

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

Published Every Morning

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: Daily Bee (Without Sunday), One Year, \$3.00; Daily Bee and Sunday, One Year, \$4.00.

OFFICES: Omaha, The Bee Building, 15th Street and 18th Sts.; Council Bluffs, 1217 North Street; Chicago, 217 Chamber of Commerce.

ADVERTISING: All business letters and notices should be addressed to The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha, Nebraska.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION: George H. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, reports that the actual number of full and complete copies of the Daily Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of January, 1896, was as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Issue, Copies, Total. Rows include Daily Bee, Sunday Bee, and Total for various dates in January 1896.

Net sales, \$52,542; Daily average, \$1,714.37. Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 25th day of Feb. 1896.

Niagara is said to have run nearly dry. And it is not located in the state of Maine either.

There is little doubt that the city could readily get off from private parties to construct a city jail building upon favorable conditions.

Hon. Alvin Saunders, Nebraska's war governor, has reason to feel proud of the ovation that greeted him when he appeared before the Iowa legislature.

The secretary of the State Board of Irrigation and the city engineer of Omaha are still one and the same person, drawing two salaries aggregating \$3,000 per year.

Mississippi is pretty far from New York to start the boom for ex-Secretary of the Navy Whitney. But, then, people are usually most appreciated away from home.

The best way for Dr. Nansen to prove that he found the north pole is to bring a piece of it with him. Otherwise it is to be feared that he will have trouble in making people believe that he has found it.

Nebraska prohibitionists have declared for free silver, but they may rest assured that the free silverites will not declare for prohibition—at any rate not the democratic contribution to the free silver ranks.

What a streak of good luck that Pugilist Bruiser Maher's eyes are too sore to permit him to enter the squared circle? These sore eyes are worth thousands of dollars to the saloon keepers and furo bankers of El Paso.

It is fortunate that the north pole has again been discovered. A number of disappointed statesmen may be seized with that lonely spot as soon as the great national conventions shall have been held and adjourned.

Iowa is the first state to give official recognition to the Transmississippi exposition, which only goes to show that Iowa appreciates the magnitude of the enterprise and the advantages that must accrue from it to the people of the Mississippi and Missouri valleys.

The Illinois Central has kept its eye on Omaha for years and would have had its western terminus in this city long ago if it had been given reasonable encouragement. Why can't the Commercial club take steps to induce the managers of the Central to extend their line this year?

However widely Nebraska republicans may differ in their personal preferences for presidential candidates, there can be no divergence of opinion as regards the high honor reflected upon Nebraska by Senator Thurston's eloquent tribute to the foremost champion of protection to American industry, William McKinley.

But for the cruel hoax by which the populist representative of the Sixth congressional district of Nebraska has credited with delivering a sound money speech in the Congressional Record, nobody outside of Nebraska would have the remotest idea that such a person as Omar M. Kem holds down a seat in the national legislature.

Keep it before the people of Iowa, Nebraska, Dakota, Kansas, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Montana, Idaho, Oregon, Washington, Nevada and California that the Transmississippi exposition will attract more attention to the vast resources of the greater west than any and all other advertising schemes and all the immigration bureaus.

Vinegar made from sugar beets is the latest. If the by-products of the beet sugar industry will continue to multiply, the prices obtained by the farmers will have a much wider basis of demand and in consequence tend to greater steadiness. Sugar and vinegar out of one and the same vegetable is something in the line of a natural novelty.

There is no reasonable ground for criticism of the street commissioner in his determination to give resident tax-paying married men preference in the street cleaning detail. He will make shifts of forty men, who will work three days and step aside for the second shift, etc. A more satisfactory and humane plan could not be adopted, and must commend itself to all fair-minded men.

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ANTI-TRUST LEGISLATION.

The copy of Attorney General Harmon to the request of congress for information as to what steps have been taken to enforce the anti-trust law and also as to what further legislation is needed to protect the people against trusts and combinations, points out why the act of 1890 has failed to accomplish its purpose and indicates what is necessary to make that act effective.

It is somewhat reassuring to learn that the many complaints which have been received by the department of justice regarding alleged trusts, combinations and monopolies have not, as has been commonly supposed, wholly ignored by that department. The Attorney general says he has endeavored to investigate these complaints as well as the means at his disposal permitted, and that some such investigations are now in progress, while two actions are pending based partly or wholly on alleged violations of the Sherman act.

