

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

Table with 3 columns: Date, Paid, and Total. Shows circulation figures for various months from 1894 to 1893.

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SHALL POOLING BE LEGALIZED?

The debate over the bill whereby pooling of railroad earnings by competing railroads is to be legalized is now in progress in the lower house of congress. For years there has been constant pressure from railroad managers upon the national legislature to repeal the anti-pooling clause in the Interstate Commerce Law, which has been found a stumbling block to the proposed equalization of earnings on the part of railroads, regardless of the volume of business voluntarily contributed by shippers.

Practical experience has, however, demonstrated that competition between so-called competing lines does not compete whether there is pooling or not, excepting during short periods of reckless and ruinous rate wars, which seldom benefit the public. On the contrary, rate wars have proved themselves detrimental as well to shippers as to the railroads. In the very nature of things all railroads are monopolies. Every railroad has an absolute monopoly of all traffic at points that are not reached by other railroads, which generally includes about nine-tenths of their local traffic.

Now if pooling was conducted under rigid governmental supervision it would not be detrimental to the public, although it might bolster up the stock of the weak lines. But congress proposes to throw the door wide open to the jangle-headed chicanery that prevailed before pooling was prohibited without tangible guaranties that would protect commerce against the black-mailing practices of the evildoers.

The proposition to relegate all the patrons of the American railroads for redress of grievances to the tender mercies of the interstate commission is worse than a delusion and a snare. It is a piece of bunco steering that few gamblers would be guilty of. The commission is notoriously the creature of the railroad magnates. Most if not all its members owe their appointments to the influence exerted by railway corporations.

THE APPEAL OF THE STOCKMEN.

The memorial of the convention of stockmen to congress, asking for some action on the part of that body for relieving the cattle interest of the country from the injury that must result to it from the maintenance by European governments of the embargo against American cattle, ought to receive the serious and prompt attention of the national legislature. Contrary to the view expressed by the secretary of agriculture, that the exclusion of our cattle from Germany, Denmark and other continental countries was not a very serious matter, these stockmen, whose business is the raising and marketing of cattle, regard the course of the foreign governments as vital to their interests and welfare.

by the authorities of those foreign governments as wholesome and adulterated before they are permitted to be sold in the United States. In a word, these stockmen do not want a commercial warfare inaugurated, but simply ask that congress shall remove what they believe to be the real cause of the discriminating regulation by amending the sugar schedule. There can be no question that they are right in assuming that the action of the German government in excluding our cattle was prompted by the imposition of a duty on sugar by this country, and especially by the discriminating duty of one-tenth of a cent on sugar from countries paying an export bounty. Probably Germany or any other country would not have complained at our simply placing a duty on raw sugar, putting all sugar producing countries on an equality in this respect, but the discriminating duty the German government protests against as unjust and also contrary to treaty stipulations.

Mr. Allen has a mean for supplies for state institutions? Reporter—No, sir, I mean supplies for the next legislature. Mr. Allen—I have ordered the chambers of the house and senate to be repaired and a few other things. Reporter—Have you made any contracts for other supplies, such as stationery, etc. Mr. Allen—Yes, I will make a few contracts, and they will be laid before the legislature when it convenes.

Secretary of State Allen has ventured to make a lame and impotent defense in regard to the purchase of legislative supplies. In this instance, as in all other cases where exposures have been made by The Bee of malfeasance or jobbery, the retort of the accused is that the charges are inspired by personal malice or an imaginary grievance. As might have been expected also, the defense of the abuses is made through the Burlington Journal and its Omaha tender, the Double-Enders, whose columns have been at the disposal of the state house plunderers on every occasion.

Now, The Bee would have given Secretary Allen a fair hearing for any explanation he had to make, as it has always been ready and willing to do under similar conditions for other offenders. It will now give him the benefit of the defense which is made for him by his champions. The explanation of the Burlington Journal reads as follows, verbatim:

Secretary of State Allen denies that he has entered into contracts and refused to submit them for inspection. The secretary is authorized by law to furnish supplies to the legislature, and it has been the practice of that official to renovate and clean the legislative halls and committee rooms. This must be done prior to the meeting of the legislature, and it is now being done with the help of five extra men, together with a painter and paperhanger, who will be compelled to take whatever the legislature may allow.

bought on competitive bids instead of leaving the dealer to charge three prices and make his lobby for his pay and divvy with the lobby or the officer who gives the order? Assume that Allen tells a straight story about this deal, why does he refuse to make public the orders he has given for supplying the incoming legislature? The interview between Mr. Allen and the reporter of The Bee concerning this matter is as follows:

Reporter—Mr. Allen, have you made any contracts for supplies? Mr. Allen—Do you mean for supplies for state institutions? Reporter—No, sir, I mean supplies for the next legislature. Mr. Allen—I have ordered the chambers of the house and senate to be repaired and a few other things.

