THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

George B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of the Daily Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of November, 1894, was as follows:

1	20,869	16	20,511
2	21,357	17	21,760
3	21,285	18	22,175
4	21,525	19	20,484
5	21,537	20	21,612
6	21,173	21	20,150
7	21,269	22	20,434
8	21,058	23	20,254
9	21,535	24	20,258
10	21,408	25	21,730
11	21,480	26	20,123
12	20,897	27	20,076
13	21,001	28	19,968
14	20,562	29	20,020
15	20,570	30	19,982

Total	659,654
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GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 3d day of December, 1894.
(Seal.) N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

Members of the new Board of Education must be extremely anxious to do night work.

We may be sure that Senator Allen now receives special attention whenever he dines in the senate restaurant.

It remains to be seen how many votes a half-hearted caucus endorsement will bring to the assistance of the faltering currency bill.

The deadlock became quite fashionable among representative bodies during 1894, and the fashion seems to be persisting into 1895.

Of course the railroads of Nebraska will just fall over one another in their hustle to lend support to the bill prohibiting the issue of free passes!

Tom Reed must feel greatly relieved to have his friends so kindly take the work of constructing the committees of the next house of representatives off his hands.

Should congress get to investigating the federal judiciary in earnest some of the glamor of unsullied purity may be lifted from more than one of our United States judges.

Those high-back chairs have finally gotten into the proceedings of the house, but for the present are resting on the table. Yet, although tabled, they still occupy the floor.

If one or more of those numerous theaters which we have been building on paper during the last few weeks does not materialize in time for the opening of the next theatrical season we shall miss our guess.

In the lower house of the Nebraska legislature there is only one Jones and no Smith. But then there are two Burns, two Johnstons, two Suttons and two Zinks. Every one must admit that this is a very fair showing of legislative twins.

The gold and silver coins of the United States ought by all means to be made legal tender in the state of Nebraska. Until a bill for that purpose shall have been enacted Nebraska will scarcely be able to consider herself as being in the union.

Is there anything in the rules of the police and fire commission to prevent colored men from applying for positions in the fire department and taking examinations the same as white men? If there is it should certainly be eliminated. But we have heard of no such color discrimination.

Of course the South Omaha officials who have been connected with the gamblers' donation party prefer to be investigated by their friends. A friendly investigation is usually something like a friendly boxing match—it is agreed in advance that neither party shall get hurt.

The barbarous Port Arthur massacre by Japanese troops has again been confirmed. The news agencies evidently have an idea that the American people stubbornly decline to believe the first report of the atrocities. We all believe it out here. Further confirmatory reports may be dispensed with.

The house was very solicitous about adjourning early on Monday out of respect to the memory of a deceased member and at the same time to enable the democrats to hunt harmony in the recesses of a party caucus. The caucus, it is to be noted, did not adjourn out of respect to the memory of the deceased member.

There are still over eleven million acres of vacant government lands in Nebraska. If these lands were deeded to the state for the establishment of a system of irrigation Nebraska would have no difficulty in securing as much capital as is needed in bringing the arid region under cultivation.

There may be no law to hold ex-Secretary Allen responsible for the safe keeping of the legislative furniture and supplies which he purchased two years ago, nor is there any statute authorizing such purchases by him. The fact that he made such purchases, however, implies a moral responsibility upon his part to see that the property of the state is protected against theft. It is high time that the legislature define such responsibility by law in order that the state may not be biennially mulcted out of $20,000 to $30,000 for legislative supplies.

BREAKERS AHEAD.

There is a commendable disposition on the part of the legislature to push through the relief bills for drouth sufferers as rapidly as possible. There is grave danger, however, that the relief bills will open the door for reckless financiering and pave the way for speculators and money sharks who are on the alert for chances to fill their own pockets and loot the state treasury. The legislature should bear in mind that the hole made in the treasury by the Mosher bank swindle, amounting to a quarter of a million, is not likely to be filled during the present year, if ever. Just how much state money has been farmed out by the treasurer during the past two years among country banks that are not in condition at this time to pay up is not known, but we make bold in asserting that the state treasury never was in such bad shape as it is at this hour.