Referring to the decision of the supreme court, rendered in the case of the American Sugar Refining company, the Attorney general says that the act of 1890 does not apply to the most complete monopolies acquired by unlawful combination of concerns which are naturally competitive, although these are engaged in interstate commerce, that being an incident of their business and not its direct and immediate object.

Attorney General Harmon suggests that congress should clearly define what is meant by monopolies, combinations and conspiracies in restraint of trade and commerce and obviously the suggestion is wise, for although judicial decisions may make perfectly plain what these are it is manifestly desirable that they be defined in legislation. He also makes the excellent suggestion that the law should contain a provision to prevent the refusal of witnesses to answer on the ground of self-incrimination.

The suggestions of Attorney General Harmon will enable congress to improve the anti-trust law and it is presumed that an effort will be made to do this, for manifestly it is worthless as it stands. They should also impress upon state legislatures the duty and necessity of such action as it is within their authority to take.

The greatest obstacle to genuine tax reform is the inequitable and iniquitous assessment of taxes by which one property owner is favored at the expense of another. In fact, this discrimination in property valuation is the tap root of all the worst abuses of the prevailing system. For once the council is on the right track in its effort to inaugurate tax reform through the co-operation of the ward assessors. It is absolutely essential that a uniform method of property valuation be agreed on between all the assessors before the work of property reappraisal is begun. It is not the question whether the ratio of assessment to actual value be one-third or one-fifth, or even one-tenth, as it is that all property subject to taxation, real and personal, whether owned by an individual, a firm or a corporation, shall pay its due proportion of the taxes levied upon all other property. In other words, there must be uniformity of appraisement on a basis agreed upon before the assessment is begun. Under the existing method of assessment boards of equalization are a farce. There can be no equalization so long as the boards are powerless to raise the assessor's return on any piece of property that has been undervalued, unless a specific complaint is filed and a corresponding reduction is made on one or more pieces of property that are overvalued. Comparatively few taxpayers are willing to complain about the undervaluation of the property of other taxpayers, even where the assessor has committed the rankest of injustice or indulged in most flagrant favoritism.

It is doubtful whether a perfectly equitable system of taxation will ever be devised. And even if it were devised its efficiency must always depend on the men who are charged with its execution. The present system of ward assessment could be made equitable and fair provided, always, that the people of every ward would elect honest and competent assessors. But the people as a rule pay little attention to the election of assessors than they do to that of constables. And when an honest, painstaking and competent assessor is elected his returns come in conflict with those of the lazy, shiftless and dishonest assessor and become the source of discrimination against the property owners of his ward. For this reason the work of assessment by ward assessors causes the greatest hardship to people in the wards that have elected the most conscientious assessors. It becomes a sort of devil-take-the-hindmost race, in which the wealthiest and most influential property owners outstrip the poor home owner and business man of small means. Whatever is to be done in the way of lessening the evil must be done before the assessors begin their annual

round-up. It is to be hoped the committee appointed by the council for the systematizing of assessments will be able to secure the hearty co-operation of the county commissioners and city assessors.

A NEW POOLING BILL.

The subcommittee of the house committee on commerce has under consideration a bill to legalize pooling which was drawn by Commissioner Knapp of the Interstate Commerce commission. It somewhat modifies the measure that was before the last congress, especially in the direction of providing stronger safeguards for the protection of the public. The bill is understood to have the approval of the Interstate Commerce commission, and also to be acceptable to the railway people, who, it may be remarked, manifest a willingness to accept almost anything that will permit pooling contracts.

It is expected that a pooling bill will be reported during the present session, but it is not believed there is much chance of any action being taken. This, like some other matters which under ordinary circumstances would receive attention, is likely to be laid aside for political considerations. It is believed that a majority in both branches of congress favor pooling, with stringent regulations under the supervision of the commission, but it is probable that a great many senators and representatives would prefer not to go on record in the matter at this time. Besides, there is a large number of new men in the house who are presumably not as familiar with the question as they desire to be. Under the circumstances, therefore, it is pretty safe to say that there will be no legislation at the present session legalizing pooling, though the matter may receive some consideration preparatory to action at the second session.

NO RELIEF FOR THE TREASURY.

The vote in the senate Thursday on the motion of Mr. Morrill, chairman of the committee on finance, to take up the emergency revenue bill, shows that the senate cannot be depended upon to do anything for the relief of the treasury. The democrats, of course, are unanimous against the measure and with the aid of the populists and a few of the free silver republicans they can prevent action on it. The Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Ledger said in his dispatches of a few days ago that there was no hope for action on the pending bill before the expiration of the time fixed for the payment of the new issue of bonds, and the people may therefore look for another emergency before the close of the current year requiring still further issue of interest-bearing bonds to maintain the parity of the national currency and the maintenance of the public credit.

