

**THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE**  
 FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROSEWATER  
 VICTOR ROSEWATER, EDITOR.  
 BEE BUILDING, FARNAM AND 17TH.  
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**REMITTANCE.**  
 Remit by draft, express or postal order. Only 5-cent stamps received in payment of small accounts. Personal checks, except on Omaha and eastern exchange, not accepted.  
 Lincoln—38 Little building.  
 Chicago—801 Hearst building.  
 New York—Room 1012, 17th avenue.  
 St. Louis—506 New Bank of Commerce.  
 Washington—725 Fourteenth st., N. W.

**NOVEMBER SUNDAY CIRCULATION**  
**43,853**

State of Nebraska, County of Douglas, ss.  
 Dwight Williams, circulation manager of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the average Sunday circulation for the month of October, 1913, was 43,853. DWIGHT WILLIAMS, Circulation Manager.  
 Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 24 day of December, 1913.  
 ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public.

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

Still, we would hardly advise anyone to waste time digging for 1864 dollars.

You might as well be getting out those old water wagon jokes, for the day is nearly here.

Talk about your speedy American, over in Switzerland the girls are doing the tango on ice.

Where is Omaha to be when the regional banks are distributed? Where was Moses when the light went out?

If the new currency plan proves a failure, he will exclaim, "I told you so." If it works out successfully, he will say, "I voted for it."

The congestion of traffic at Christmas time in express offices has finally been overcome, but it took the parcel post to do it.

Our advice to the president on his vacation is to lose that stenographer and telegraph operator.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

But not the press correspondent who sent out the house a-fire story.

A southern paper says that "Man alive!" is an exclamation seldom heard in Mexico. "For the land's sake" would be much more to the point.

The governor of New York evidently has not much to do, or he would not be nagging District Attorney Whitman in his hunt for grafters.

The discovery of an 1864 silver dollar revives interest in numismatics, but most of us are content to continue to dig for rare old coins of much later vintages.

Speaker Clark is managing to get in a few lecture dates during the holiday recess of congress. He has not seen fit, however, to issue a public statement telling why he needs the money.

In refusing to pay her income tax on the ground of taxation without representation, Dr. Anna Shaw doubtless wishes it distinctly understood that the fight is not to descend to a tea party affair.

But the secretary of state does not have to rent another man's seaside cottage for his vacation, having a charming estate of his own amid the pines and palms of Florida for his winter retreat.

Wellesley's president is coming west for help to raise a million-dollar endowment fund for that historic institution, and incidentally to furnish proof of the queer changes made by the whirligig of time.

A Chinese exile to the United States says Yuan Shi Kai must be ousted, and doubtless he must if China is to have a republican form of government instead of a one-man continuation of the old institution.

The directors of the Frisco are to be invited to put it back. There is no danger, however, of the put-it-back mania becoming contagious with railroad insiders any more than with fee-grabbing public officials.

Note that the forced contributions exacted in New York as political assessments all went to the democratic campaign strong box. The democrats are always against this sort of thing except when they are beneficiaries.

The official publication of the Commercial club commends our city commissioners for their first community Christmas tree. Wake up! The city commissioners had nothing to do with it whatever except to look on and enjoy the sight.

**Nebraska's Semi-Centennial.**  
 How to celebrate Nebraska's coming semi-centennial of statehood most suitably is again being projected for discussion. When the subject was brought forward some two years ago by the proposal, now repeated, of an official exposition of home products, The Bee declared that in its opinion the event called for commemorative exercises and demonstrations all over the state, rather than such an exposition, which must, at best, be local in its scope.

The date of the semi-centennial is March 1, 1917, leaving still plenty of time to perfect the program, for the legislature will meet in 1915, when provision can, and should, be made for whatever public participation may be desired. A semi-centennial commission, so authorized by the legislature, could easily arrange a scheme for state-wide pageantry, public school exercises, illuminations and local celebrations emphasizing the historic background and subsequent development of the state. This would bring the significance of fifty years of statehood directly home to every man, woman and child within our borders.

Of course, if any city or public or private association wishes to promote an industrial exhibition as part of the performance on its own resources, there is nothing to prevent. But the state fair in Lincoln and Ak-Sar-Ben in Omaha each offers opportunities to utilize the occasion in some especially fitting manner, without making it necessary to duplicate costly machinery and organization.