To draw $100,000 or more out of any fund that may be available, and couple this appropriation with a proviso that all warrants drawn and not paid at sight by the treasurer shall draw interest from date and be deposited in the school fund as so much cash, seems to us an extra hazardous experiment. It is confessedly unconstitutional, but, waiving that objection, there is a wide margin for warrant brokers who are willing to advance money on vouchers or claims before a warrant has been drawn.

The proposition to authorize an unlimited issue of county bonds and warrants for relief purposes, and authorizing the purchase of all such evidences of debt with money belonging to the permanent school fund, affords an opportunity for schemes and downright swindles that would scandalize the state and rob its children of the patrimony surrounded by the framers of our constitution with safeguards which should not be set aside.

There is at present no limitation to the issue of county bonds, so long as the aggregate debt does not exceed 10 per cent of the assessed valuation. Suppose the board of county supervisors or commissioners in any of the new counties should enter into a conspiracy with speculators and have the assessment this spring raised to ten times the actual value, what is to hinder the issue of thousands of dollars of bonds for relief purposes, and what is there to protect the school fund from being invested into bonds that are almost sure never to be redeemed and on which interest is sure to be defaulted?

There are breakers ahead which bode no good to the state unless the legislature surrounds every scheme of relief with all the safeguards that can be devised.

1. The $100,000 donation out of the general fund, if distributed in money per capita or per family of destitute people, would not go very far. It certainly could not exceed $3,000 for any single county. The safe and rational way of disposing of this fund would be to expend it for seed grain purchased by a commission of men of known integrity and given for distribution on the ratio of acreage under cultivation last year. The emergency relief should be authorized by counties and also limited at the ratio of estimated destitute population.

2. The volume of bonded debt or warrants to be issued by any county for relief should be limited. The basis for such debt should be the assessment for 1893-4 and votes cast at the elections of 1892-3, with a computation as to population on the ratio of five and one-half persons to each voter. There are no more people in the drouth-stricken counties today than there were in 1892 or 1893. Quite the contrary there has been a material decrease since the drouth of last season.

Unless the legislature places stringent limitations on the proposed relief debt every dollar of our permanent school fund will be drawn out of the treasury and we will not get it back in 100 years unless it is replaced by direct taxation, as the constitution requires to be done in case of defalcation or losses through any other cause.

COLORADO'S NEW GOVERNOR.

The people of Colorado are to be congratulated upon the accession of a clear-headed, conservative governor. Colorado has had a rather severe experience during the past year or two, and the testimony of many of her best citizens has been that she has suffered quite as much from the antics of the explosive and rattle-brained Waite as from any other cause. At any rate, the verdict of the voters last November showed most conclusively that they had had enough of the sort of politics of which the ex-governor is an exponent.

The new governor is in line with the general demand for reducing public expenditures. This is a matter which every state executive this year has earnestly sought to impress upon the legislature and it is one which western legislatures especially should give most serious attention to. It is hardly necessary to say that silver receives consideration in the inaugural address of Governor McIntyre. No public man in Colorado would satisfy popular expectation or retain popular confidence who did not improve every opportunity to say something in behalf of the white metal. The new governor of that state believes, in common with all its other citizens, that the one thing necessary to restore prosperity to the country is the rehabilitation of silver and its free and unlimited coinage at the existing legal ratio. Very likely the governor is correct in saying that the restoration of silver would place the people of Colorado in an enviable position. For a time, at least, it would probably do this, but according to trustworthy information the silver mining interests of that state are doing fairly well now, while the increased production of gold must bring to the state nearly as much income from mining as it formerly received when silver was worth 30 or 40 cents more an ounce than it is at present. But however this may be, Colorado will have to be content with existing conditions regarding silver for some time to come. So far as can be seen, the prospect of the white metal occupying a larger place in the currency of the world than it now does is not brightening. There is no indication that European countries are any more favorably disposed toward silver than they have been for a number of years, and in this country the supporters of the policy of free silver coinage are not as numerous as a few years ago. Still it is not to be expected that Colorado will cease agitating for the adoption of that policy, whatever measure of prosperity she may attain without it.