The action of the silver men in the senate in passing a free coinage substitute for the bond bill passed by the house has been rejected by the latter body by a decisive majority. This should be accepted by the free silver men as conclusive and lead them to suspend for the present efforts to advance their policy. Some of the republican free silver senators are disposed to do this and are willing to take up and consider the revenue bill, but others persist in the determination that nothing shall be done in regard to this measure that does not carry with it a recognition of silver and it seems to be assured that these, in union with the democrats, will prevent any legislation for giving the treasury more revenue. If the measure for this purpose fails, as all signs indicate it will, to pass the senate, the chief responsibility will rest upon the free silver republican senators who persist in urging their policy as the only panacea for financial and business ills.

Meanwhile the treasury deficit grows and all the conditions which have compelled the government to borrow \$202,000,000 in the last two years continue in full operation, with no promise or prospect of a change for the better. The house of representatives has done its duty. It met the demands of the emergency promptly. It is the senate, with its free silver majority, that is blocking the way to legislation necessary to the relief of the treasury and the maintenance of the government credit.

That eminent scholar, Dr. Edward Everett Hale, who is now in the city, has many times suggested the town meeting as a remedy for municipal misgovernment. This, of course, includes the abuses pointed out by the council when it declared that "The owners of small houses and real estate are paying an unjust proportion of taxes." This has always been the case, and under the system of taxation now in vogue in this state it may grow worse. Wealthy realty owners and corporations make a business of treating with assessors, while the great majority of small home owners pay no attention to the assessors. If the latter class would meet frequently during the spring months when assessors are at work, demand that the assessor show his books and make a report to his constituency of work performed, there would be little cause for complaint. The average assessor needs looking after. The rich men cultivate him to their great advantage; the poor man might do the same if so disposed. In short, there is not an abuse in local government which cannot be checked and remedied by the people if they go about it in the right way.

The stock commission men have taken up the controversy between the stock yards company and the railroads about the switching charge at the South Omaha yards. They want the charge reduced from \$2.50 to \$1 per car, in and out, and petition for immediate action that further damage to the Omaha market may be averted. All differences of this nature must, as a rule, be adjusted at the end of a compromise. The interests of the stock market certainly will be best subserved by an early settlement of the matter.

That sound money speech accidentally printed in the Congressional Record under Congressman Kem's name may afford amusement to some of his associates in the house, but it is no joke

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

The more one hears about the ridiculous British expedition to Comassie the less one is able to understand either its purpose or the results that have been achieved. It has added nothing to the British empire, since Ashantee was already within the sphere of English influence. It cannot be said to have subdued King Prempeh, since the latter was already subdued long before the expedition started from England, his envoys having told Mr. Chamberlain in London that he agreed to all the conditions imposed by Queen Victoria's government.

There has been no fighting, in fact not a single shot has been fired, and the only lives that have been lost in this ignominious campaign have been among the victims. Nor has the expedition represented the sum total of the cost, since the expedition has involved an expense of many millions of dollars. True, King Prempeh has sworn with his head between his feet the conditions imposed by Queen Victoria's government, but his assurances with regard to the matter need not be taken into serious consideration, as the English commander, Sir Francis Scott, to pay this; but his assurances with regard to the matter need not be taken into serious consideration, as the English commander, Sir Francis Scott, to pay this; but his assurances with regard to the matter need not be taken into serious consideration, as the English commander, Sir Francis Scott, to pay this;

An interesting commentary on the emperor's recent deliberations on the subject of colonial expansion is provided by the official report on the German colonies, which has just been laid before the imperial Diet. Of the thousands and thousands of Germans described by the emperor as dwelling beyond the seas, only 700 have apparently so far elected to take up their residence in "Greater Germany," and of these 700 about 250 are officials, military or naval. These figures, however, do not include the German colonies, concerning which no detailed statistics of the European population are given. The economic situation seems to be less encouraging than ever. Even in Togoland, the only colony which hitherto has subsisted without large subsidies from the imperial treasury, the imports during the year ended about 2,000,000 marks, or over 30 per cent, as compared with the previous year. In East Africa, as well as in the Cameroons, the exports have also diminished. The trade of German Southwest Africa is quite nominal. On the other hand, it is estimated that the aggregate subvention from the imperial treasury for the support of the colonies must be increased by 1,400,000 marks, and their total cost, including subsidies for postal, telegraphic and sanitary communication, is expected to exceed 11,000,000 marks.