**As to Brevity.**  
 "Be brief and to the point" is one of the common everyday maxims drummed into every child from the time of beginning lessons. The lack of terminal facilities in the after-dinner oratorical bore, or in the sermon of the sleep-producing preacher, is a byword. It is hard to be brief and to the point, and comparatively few possess that much-to-be-desired faculty. Perhaps more than any other, the newspaper has the common fault of needless wordiness, and weakening repetition, forced to its attention by many of the contributions offered for its letter-box column. While welcoming discussion of timely topics by readers, there must necessarily be space limits, yet the writers too often are totally oblivious to the rule requiring them to be brief and to the point. The editor, of course, reserves the right to cut down and condense over-lengthy letters, and in so doing must exercise reasonable discretion. Doubtless that is what editors are for, yet how much better it would be if the writers themselves, with something to say, could say it in their own way without inviting or necessitating revision and curtailment. We commend to the authorities of the public schools the usefulness of exercises to put in written form a story or an argument and keep it within the limit of a stated number of words.

**The Note and the Beam.**  
 Of the criticism evoked by the reapportionment plan recently adopted by the republican national committee the chief burden is that it does not go far enough in equalizing representation. That the move is in the right direction and that it will remove the most flagrant inequalities every one concedes. As was to be expected, however, the most violent objections are voiced by the democrats and so-called irreconcilable progressives, who see the note in the republican optic, while totally blind to the beam in their own. Democratic national conventions from the start have been built upon exactly the same specifications as republican conventions so far as delegate apportionment goes, and the progressives, who have held but one convention, had no recourse but to copy the old parties. The defect which republicans have started out to remedy is that of over-weighted delegations making a vote in certain southern states count many times as much in nominating a president as does a vote in a strong republican state which helps elect the ticket.

But what about inequality in democratic national conventions? Going back no further than to the last one we find this exhibit picked at random:

| Delegates in 1912 Convention. | Ratio of Delegates to 1906 Vote for Bryan. |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Alabama                       | One to 3,099                               |
| Colorado                      | One to 19,553                              |
| Florida                       | One to 2,425                               |
| Georgia                       | One to 2,526                               |
| Indiana                       | One to 3,175                               |
| Louisiana                     | One to 3,173                               |
| Mississippi                   | One to 3,014                               |
| Missouri                      | One to 3,627                               |
| Nebraska                      | One to 3,193                               |
| New Hampshire                 | One to 1,529                               |
| New York                      | One to 4,437                               |
| Ohio                          | One to 16,473                              |
| Rhode Island                  | One to 2,470                               |
| Vermont                       | One to 1,437                               |
| Wyoming                       | One to 2,468                               |

Before the democrats point a finger at the republicans, let them answer a few questions for themselves. Why, for example, should it take three times as many democrats in New Hampshire to choose one convention delegate as it takes for the same purpose across the border in Vermont while in Colorado it takes 19,553 for one delegate? Why should

the weight of Nevada in a democratic convention be five times that of Ohio? Why should the southern states have disproportionate voices in nominating democratic presidential candidates just because they have disfranchised the blacks? The variations between one convention and another are equally inexplicable. Figuring out the preceding convention—the one that nominated Bryan the last time—in the same manner on the basis of the Parker vote in 1904, it is disclosed that Nevada had one delegate for every 663 democratic votes, and Vermont one for every 1,222 votes; for one delegate in Colorado it required 10,919 votes, in Indiana 9,144 and in New York 8,767. In that convention the disproportion between Colorado and Nevada was approximately at the sacred ratio of 16 to 1.

When our democratic friends feel like discussing convention reform, they would do well to discuss it as applied to themselves.

**The Joy of Doing.**  
 The suggestion that Omaha have a municipal Christmas tree, followed by the successful execution of the plan, is credited to a young woman not long out of her teens. As a consequence we have had a beautiful electrical spectacle furnishing enjoyment and inspiration to thousands of people. What we wish to advert to, however, is not so much the tree as the satisfaction that must come to everyone for doing something that proves to be worth while. The opportunity to do something notable may not come to all, but the opportunity to do something worth while is within everyone's grasp every little while. The joy of doing it lies in doing it first, or doing it best, or, at least, to the best of one's ability, and joy may come out of the effort even though not crowned with achievement. Doing something is better than doing nothing, and trying to do something makes one feel better than not trying. As Longfellow expressed it:

Let us, then, be up and doing,  
 With a heart for every fate;  
 Still achieving, still pursuing,  
 Learn to labor and to wait.