NOT ANXIOUS FOR LIGHT.

Commenting editorially upon the petition recently filed for an appeal from the decision in the Nebraska maximum rate case, the Chicago Tribune says it is desirable that the supreme court should settle the question involved if it can, because it would simplify matters greatly and enable people interested in railroads to know just where they stand. So far, we are told, Judge Brewer has decided nothing. To quote literally, "While clear in his mind that the rates of the law were too low, the judge admitted his inability to decide what would be just and reasonable ones, because he was not sure what the basis should be on which to estimate them. He saw some objections to taking as the basis what it would cost to duplicate a road and also some to assuming that the face value of stocks and bonds or the cost of construction of a railroad extravagantly built should be taken. Therefore he decided nothing."

The inference which the Tribune draws is quite natural for any one who is unacquainted with the character of the men who have been managing Nebraska railroads. Ordinarily it would be confidently expected that in such a case the railroad owners and officials would be more than anxious to have the issue determined by a court of last resort. A solution of the vexed problem would tell them exactly how far they can go and precisely to what extent they are subject to legislative regulation. It would also inform them upon what basis reasonable rates are to be computed. If finally settled it would do away with a bone of contention of which the railroads have been long and constantly complaining.

But the railroads concerned in the Nebraska maximum rate decision seem to be interested just the other way. Apparently they do not want the question of reasonable rates settled at all. They seem to be perfectly satisfied to remain where they now are and to use the decision of Judge Brewer to frustrate all state regulation of rates whatever. An appeal to a higher court subjects them to the liability of having that decision reversed. For this reason the railroad lobby appears to have been re-established in the vicinity of the legislature at Lincoln to prevent the appropriation of the money necessary to defray the legitimate expenses of an appeal by the attorneys for the state. To head off the appeal in this way is their present game. If they can succeed in this they will be willing to leave the question of reasonable rates in the dark, legally, for an indefinite time to come.

CUSTOMS DUTIES IN GOLD.

Representative Walker of Massachusetts intends to offer an amendment to the currency bill under consideration in the house providing that one-half of the customs duties shall be paid in gold or legal tender notes. The object of this is to better enable the treasury to maintain the gold reserve. Formerly it was required that all customs duties be paid in gold, but now they can be paid in any form of currency except national bank notes. The result is that very little gold finds its way into the treasury from this source and the expediency of changing this has been urged by ex-Secretary Boutwell and others as an effective means of helping the treasury to keep up the gold reserve. There does not appear to be any valid objection to the proposition. The requirement that 50 per cent or even a larger proportion of the duties from customs shall be paid in gold would not be a discrimination against other forms of money that would impair their standing. The soundness of all the currency rests upon the gold reserve, and as long as this is maintained at the amount deemed to be safe the credit of no other form of currency will suffer. It is only when this basis of security is seriously reduced that the standing of the paper money of the government is in danger.

Under present conditions it is manifestly impossible to maintain the reserve, even by frequent issues of bonds. It is only a little over a month since the treasury gold was built up by borrowing and it is again reduced to about $80,000,000, with the certainty of being still further depleted. The shipments for foreign account are heavy and it is reported that foreign bankers think the outward movement will be prolonged for months. The gold thus called for will be drawn largely, if not wholly, from the treasury, for the banks show no disposition to part with their gold for export. There is probably not less than $70,000,000 in gold held by the banks of New York City and they seem determined to hang on to it, regardless of the difficulties and embarrassments of the treasury or the menace to the credit of the government from a declining gold reserve. When gold is demanded for export these banks supply the exporters with currency to be exchanged at the subtreasury for gold, and this process, which has been going on for the past year and a half, is very likely to be continued. When customs duties are to be paid it is also the practice of the banks to furnish the importers with other money than gold or legal tender notes. This practice would be stopped if 50 per cent of the duties was made payable in gold or legal tender notes, which in effect are the same, and the treasury would be assured an annual gold income from this source of about $100,000,000. It might be advisable to make the proportion of duties to be paid in gold larger than Representative Walker proposes, but even that would unquestionably be a very great help to the treasury. The proposal to retire and cancel the United States legal tender notes is not a popular one and some other plan will have to be adopted for protecting and maintaining the reserve. That of requiring a percentage of the duties, not less than one-half, to be paid in gold is practicable and it is believed would accomplish the desired object.