There is no use for the school board to pretend to retrench by cutting the salaries of one or two principals and at the same time raising those of one or two others. It is notorious that the principals' salaries in all the larger schools in this city are extravagantly high—much higher than is paid for the same work elsewhere. The highest paid principals, too, have been entirely relieved of the work of teaching, which formerly attached to their positions. What is wanted is general retrenchment all along the line.

One step at a time ought to appease the clamorous insurance agents. Let us have a thorough reorganization of the force employed in the fire department first. That can be secured without much delay if the members of the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners will go about the work promptly and in the right spirit. Proceedings can also be instituted to have the water service pipes in the central portion of the city enlarged. A new set of water mains cannot be constructed short of several months, but until we have larger mains additional fire engines will be of little use.

The Chicago Record intimates that Congressman Wilson seems to be traveling over the same path once pursued by his predecessor, Hon. Roger G. Mills. Not quite the same path, Mr. Mills, it must be remembered, celebrated the defeat of the Mills bill with a promotion to the United States senate. Mr. Wilson, on the other hand, has private life staring him in the face unless the president takes pains to provide for him with some lucrative appointive office.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

The possibility of an alliance between Russia and England suggests that at not a single point is there any real antagonism of interest between the two great empires. Neither has anything that the other wants, and there is nothing of which both are jealous. On the contrary, concert of action would be of advantage to them both. They are now the dominant powers in Asia, and the near future will probably see some great political changes in that continent. In no way could England and Russia so much promote their own interests there, strengthen their power, and when the time comes, engage their borders by acting together. They two would be undisputed masters of the situation, while acting separately neither could gain allies sufficient to give it any real supremacy over the other.

There is only one important service which all the powers that could render England and that is to relieve her from the legal and moral responsibility for the protection of the Armenian Christians which was placed upon her by the treaty of Berlin. His assent is not needed to confirm her occupation of Egypt, for nothing can shake her hold upon that country while her fleet commands the sea. No more binding arrangements can be made with the St. Petersburg government that Afghanistan shall be left undisturbed than have been already given. Nor is there any longer occasion for co-operation with Russia with England to stop the war in the far east, seeing that peace in that quarter seems near at hand through arrangements made directly between the two great powers.

The proposed extension of the franchise is the engineering topic just now in parliamentary circles in Austria. The plan which is thought to have the best chance of being adopted is that of organizing the industrial classes into electoral groups, to be represented in Parliament by twenty-two members. The Poles demand, however, that these groups shall not be limited to industrial workers, but shall include also other categories of workers outside of those engaged in agriculture. This amendment would necessitate an increase in the number of seats. It is doubtful whether this demand will be taken into consideration, but if the project of industrial groups with twenty-two representatives be adopted it may be submitted to the Reichsrath before Christmas. Speaking of this scheme, the London Times correspondent at Vienna says that it "is a mere paper scheme, and that the great majority of the Reichsrath will be ready to calculate to quell the clamor for working class representation in Parliament. Its only effect will be to secure for the labor party a head in the Reichsrath and to call public attention to a cause which, whatever its merits may be, is daily exhibiting fresh adherents. Count Taaffe, though he may have doubts, is not questioning the proposal, and he has the necessity of meeting half-way the growing popular outcry for universal suffrage. But the conservatives and Poles are less than the doctrinaire liberals have everything to fear for their party organization from any considerable extension of the franchise."

Solving the Armenian problem by effecting Armenian independence would be desirable, but seems at present scarcely possible. A general rising of the people against their oppressors could hardly succeed, unless backed by some foreign power. Brave and intelligent as are the Armenians, they have not the material resources nor the military organization to cope with the equally brave and far better equipped myriads of Turks and Kurds. An insurrection with foreign aid might be successful, but then it would mean annexation by that foreign power. Such annexation by Russia, though perhaps ultimately inevitable, is not to be desired, while if effected by any other power it would surely incur international troubles of the gravest kind, the fear of which will probably make all others stand aloof. Altogether, therefore, the plight of these suffering and admirable people is as perplexing as it is pitiful.

If the new president of Brazil succeeds in his efforts to reduce the size and curtail the power of the army he will have done much toward giving the people that full measure of freedom which a republic ought to insure. Ever since the empire was overthrown the overshadowing power of the soldiery has been an obstacle in the way of progress. It has led to civil wars, and the people have depended so much upon the authorities and the soldiers that at important elections only a small fraction of the qualified voters have gone to the polls. The majority of the people have failed either to realize their duties or to make use of their privileges, and a handful of military officials have ruled the country before us. They were permitted to demonstrate the truth of their principles and present the fruits of its victory.

NEBRASKA AND NEBRASKANS.

Rev. T. H. Dry has resigned as pastor of the Methodist church at Grading, and will remove to Oxford. A new and extensive creamery plant is to be erected at Superior, and work will begin on the building in a few weeks. Miss Helen M. Bennett has been forced to discontinue the publication of the Tecumseh Daily News on account of the hard times. Rev. James Burke, pastor of the Papillion Roman Catholic church, has been transferred to Chadron, and Rev. Father Delfoss of Omaha will take charge of the Papillion parish. The vote for assessor in Trunk Butte precinct of Dawes county was a tie, and in drawing lots to see who should serve the populist won. This makes the county board of assessors stand nine populists to eight republicans. George Fair, a farmer near Elwood, broke open the bin of a coal dealer and carted off a load of coal in the night. The coal was traced to his home and he was arrested. He pleaded guilty to burglary, and the district judge will sentence him.