**Hold Auto Speeders to Account.**  
 An overspeeding autotist in another city, who ran over and fatally injured a little girl, said when questioned by the police that he knew no reason why he should have stopped after striking the child, as glancing back he saw others caring for her.

It is to be hoped those in charge of the legal machinery will succeed in showing him why he should not only have stopped after the accident, but should not have defied the law in the first place by opening the throttle and turning his automobile loose regardless of the safety of others.

Only a day or two before in the same city another reckless autotist caught an old man in the running gear of his machine and dragged him to his death a distance of 100 feet, and then by virtue of his high-power automobile, escaped. Nor could he see any reason for stopping, either before or after killing his man.

And while this is going on in one city, let others take warning. Of course, we know the speed mania is not confined to any one place, so that these distressing incidents may be held up as general warnings. Omaha, unfortunately, has had its share of auto fatalities, and yet has not learned from its experiences what it should for the simple reason that it has never made a real object lesson of the responsibility of a single such disaster.

**Racial Temperaments.**  
 An English writer, complaining that his people take themselves too seriously, says, "We even take our sports sadly." He longs for the good old days when his country was known as "Merry England." He sees nothing to be gained in the graver disposition. The late Price Collier emphasized this criticism in his general characterization of the English and everything English as "heavy," their manner of dress, their eatings, their modes of travel, of transportation, their speech, their social etiquette. The contrast is marked in passing from New York to London. Their games? Yes, as witness by contrasting cricket with base ball, one of which may be stretched out over days of intermittent playing, the other rushed to a speedy finish with a frenzy of action.

The American, unless he undergoes some phenomenal transformation, will never fall under the criticism of taking himself too seriously or being too heavy. Perhaps his national game is a true index to his temperament. If he is subject to correction on this score, it must be for his overhaste, his predisposed levity. Yet when the American's early struggles for national existence and later obstacles are considered, it would not be surprising if he had been molded into a less vivacious temperament. Besides, he has been acted upon by many temperamentally heavy streams of immigration, and perhaps profitably so, but not to the point of making him over-serious.

Those of our forefathers who came from Britain evidently belonged to the "Merry England" period, or per-

haps we, too, might be chiding ourselves for this same thing that provokes the self-correction in the Englishman.

**The Pass Christian Postoffice Plum.**  
 Will the president's visit to Pass Christian untangle the knot, or will it snarl it up worse than it is? Will he umpire between the warring democratic office-seekers asserting conflicting claims to that \$1,500, or will he be gallant enough to reappoint the lady now in charge against whose faithfulness and efficiency no complaints have been registered, and to whose efforts to accommodate the president can himself testify?

Look it up in the blue book and you will find that the postmaster-ship, or rather the postmistresship, of Pass Christian, Miss., pays \$1,800 a year. That should open our eyes to the importance of the place geographically, commercially, socially, politically, and particularly on the pie-counter map. It should also help us understand why a big fight is on to get the job away from the woman who holds it, and why the postmistress is in such trepidation over her failure to give the right change to the stranger who bought two books of postage stamps from her in person on Christmas day.

**Great Stroke of Finance.**  
 Now for another great stroke of finance. The Water board is going to buy back at 99 1/2% the \$500,000 of 4 1/2% per cent water bonds which it sold at a shade over par last July, there being absolutely no valid excuse whatever for marketing them at that time. This is to be proclaimed as a great coup of managerial genius, as a sharp business transaction netting a profit to the taxpayers just like finding it.

But how does it really figure out? For six months we have been paying interest on these bonds at 4 1/2% per cent, while loaning the proceeds out to the depository banks at 2 per cent. The interest loss to the city is 1 1/2% per cent, equal to \$6,250 on the half million, assuming that no exchange has been paid or is to be paid. The profit on the sale price at best will not reimburse what has been lost.