The present indications are that unless something is done by congress to protect the reserve it will again be down to the danger point within the next two months and the treasury will be forced to issue more bonds. In that event it would probably find some difficulty in disposing of them. The bonds last issued have declined in the open market and are now worth less than the government received for them. It is certain that another issue could not be sold on as favorable terms as the last.

THE CURRENCY BILL.

A caucus of house democrats has adopted a resolution endorsing the currency bill now under consideration. The action of a caucus exerts a good deal of influence, if it is not absolutely binding upon those who participate in it. A strong opposition to the bill was, however, disclosed, which warrants a doubt as to whether it can pass the house. It appears that a number of those who attended the caucus did so with the understanding that it was intended to be simply advisory, and these, of course, will feel under no obligation to be bound by its action, although it is quite possible that some of them will be induced to fall into line in the interest of party unity, for which a strong appeal was made by Speaker Crisp and others. As to those democrats who did not attend, they are entirely free to do as they please when the measure comes to a vote, and it is not unlikely that many of them will be found in opposition. If as many democratic votes are cast against the bill in the house as were given in opposition to the caucus resolution endorsing it, it will probably be defeated, for of course the republicans will vote against it solidly.

There was one important point settled by the caucus, and that is that no proposition for an issue of bonds to retire legal tender notes has any chance of being adopted by this congress. Representative Sperry of Connecticut had prepared a bill containing a provision of this kind, and a motion to substitute it for the pending bill received only thirteen votes in the caucus, while seventy were cast against it. Doubtless after this showing no further effort will be made looking to a retirement of legal tender notes by the issue of bonds. In view of the fact that the Sperry bill has received considerable commendation in financial circles it may be interesting to refer briefly to its provisions. It provides for an issue of bonds to an amount not exceeding in the aggregate all the United States notes now outstanding, such bonds to bear 3 per cent interest per annum and to be due and payable thirty years from the date of issue. All legal tender and treasury notes redeemable in gold at the treasury after the passage of the act shall be canceled and destroyed. It also authorizes the secretary of the treasury to use any surplus revenue to redeem these notes, which, when so redeemed, shall be canceled and destroyed—shall not again be reissued. The rejection of this measure as a substitute for the pending bill by the democratic caucus distinctly shows that a large majority of the democrats in the present congress are not favorable to the destruction of the greenbacks and that no currency plan embracing this proposition has any chance of adoption.

A vote on the currency bill will doubtless be reached this week. The result cannot be forecast with any degree of certainty, but assuming that under the pressure of caucus action the bill passes the house its defeat in the senate, if it ever gets to a vote in that body, can be regarded as assured. In this connection it will be interesting to note the composition of the finance committee of the senate, to which the bill will be referred if it goes to the senate. The committee stands six democrats and five republicans, as follows: Voorhees, McPherson, Harris, Vest, Jones of Arkansas and White, democrats; Morrill, Sherman, Jones of Nevada, Allison and Aldrich, republicans. Jones of Nevada is classified with the republicans because he is in full sympathy with them on all questions except the coinage of silver and would undoubtedly vote with them against the so-called Carlisle currency bill. McPherson and White, it is believed, would also co-operate with the republicans in opposition to this measure, so that there is no probability that the senate finance committee would report it in its present form. We see no reason to change the opinion heretofore expressed that there is very little chance of any currency legislation by the present congress.