What would be the consequences for Italy of a substitution of the Drexel Kaiser Bund for the existing Triple Alliance? The change would give momentum to the disintegrating forces by which she is already beset. She would lose the powerful moral support of Germany and Austria, which hitherto has never failed her in her duel with the Vatican. Henceforth the pope could probably rely upon the active sympathy of the vast conservative forces represented by the three emperors. The triple alliance upon the part of King Humbert's government to carry further the despoliation and coercion of the papacy would be, doubtless, made the pretext for an admission from beyond the Alps. No longer would the altered circumstances permit of any marked reduction of Italy's military burdens. An ally no longer, Austria might cast one eye to the west, and the possibility of a combination with Italy unless the army of the latter power were kept up nearly to its present strength on Venetian soil. The unaided, could maintain her unity. She owes it, not to her own right arm, but to battles fought for her by others; by France in 1859, by Prussia in 1866, and by Germany in 1871. For her, isolation would mean dissolution. We opine, therefore, that whatever protestations of friendship may be made by Signor Crispien, Germany and Austria will consent to renew the Triple Alliance.

The leasing by Russia of a harbor on Kyan-Chang bay, which opens into the Yellow sea, is significant chiefly as disclosing England's abandonment of her dog-in-the-manger policy. The harbor in question will serve well enough a temporary purpose, but for permanent naval attachment, Russia needs not only a seaport that is free from ice all the year round, but one that lies as near as possible to Russian territory, and is thus capable of being easily brought into connection with the Trans-Siberian railway. The best harbor that best fulfills all these conditions is Port Lazareff, in Corea, and next in point of desirability would be Port Arthur. If the British officer commanding on the coast of Corea is to be believed, the best harbor for leasing of a harbor on Kyan-Chang bay is no reason why it should not waive the agreement whereby in consequence of England's evacuation of Port Hamilton, Russia bound herself not to occupy Port Lazareff.

The temples of India are to be lighted with electricity, the example having been set by the great shrines of Siva, at Kanchi, near Mutwal, in Ceylon, and is to be speedily followed by the equally vast and ancient foundation of the Natukotta, in the same island. In no long time there will adopt the same improvement till all the holy places of the peninsula are so equipped that by pressing a button they can be instantly illuminated like a modern hotel or theatre. The innovation is so simple that it can be made by Siva and Vishnu, and even the great Brahma himself, gasp and stare. There are some 2,000,000 Hindu pantheons, monasteries, or less, and they are entitled to a degree of surprise at the introduction to their shrines of a miracle surpassing any of their own. The old crosses of bitumen and cedar, lighting lamps of perfumed oil, which alone during their age after age since the days of Sesostris and Selyax, gave way finally to the electric petroleum and illuminating gas, now substituted by the nimbler and more radiant flame bright enough to purge the temples of their shadowy gods and spread the light of the more wholesome and rational faith among their altars.

The new census of Mexico just completed reveals a population of 12,647,067 to the credit of the twenty-seven states and two territories of that republic, and this compared with the census of 1891, which shows 11,632,924, is an exhibit of increase amounting to only a little over 900,000. But it has been a healthy and profitable increase. Capital from the states has been pouring into Mexico, holding up the railway systems, developing the enormously valuable mine properties, establishing lines of industries never before attempted below the Rio Grande and working a great change in the agricultural interests. There is a new, fresh impulse abroad in the country, the revolutionary spirit so long prevalent among the natives has been brought down by his friends, and the determination and injury of the nation has been subdued by a wise and liberal administration of government, and capital is protected and encouraged. Evidently the growing days of Mexico are just at the dawn.

The German emperor has made Prince Luitpold, the regent of Bavaria, a field marshal. There are hints that within the next two or three months Luitpold will be proclaimed king, in place of the poor imbecile Otto; and that that will mark the beginning of active resistance on the part of Bavaria to the present policy of the emperor, which exalts Prussia at the expense of the

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THE COOKING OF THE LION.

Indianapolis News: After the speeches for peace in the British Parliament, it is two to one that the fortifications bill will not be passed by our congress. It is just like us to wait for the next time.

St. Louis Republic: Queen Victoria talks to Parliament as if the gentle wail of flying angels of peace were the harshest sound she had heard since last she exchanged confidences with her constitutional advisers. As a diplomat dissembler the queen is firm of her sex, and her sex has long been placed by novelists at the head.