**Deportations of Immigrants under strictest enforcement of our immigration laws, which are being made steadily more stringent, are less than 1 per cent of the number arriving. The character of our immigration does not seem to be pretty high when ninety-nine out of every hundred can meet the requirements.**

The Pacific Telephone and Telegraph company publicly wished all its patrons a Merry Christmas, which was a nice thing to do, but doubtless not as much appreciated as the sweeping reduction of rates made a few days before by grace of the California State Railroad commission.

Not quite half of the total number of hotels and rooming houses in Nebraska have been inspected in the six months that the new hotel inspection law has been operative. But what is more to the point, \$3,730 in fees have been gathered in, which ought to help some.

The head coach at the Nebraska State university is being tempted with an offer of a similar position in Indianapolis. Which reminds us, by the way, what has become of those other cities that were about to steal our wonder-working Water board boss away from us?

The death of "Jake" Wolfe removes a unique character from the ranks of Nebraska pioneers. "Uncle Jake" was a typical "pop," the kind you read about in the story books, yet with many fine traits and good purposes covered up under an eccentric exterior.

A loan shark, caught in the toils, offers to burn half a million of dollars in notes held from his victims as penance. And yet only a few years ago men who move along lines of least resistance thought the law could not reach such avarice and greed.

All the other trusts and combines are now said to be rushing to get under cover with the administration's law department. With even half assurance of faring as well as the telephone combine, they would all throw themselves on the mercy of the court.

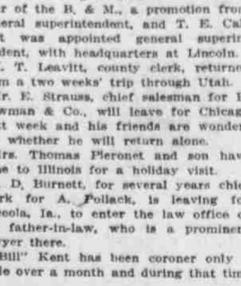
It is disclosed as noteworthy that John D. Rockefeller, Jr., had to wait to see Mayor-elect Mitchel of New York just the same as the office hunters and favor seekers. For this reason is our country a democracy instead of a monarchy.

Judge Ben B. Lindsey, of varied fame, is advertised as honorary president of the National Conference on Race Betterment to be held at Battle Creek next month. No wonder the old bachelor judge hastened his marriage.

With his experience as a college executive, governor of a state and president of ninety millions of people, and a little more practice, we have no doubt Mr. Wilson might in time be able to qualify as a fire chief.



**DECEMBER 29.**  
**Thirty Years Ago—**  
 The railway magnates moved their meeting over to the Millard hotel today and are still in session.  
 G. W. Holdrege is now assistant manager of the B. & M., a promotion from general superintendent, and T. E. Calvert was appointed general superintendent, with headquarters at Lincoln.  
 H. T. Leavitt, county clerk, returned from a two weeks' trip through Utah.  
 Mr. E. Strauss, chief salesman for B. Newman & Co., will leave for Chicago next week and his friends are wondering whether he will return alone.  
 Mrs. Thomas Pleron and son have gone to Illinois for a holiday visit.  
 S. D. Burnett, for several years chief clerk at A. Follack, is leaving for Oskola, Ia., to enter the law office of his father-in-law, who is a prominent lawyer there.  
 "Bill" Kent has been coroner only a little over a month and during that time



has had seven inquests. May be it don't pay to be coroner!  
 Cards are out for the wedding of Miss Ella Stewart of this city and Mr. Neil Bell, a banker of Aurora.  
 A meeting to form a permanent organization of the old Mexican war veterans is called over the name of Sam Walsh, secretary. Colonel Smythe is respectfully invited to attend.  
 R. R. Rollins, formerly of Omaha, now of Denver, has been appointed traveling agent of the Union Pacific, with headquarters at Chicago.  
 The county commissioners of Lancaster county put in the day here looking at our new court house and observing other matters pertaining to county business.