The mayor of South Omaha has requested the town council to make an investigation of the alleged crookedness and bribery of municipal officials. The council has accepted the suggestion and set Thursday evening for opening the ball. The Bee is informed that the Taxpayers league of South Omaha is anxious to take up this matter and go to the bottom of the charges of collusion between the gamblers and officials. Leading members of the league express willingness to raise a fund to meet the necessary expenses of an investigation guaranteed to investigate and to prevent a farcical inquiry such as is doubtless contemplated by the town council. It goes without saying that a wholesale whitewash of every one implicated in the scandalous affair will be made unless responsible citizens take charge of the investigation and prosecute it in dead earnest. Let the Taxpayers league jump into the breach and bring the guilty parties to justice. An able and incorruptible lawyer should be retained at once by the league to formulate a plan of campaign. Official circles of South Omaha have long been in need of a thorough ventilating and now is the accepted time to begin the work of reform.

The Board of Fire and Police Commissioners first order sixteen additional men to be employed on the fire force and then adopt a resolution asking the finance committee to report the probable cost of the fire department during the coming year. Why would it not have been more business-like to insist on knowing how the department stands financially before venturing to authorize further expenditures without the remotest idea to what they will lead? Before any expenditure is authorized by any public body it ought to know how such action will affect the funds at its command.

Terre Haute, Ind., has just had a small-sized sensation in the disclosure of an alleged attempt at bribery by the agents of a fire hose company that was anxious to get the contract for furnishing supplies for the department in that city. Of course there are the usual denials and recriminations, but the circumstances are strongly indicative of the truth of the charges. It is known that some of the fire hose companies are not above paying for public contracts when they can be secured in no other way. They will at least bear watching in every city where they send agents for the purpose of stimulating trade.

Emperor William's New Year's greeting to Prince Bismarck shows that the German emperor it satisfied with the results of his reconciliation with the ex-chancellor and that he is anxious to maintain the harmonious relations which he has re-established. In this he sees strength. He recognizes the influence which Bismarck still has over the German people and he prefers to have that influence on his side rather than against him. This annual New Year's greeting means a great deal to the emperor's subjects and its omission would have been regarded as studied neglect.

Democrats who for two generations last past have incessantly voted for Andrew Jackson met at the festal board last night to deplore the fact that the general is not now living in the flesh that he might infuse a little horse sense into the so-called leaders of the party. What the occasion may have been for this gloomy wake The Bee has not been informed. The pall bearers were all there, however.

Those sugar brokers who have been adjudged properly indicted for refusing to answer questions put to them last winter by the senate investigating committee will of course carry their cases to the supreme court. They will have every defense that money can furnish. If they were poor and without wealthy backers they would have answered the questions without the slightest ado.

Drawn While You Wait.
Courier-Journal.

If this thing keeps on the newspapers will soon be able to issue out currency plans to their subscribers on the coupon system.

Pity the Poor Ambassadors.
Chicago Mail.

The condition of our ambassabors is indeed pitiable and should appeal to the sympathy of workingmen who get $1.50 a day, but live within their income because they can't live any other way. If a subscription isn't taken up for them our ambassadors may yet become objects of charity.

The Philanthropic Andrew.
Milwaukee Journal.

Millionaire Carnegie, the man who says that a man who dies rich dies disgraced, does not reduce wages for his employes because he wants to do it for his own gain, but simply because the less wealthy employers of labor cannot afford to pay high wages. When they all become as rich as he is then they can afford to give labor a better show.

Senators and Cocktails.
New York World.

Senator Allen is not the only person in the United States who would like to know why senators cannot go outside the building for their cocktails, as the rest of us have to do if we want cocktails. The people of the United States are under no moral or legal obligation to take any part whatever in painting the nose of any occupant of the plutocratic auction room in the capitol.