Rev. J. A. Scamhorn of Gordon, defeated candidate for the senate from northwest Nebraska, would like to be chaplain of the senate the coming session. As he couldn't help make the laws he would like to pray for the passage of a law. Calvin Ogilvie, the Webster county farmer who put a load of shot into the person of Jetty Riley, as the result of a hallowe'en outbreak, has been held in bonds of \$1,000 for trial on the charge of assault with intent to do great bodily harm. The annual meeting of the Nebraska Academy of Sciences will be held at Lincoln December 27 and 28. An extensive and interesting program has been prepared for the occasion, and a profitable meeting is assured. Prof. Charles E. Bessey of the State university is president, and H. P. Duncanson of Peru is the secretary-treasurer.

Lowell Courier: In Algiers when the people desire a new ruler they begin by taking a day off. New York Weekly: Chinese Emperor—What news? Chinese General—We have met the enemy and they are ours—behind us. Life: She—Well, I would like to have you tell me what there is about that simple thing that makes you say "I love you." Poem: He—That's easy; no one pays the least attention to it. Puck: Mrs. Dogood—If you'll saw that will give you your dinner. Dusty Rhodes—How you got a license to run a wood yard? Dallas News: These days a bell can look up at the milky way without leading the herd the republicans to suspect that she wants ice cream. New York Tribune: A poor woman was telling a kind-hearted visitor how the doctor came and said she had a sluggish liver. "What beats me," she said, "is how them slugs gets inside the liver." Mr. Leo—It was like this. Six white men and twelve blacks charged on me with their thunder sticks. I killed eight whites with one blow and— Mr. Troglodytes—Come off! You're a lion!

Philadelphia Record: Maud—You are a living man, and a good one, too. George—Why so? Maud—Papa refuses to wear those cracker shoes you sent him. EXPLAINED. Why did you let me always improve each shining hour, and gather honey every day, your way to save for winter? The cynic gave his eye a leer, And gave his mouth a pucker, And said: "That's just the queerest; For he's a little sucker!" Uncle Joe Talks Saucy. Chicago Tribune. Mr. Reed, preferring victory to defeat, tells the republicans to let the middle road which the people favor and which they have so often rebuked the politicians for not pursuing. This is sound advice. If the party adheres to it during the next two years, instead of trotting around with a tickle on their noses, daring the democrats to knock it off, it will win. If it falls into the hands of the prohibitory protectionists and of those politicians whose brains are even smaller than the shell of the egg, the party will be ruined. Blunders can save the republicans.

Money's Worth or Money Back. IT'S TERRIBLE. In this deep and darksome dampness that's been filling all the air there's a grim and gloomy goblin which doth fill us with despair; for we've heavy winter clothing made a purpose to be sold, and we wish the fog would leave us to the meroxy of the cold—But it's like this: We have learned better than to sob our young lives out in kicking at the air—If it doesn't suit us our suits may suit somebody who doesn't need an overcoat but does need a suit. Saturday we give a splendid all wool suit for \$10—no the other fellows don't sell 'em for \$15. They just haven't got 'em. We are the only people who have 'em. We made 'em. A real good boy's suit for \$2.50—a regular Browning King & Co. boy's \$2.50 suit. Later—Since the above was written they tell us a cold wave is coming—If it gets here remember our overcoats. SPECIAL. Men's Scotch store caps that used to be \$1.00 for 60c Saturday. Reliable Clothiers, S. W. Cor. 15th and Douglas.

THE SUNDAY BEE.

Notable Features:

"A New Jungle Story" by that celebrated author Rudyard Kipling, illustrated by Dan Beard, will begin in The Sunday Bee and run for three successive issues. As a literary specialty the story possesses rare merit. It tells how Mowgli (the boy who was brought up in the jungle with the animals and knows their language as an irony) returned to his old home in the forest after having been rescued from death by stoning the man and woman who had been kind to him, and how, under his direction, the elephant avenged the injury done his friend, Mowgli, and his partner, by their fellow villagers. Mr. Robert P. Forster's letter for The Sunday Bee deals with a question of vital importance in this country, namely: "The Problem of Transportation." Mr. Forster shows that this question is most vital and pressing in Great Britain and that public sentiment is rapidly crystallizing into a demand for state ownership as the only means of relief from excessive charges. The feelings against the corporation have been intensified by advanced rates, which almost certainly will be the result of the elections. Notes of punishment are detailed concerning the relations between corporate monopoly and the people of Great Britain. Chapter III of Bret Harte's great war story, "Clarence" will appear in The Sunday Bee. "Clarence" will appear in this issue. It is one of the most popular stories ever published by "The Bee" and will gain in favor to the end.