**Twenty Years Ago—**  
 Judge Cunningham R. Scott was hearing arguments for a new trial in the case of Lena Geist against the Missouri Pacific railway, the plaintiff having secured a judgment in the former trial for \$3,333.  
 W. H. Watkins, manager of the Sioux City ball team in the Western league, came to Omaha and induced Joe Walsh to place his signature to a generous contract to play short and captain the Sox for the 1914 season. This Watkins said, gave him a good team, composed as follows: Lefty Marr, first base; Ace Stewart, second base; Jack Newell, third base; Joe Walsh, short and captain; Frank Genina, left field; Jack McCann, center; George Horgreiver, right; Frank Krauss, catcher; Frank Parvin and Burnups Jones, pitchers, and besides these Watkins had lines out for more catchers and pitchers.  
 Mr. and Mrs. C. C. Sprague returned from Salt Lake City.  
 Messrs. Dickinson, Munroe, Lomax and Elmer Wood left for Salt Lake City to be gone four or five days.  
 General Managers Dickinson of the Burlington Pacific, Holdrege of the Burlington and Calvert of the Missouri Pacific, had a conference on the matter of issuing passes for 1914 and let the annual impression creep out that passes would be scarce articles hereabouts, whereupon many large and lusty bawls went up from the faithful, accustomed to ride free.

**Ten Years Ago—**  
 Mme. Adeline Patti, Baroness Cedestrom, and her husband stopped in Omaha, briefly enroute to Minneapolis. Mme. Patti was still the wonderfully preserved woman people delight to meet. She said she expected to spend four or five hours in Omaha on New Year's day.  
 Lawrence Welch, who for years resided at 3233 Harney street, Omaha, was reported to have died December 15 at Los Angeles, where he spent the last three years of his life. He had been a pioneer farmer in Douglas county.  
 His high gate came down upon Omaha from the northeast and was fierce for a while, attaining a velocity of forty-three miles an hour. Martin Geisler, 119 South Eleventh street, a mason tender, felt its force when blown from a two-story scaffolding at the new power house, 15th and Jones streets, sustaining fractured bones. Several big plate glass windows were demolished and Tom Vanous, driver of the police patrol was nearly near an accident when, while driving, his eyes were blinded by a volume of dust. Despite the wind, Weather Forecaster Welch said he could not consent to a material change in the temperature, which was up as high as 40.

**No One Responsible.**  
 Philadelphia Record.  
 In Boston no one has been held responsible for a lodging house fire in which twenty-eight men perished. There were insufficient fire escapes, but the proprietor had not been duly required to make changes. Five men have been burned in a Salvation Army industrial home in Cincinnati, and three in an apartment house fire in New York City. Neither owners nor officials are taking proper precautions to save human life, but if it is anyone's responsibility, why should anybody do anything?

**Military Despoils.**  
 Baltimore American.  
 The young German officer who cut down a cripple in an Alsatian town has been sentenced to the penitentiary and to the loss of his commission, which is decidedly the best way to maintain the honor of "the Kaiser's coat," or any other military uniform—to strip it from the back of a would-be petty despot.

**The Westward Lure.**  
 Brooklyn Eagle.  
 Tripoli has cost Italy \$194,000,000. That would be cheap enough if Tripoli furnished as much work as the United States to which the Italian immigrant prefers to come.

**Effect of Federal Pl.**  
 Boston Transcript.  
 The average politician is usually never in favor of government ownership until his misgrudged constituents have made him a part of the government.

**People and Events**

He who makes a parade of his water wagon stunt is riding for an early fall. It is peculiarly fitting these extremely short days that Christmas bills should take on the characteristics of the weather—very unsettled.

One of the churches of Brooklyn, "the City of Churches," proposes to head off those "naughty dances" by teaching Sunday school classes how to dance in the proper way.

Uncle Sam's youngsters and some elders chewed up \$30,000 worth of gum in a year. According to efficiency experts this means 300,000 pounds of jawbone energy wasted.

Mme. Montessori's conclusion, after a holiday season glimpse of American samples, that there are no naughty children, is well founded. Like your little Willie in the song, "Joy 'fore Christmas" they are as good as they could be.

The proposal of a British for a law requiring compulsory military service from the well-to-do has been amended to include all vocal patriots who preach militarism. Making practice fit preaching would bet the world with a huge grin.

All dances, public and private, are subject to the supervision of a police matron in Indianapolis. Besides the dancers must pay a fee of \$2 to the matron for fixing the polite boundaries of the tango bend and the bunny hug. What next?

The shoe machinery trust is negotiating for terms of settlement with the government. Peaceful admission to the big tent is more dignified and less painful than being kicked in. Desire for a settlement prompted suspension until January 6 of the trial of the case in Boston.