Ohio a Refuge for Criminals.
Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Judge Buchwalter of Cincinnati in refusing to permit the extradition of the Kentucky negro, Hampton, on the ground that he feared the people of that state would take the law into their own hands, seems to have had no hesitation whatever in taking it into his. In disregarding the law which he is sworn to administer he has failed in his duty as a judge, and in violating the comity between Ohio and a neighboring commonwealth he has been derelict in his duty as a citizen. The negro, Hampton, is wanted in Green county, Kentucky, for shooting and wounding. That he should be tried for his act there can be no doubt. Certainly there is neither law nor common sense to justify his being turned loose upon the people of Ohio. Yet this is Judge Buchwalter's decision, and the negro is free in Cincinnati.

Recognizing the Monroe Doctrine.
Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

Forty years ago we had got so far toward a settlement of this dispute as the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, which really settled very little, for Great Britain still claimed the right of protectorate over the Mosquitoes. Never until now has that nation formally abandoned the claim and given the Clayton-Bulwer treaty the interpretation we have always put upon it. Now Great Britain abandons the Mosquito protectorate absolutely, and acknowledges the authority of Nicaragua over it, and this action settles that old dispute forever. Now also the United States and Great Britain stand in exactly the same relation of recognized neutrality to all Central American territory. Neither claims the right to occupy, or fortify, or claim any sovereignty over any part of it, and so far as this pledge goes Great Britain recognizes the Monroe doctrine.

CALCULATED TO TICKLE.

Philadelphia Record: Most people who walk on icy pavements are slip shod.

Washington Star: "Dah ain' no doubt," said Uncle Eben, "'bout contentment bein' better'n riches. But mos' eberybody now-'days seems too p'lite ter want de bes' foh hisse'f."

Buffalo Courier: Jilson says the greatest sticklers for form must sometimes bow to the inevitable without having had an introduction.

Truth: "Be proud of your sex, Miss Hawkins, if you will—but remember this, man was made first; woman was a second thought," observed De Saphead. "I never denied that second thoughts were best, Mr. De Saphead," said Miss Hawkins.

Detroit Free Press: "Do you think, Miss Fannie," he said, "that the time will ever come when women will propose to the men?" She lifted up her beautiful eyes and looked him squarely in the face. "Never, Mr. Smith," she replied, "if they are anything like you."

Philadelphia Record: Mrs. McGuire—Phat's yer ould man doin' now? Mrs. McGuirk—Droivin' a hearse, an' he do be coughin' all the tolme. Mrs. McGuire—Ye don't say! Wull, since Dinny's bin droivin' a cab, he do be havin' a hackin' cough, too.

Washington Star: "Did anybody insinuate that I sold myself?" inquired the New York policeman. "I didn't hear that," replied his friend. "All that came to my ears was that you gave yourself away."

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "William," said old Mr. Skinner, "always take your seat near the rear end of the street car." "What for, father?" "It is a principle of business, my son, that should be taken advantage of." "Explain, father." "By taking your seat at the rear end you get to hold your nickel that much longer, and interest is worth something these days."

OR HIS COFFEE.
Buffalo Courier.

He cares not to rap
Whene'er it doth hap
That his wife's cold to him, so they say;
But he raves and he roars
And slam-bangs the doors
If his morning's pancakes are that way.

DANGERS OF RETALIATION.

Denver Republican: It is not surprising that Austria's protest against sugar discriminations has given the State department much trouble. It is trouble, however, in which the administration deserves no sympathy. The reciprocity treaties should have been adhered to. Under them our trade was increasing and relations with other nations were pleasant. But it was a republican policy, and of course democrats could find no good in it.

St. Paul Pioneer Press: Our democratic rulers seem likely to embroil us with all the constitutional powers of Europe. Germany now threatens to prevent the execution of our laws to keep cholera and the worse plague of pauper and criminal emigrants out of this country. The executive department of the administration seems so bent on involving us in a snarl with European governments and is drifting so helplessly into needless complications that it is now thought likely that congress will have to take these international questions out of its hands.

