work of getting ready for
the Christmastide.

A DAY IN DECEMBER.

Maurice Francis Egan in New York Sun.

Clear as the water in those northwest
lakes
(Like spruce-bound Huron, where the wintergreen
Seems set in crystal, and the glistening
sheen
Of cedar in the waves new woodland
makes)
Is this fair day. Heart! Gay youth careless wakes
Wood echoes with its shouts; brown, red
and green
Are oak leaves and the holly; you have
seen
The fairy wind kick puff balls, as it shakes
The withered golden rod? O peaceful time,
O closing year, O ripened, sunny day,
When gone are all the caprices of
spring
And languors of the summer, now the
chime
Of the last bell sounds near, yet far
away,
And clearer, clearer all dear memories
sing!

The effect of malaria lasts a long time.

You catch cold easily or become run-down because of the after effects of malaria.

Strengthen yourself with *Scott's Emulsion.*

It builds new blood and tones up your nervous system.

ALL DRUGGISTS; 50c. AND $1.00.