The joke on the Christmas necktie and the Christmas cigar give way to the New Year resolution. The latter is a scream. Joy reigns and the country bumps along merrily. By actual count 33 women rode the goat at one lodge initiation in Topeka, Kan., recently. With the assistance of a side saddle they got the goat to its destination all right, all right.

Jackson county, Missouri, which harbors Kansas City, will put up \$15,000 to pay the expenses of the trial of Dr. E. Clark Hyde, which will start early in the new year. Dr. Hyde is charged with poisoning and causing the death of Philanthropist Swope. He was convicted at the first trial, but the verdict was set aside by the supreme court. The second trial was well advanced when the illness of a juror forced its suspension.

**SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT**  
 Baltimore American: A Boston minister refused, when requested, to pray for speculators. Perhaps he objected to such waste of valuable time.

Brooklyn Eagle: "One of the most ominous signs of the times is the decay of family religion," writes a theologian in one of the religious weeklies. This sort of criticism has been made throughout all ages by God-fearing men, but somehow the world has shifted ahead. It is true that the members of the family do not kneel so often now in prayer, but nevertheless they may commune in their closets, shutting the door, and this form of worship is not without high Christian authority. Much of the outward form has gone, but faith is demonstrated in works today as it has never been demonstrated before in the Christian era.

Houston Post: In a pastoral letter on "The Church and the Home," Cardinal Connell uses this significant language: "Parental authority has been shattered to a degree that is alarming, until it may be said that in a large percentage of homes it is not the parents, but the children, who rule." Every parent in the country, Catholic or Protestant, ought to ponder the words of Cardinal Connell, and every church in the country, Catholic or Protestant, ought to heed his admonition. Parents will have to be aroused to a sense of responsibility for the moral development of their children, and the church needs to be aroused to a realization that the statutes can afford but little aid in the work of evangelizing the youth of the country.

**MUFFLED KNOCKS.**  
 Any man who has failed can prove to you that success is merely a matter of luck.  
 They used to marry us for better or worse. Now they hook up with us for more or less.  
 A woman believes everything her husband tells her until she has been married two weeks.  
 Every time we smell perfume on a man we figure that he must be kind of doubtful about himself.  
 What has become of the old-fashioned pug dog that used to sleep on a cushion in the front room?  
 There's one born every minute. But come the crooks are so nery that they try to make a man buy the same gold brick twice.  
 This may be a free country. But every time you want to do anything you discover that a society has been organized to prevent you from doing it.  
 All married men are great bluffers. Tom Jefferson wouldn't have dared write the Declaration of Independence if his wife had been looking over his shoulder.  
 Some day they will discover the pot of gold at the foot of the rainbow. And some day they will locate the fountain of youth. But they will never find the place where fish are as plentiful as bait.  
 When a girl hits that part of the novel in which he has clasped her to his manly bosom and buried his face in her fragrant hair, she would let the house burn down before she would lay the book aside.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

**CYNICAL MUSINGS.**

Lots of people could help more by not saying so much.  
 To flatter a woman, talk about the hearts she has broken.  
 Only a fool makes a mistake without learning something.  
 Extremes meet, but they don't always speak as they pass by.  
 Faith is largely an ability to believe things we suspect are not true.  
 One of the greatest pleasures in the world is an optimist with dyspepsia.  
 Good advice may help a man, but a good scare is generally more effective.  
 It takes many a man an hour to tell his troubles that he could get rid of in ten minutes.  
 You might as well give the devil his due. He gets up pretty early in the morning, anyhow.  
 Forty is the age at which the average man either gets rid of his conceit or doubles it.  
 It is possible for a man to have too many friends, but it takes him a long time to realize it.  
 Don't place too much faith in the old saws. The man who says nothing doesn't always say wood.—New York Times.

**PASSING PLEASANTRIES.**  
 Ex-Patient—Your bill of \$5, doctor, is altogether too much. Why, it was only a headache I had.  
 Doctor—Quite so; but my dear sir, I diagnosed the case as incipient brain fever and my bill is made out accordingly.—Boston Transcript.  
 "There's always room at the top," said the thin man to the stout man.  
 "I know it," replied the fat man. "But me for a lower berth every time."—Cincinnati Enquirer.  
 "Our minister is a fine preacher, yet nobody seems to think he is great in any way."  
 "He has one fatal weakness. Anybody can understand everything he says."—Baltimore American.