Philadelphia Record: The exclusion of American beef and live cattle from European markets will not be without alleviations. The meat business in this country is in the hands of great monopolies, which pay small prices to cattle raisers and exact large prices from consumers. The prices of beefsteaks, like the prices of steel rails, are kept at the top notch. The foreign markets take the surplus that cannot be disposed of in this country at monopoly prices. American meats have frequently been laid down at foreign ports for less than the ruling prices in New York or Philadelphia. The outlets for the surplus having been temporarily closed, consumers may expect to profit by it. It will not add to the terrors of the winter season if the prices of chops and steaks shall go down for awhile with the ratings of the thermometer.

NEBRASKA AND NEBRASKANS.

The Merchants hotel at Hartington has been closed because of hard times.

There were 116 interments in the cemetery at Nebraska City during the past year.

Over $34,000 in improvements were made at Hartington during the year just closed.

The 3-months-old child of Bert Stickly of Guide Rock was wrapped up too tightly and suffocated.

Charles Callahan, who intended to start a new paper at Sidney, has changed his mind and has purchased the Sidney Telegraph.

The grand lodge of the Treu Bund, embracing the states of Nebraska and Iowa, will convene at Norfolk February 6. About sixty delegates will be in attendance.

Rev. George Williams, one of the first settlers in Adams county and at one time editor of the Hastings Nebraskan, died at his home in Kenesaw at the age of 64 years.

The sheriff of Thayer county has been ordered to keep all his prisoners in the steel cage in the future instead of allowing them the privilege of the corridors. The recent escape of a prisoner is responsible for the order.

The Burwell irrigation ditch is to be completed by the middle of May and water given to the farmers on June 1. About 20 per cent of the dirt work is completed. It is fourteen miles long and eighteen feet wide on the bottom at the head and five feet deep and will irrigate 15,000 acres of as rich land as can be found in the state.

A Far Fetched Prophecy.
Globe-Democrat.

John Burns prophesies that within the next twenty-five years Americans will be emigrating to England in order to secure good government and association with a happy and contented people. Twenty-five years from now the population of this country will be over 120,000,000, and really there isn't room for them on the foggy little patch of British real estate. No American willingly emigrates to England now except an occasional heiress, and this will stop as soon as the supply of dukes runs short.

A Battle Royal in the Courts.
Denver News.

It is now announced that the receivers of the Union Pacific will make a strong fight against a separate receivership for the Oregon Short Line, as asked for in the complaint of the American Loan and Trust company. The case will come up for argument before Judge Gilbert at Portland on January 15, and it is expected that General Solicitor Thurston will be present to represent Union Pacific interests. A battle royal, as in the Gulf case, is imminent.

Reported Murder Denied.

TUCSON, Ariz., Jan. 8.—The reported murder of Frank Dobs on the Yaqui river in Mexico by Indians, whom it was alleged he had left stranded at the Midwinter exposition, is denied by American Consul Hale of Guaymas and Governor Terres of Mexico.

DEMAND OF STATESMANSHIP.

Washington Star.

It has been said the tariff needs
Some slight attention still;
The public clamors for reform—
As publics always will.
But these are minor things on which
Our mental glims we douse;
We must debate to regulate
The Senate eating house.

Oh, what's the good of terrapin,
With champagne on the side?
Oh, what's the good of broiling steak?
It's just as juicy fried.
And truffles—what the deuce are they
That they should so arouse
The men of size who patronize
The Senate eating house?

It's the steward we are after
On this glorious ship of state;
We can diet all like heroes,
Though we do not legislate;
One may, with effort, on finance
Be silent as a mouse—
But none shall spare the bill of fare
At the Senate eating house.

EASTERN LOANS AND WESTERN LAWS.