"Why," asked the needle of the shirt, "were you so suspicious when the seamstress took you up?"  
 "Because," answered the shirt, "I had reason to believe that she had felt designs in looking on my seamy side."—Chicago Post.  
 Judge—Have you ever deceived your wife?  
 Defendant—Well, your honor, I've often dessembled to the extent of trying to appear more amiable than I really felt.—Boston Transcript.

"Why is it," asked the feminist orator, "that the most suspicious of women will make big, determined strides towards freedom?"  
 "I guess," volunteered one of her hearers, "because their hobble skirts won't let 'em."—Buffalo Express.  
 "How do you like your new patent razor?"  
 "Too thorough. Not only does it shave, but it removes moles, freckles and anything else that happens to be in the way."—Boston Transcript.

"What are you kicking about now?"  
 "My gas bill this month."  
 "How much is it?"  
 "Two cents."  
 "Why, you haven't anything to complain of."  
 "I haven't? This was the gas burned in the basement when the gas fellow came to squint at the meter."—St. Louis Republic.

"I represent the dignity of labor," said the man in his shirt sleeves.  
 "Yes," replied the Duke of Stax, "and you can wear in your shirt sleeves and speak your mind, and quit work when your regular hours are through. I wear a high hat and guard every word I speak, and keep busy sixteen hours a day. I represent the labor of dignity."—Washington Star.

**A NEW YEAR APOSTROPHE.**  
 Richard Linthoum.  
 A baby smiles in its mother's face.  
 There at her breast in a soft embrace—  
 A life beginning and all to learn;  
 O mother heart that shall leap and yearn,  
 Teaching the dimpled feet to walk,  
 Teaching the honeyed mouth to talk!  
 O Time, make haste for the baby dear!  
 And speed the coming of each New Year!

A youth with the fire and blood of spring  
 And hope that rises on eager wing,  
 Thrill at the sight of a maiden's blush,  
 Stirring in his heart with the first hot flush.  
 Of love requited, that finds its mate  
 And yet but a little while must wait,  
 Watches and listens thy step to hear:  
 O speed thy coming, thou sweet New Year!

In manhood's prime there is standing one,  
 And all but his greatest task is done;  
 Beyond his reach but before his eyes  
 Greatest of all is the final prize;  
 Yet but a little he'll hold it fast.  
 A year and a day 'twill be his last.  
 Conquering spirit, that knows no fear,  
 Bidding thee hasten, O brave New Year!

Gray is the crown of a wholesome life  
 And peace the crown of a life of strife;  
 An aged man with his strength high spent,  
 With nerves a-tremble, his slight form bent,  
 Erect in spirit and white of soul,  
 With steps that falter, is near the goal;  
 With eyes bedimmed but a faith that's clear,  
 He craves but thy rest, O blest New Year!

**Car Load of Mineral Water**  
 We have just received a car of assorted Excelsior Springs Mineral Water as follows:  
 Crystal Lithia Water, 5 gal. jug, \$2.00  
 Salt Sulphur Water, 5 gal. jug, \$2.25  
 Salt Sea Water, 5 gal. jug, \$2.50  
 Diamond Lithia, case, 12 1/2 gal., \$4.00  
 Sulphur Salt Water, 50 qts., \$2.00  
 Sulphur Saline, case, 12 1/2 gal., \$4.50  
 Regent Springs, case, 50 qts., \$2.00  
 Regent Springs, case, 12 1/2 gal., \$4.00  
 We handle one hundred kinds of Mineral Waters from foreign and American springs, receiving same as direct shipments from the springs or importers, and make the very lowest prices on full case dozen or bottle quantities. We deliver free in Omaha South Omaha and Council Bluffs.

**Sherman & McConnell Drug Co.**  
 Four Prescription Drug Stores in Omaha.

**WHO** looks forward timorously to a possible "slump" in business? Not the maker of advertised goods. It's the unknown maker, whose trade is dependent upon the whim of jobber or retailer.