OMAHA, Jan. 8.—To the Editor of The Bee: I notice a very marked activity on the part of loan companies and their agents for what they are pleased to call "improvement in our foreclosure laws." An effort is to be made by them to induce the present legislature to make some changes in our present statutes affecting mortgages, which they say will prove beneficial. Beneficial to whom? Since any change in such laws could only prove an advantage to one party to the mortgage contract, and all companies and agents thereof are eager for the change, it is not difficult to see who is to be benefited. Loan companies, as a rule, make careful scrutiny of the property upon which application for a loan is made, and fix their own estimate of its actual cash value. After they have seen that all incumbrances are paid off and an insurance policy for the full term of years of the loan is paid for by the applicant and turned over to them, they then make a loan of about 40 per cent of the cash value of the property, as fixed by themselves—in other words, the loan company has 40 per cent and the mortgagor 60 per cent invested in the property. Against the income which the mortgagor may receive from the property the loan company has all taxes and other assessments paid and receives whatever rate of interest the contract calls for. Our present laws do not unreasonably protect the mortgagor's equity. They still leave every material advantage with the mortgagee. Suppose it takes two years to foreclose a mortgage and the mortgagee paid no interest or taxes during that time, the loan company has about 60 per cent on its own valuation of the property with which to pay itself, besides paid up fire insurance and freedom from the annoyance of any other liens. Few foreclosures take the full time claimed by loan agents, and in any case the only loser is the mortgagor, if the loan was judiciously made.

Why should we legislate for eastern money loaners? Why should our laws say to them: "You loan us 40 per cent of the value of our homes and we will pay you interest on the money until you get ready to take the homes, and then vacate instanter?" If we want to sell at this rate, why not sell to home capitalists and patronize home? Why should a loan company be allowed an attorney's fee by the court in case of litigation for the nonfulfillment of a contract any more than other parties who resort to law for the same reasons? The only argument advanced by the companies for the changes they suggest is that money would be cheaper if these little arms of protection (styled by them embargoes) that our present statute throws around the poor man's home were removed. Would it be cheaper? Why do they want cheap money? In what way would it benefit them? The demand for high-priced money is greater than the supply as it is. How, then, would cheap money benefit them? This argument is too transparent. Money would not be cheaper. For a time eastern capitalists might loan more readily, but not cheaper. Ease in obtaining money with "embargoes" removed, as these companies suggest, would, however, result disastrously to our people.

Will the cry of eastern capital never cease its wail? Will the dread that it may be withdrawn ever cease to trouble the otherwise tranquil west? Yes; when the western people learn to use the top of the head more and the hole under the nose less.

A NEBRASKAN.

NEW YORK MAY IRRIGATE.

Eastern Farmer Learning a Valuable Lesson in the West.

DENVER, Jan. 8.—Samuel D. Willard, a wealthy farmer and well known republican leader of Geneva, N. Y., is in the city, returning home from California. He has been out west making an extended investigation of irrigating systems and of agricultural and horticultural methods, and has arrived at some decided conclusions.

"I believe the time will come when New York will have to adopt the methods of water storage used in the west in order to furnish sufficient water to raise crops," said he. "The destruction of the forests will bring about a condition of things in the eastern states so near akin to that in the western states we shall be glad to study the methods of western farmers and fruit growers. I have been making a study of the big systems in California and also of the general subject of agriculture and horticulture and I expect to put what I have learned to considerable use in my own neighborhood."

Mr. Willard is a candidate for the office of commissioner of agriculture in the state of New York under the new administration.

MUST WAIT FOR A DIVORCE.

Sibyl Sanderson Came Here to Marry Antonio Terry.

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—Miss Sibyl Sanderson, the California prima donna, who is to be heard for the first time in this country at the Metropolitan opera house next week, arrived on La Champagne. During her stay in America, Miss Sanderson may be heard in "Manon," "Phrynne," and perhaps in "Esclarmonde" or "Thetis." Incidentally she said she hoped to marry Mr. Antonio Terry, a Cuban of considerable wealth, who is equally at home in Paris and New York. "The date of our marriage," said the singer with engaging frankness, "depends on a divorce suit which is pending, for unfortunately Mr. Terry has a wife. He has not lived with her for quite eleven years, though I believe she is a very charming person." Mr. Terry came over on La Champagne with Miss Sanderson.

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