New York Mail and Express: Altogether, the speech from the throne is of the usual colorless character, save for those few passages which the suggestion with regard to Venezuela is probably a maneuver of Lord Salisbury to disarm the opposition, and partly with the same purpose in view, will undoubtedly be followed out on the line here defined.

Chicago Post: What the speeches from the throne and by Salisbury and Halford do prove is that the British cabinet is in a conciliatory mood and anxious to keep the peace at any price. It is probable that the conclusion reached by the commission will form the basis for an agreement between the interested powers.

Buffalo Express: The present disposition of the British cabinet to keep the peace and controversy leaves not the slightest reason to doubt that it will speedily be settled by a practical concession of the justice of the dispute. It is probable that the conclusion reached by the commission will form the basis for an agreement between the interested powers.

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BIRTH IN RHYME.

Philadelphia Record: Into our minds this thought doth creep, That if we smelt long and tight, The girls can't look before they leap Because they're out of sight.

Washington Star: New the final, doubting auditor, By Prof. Rogers's art, May, before he speaks, discover If she has a marble heart.

Detroit Tribune: "You're mean enough to steal," she cried, As at her side I sat, All I stole was just a kiss, And she blushing answered: "I win."

Cincinnati Enquirer: The lion who tackled the floor Is now peaceful and wants no more, The cub's a positive truth, There's a most gentle tone in his roar.

Indianapolis Journal: A young man who burned lime in a kiln Loved a maiden who lived at the mill, And one night he sighed, "Will you be my dear bride?" And she blushing answered: "I win."

New York World: The general drew his belt tighter, And exclaimed, "I'm a wonderful fighter—Ahem!" That he is to say When I catch the frax, I'll say, With a shorthair man and a typewriter.

Washington Star: Just remember—it's a comfort Of that you often hear, How much was you'd mind de wedding Of twich snow instid' o' rain.

Colonel Joyce: Laugh and you will laugh with you, Weep and you weep with you, This grand old earth must borrow its mirth, It has troubles enough of its own. Sigh, it is lost on the air, The cub's a positive truth, But shrink from voicing care.

THE MAIDEN'S SOLILOQUY. Gertrude Shakespeare, in the New York Sun: To love, or not to love? that is the question; Whether it is better, in the end, to suffer Or, by remaining adamant, escape it. To love, to be unhappy, very oft; and, by being unhappy, to share an unkind fate. There is a consummation devoutly to be expected. For who would stand the fickleness of men, The old man's jealousy, the young man's tyranny. When she herself might so much happier Be than she is, if she were not, To give up all That girls hold dear, But that the world being an old maid, With unkind epithets bestowed upon her, Causes her to hate herself as attractive etc. it is too late!

LEADING SPECIAL FEATURES. AARON, THE SON OF BEN ALLI: A new serial story, by Joel Chandler Harris, is being published in this issue of life as it was lived on "Abercrombie" plantation. It is a story of a "war" and while the civil struggle was in progress, in the same quaint style that the author has written so much when he was telling of Br'er Rabbit and the other denizens of Mr. Thimbleburger's plantation, the author tells of the life of Aaron and Drusilla in the story.

SORROWS SHADE ON ROYALTY: Unfortunately matrimonial alliances of members of royal families are being broken up. The death of Prince Henry of Battenberg recalls some of the other shoddy marriages of the past. The young man who has crossed the path of the reigning royalty of Great Britain.

GRANT AS SEEN BY HIS CHAPLAIN: A new serial story, by Joel Chandler Harris, is being published in this issue of life as it was lived on "Abercrombie" plantation. It is a story of a "war" and while the civil struggle was in progress, in the same quaint style that the author has written so much when he was telling of Br'er Rabbit and the other denizens of Mr. Thimbleburger's plantation, the author tells of the life of Aaron and Drusilla in the story.

WHAT IS EXCESSIVE BAIL: A timely discussion on this important topic by prominent judges and ex-judges of our local courts. Theory upon which the amount of bail bonds is determined. A most valuable symposium contributed by the members of the bar, and throw light upon this subject.

IN WOMAN'S DOMAIN: Illustrated fashion letter on Lenten to the new fashion. The local demand for February wear in the stylish circles of the east—The Drexel piano is a work of art. A new beauty cream, designed to cure disfiguring disorders. Sketch of a new teacher, who now occupies a most responsible position in the Chicago post-office. Country of the future. The latest fashion hints—News notes about famous women.

SOCIETY PREPARING FOR LENT: A timely discussion on this important topic by prominent judges and ex-judges of our local courts. Theory upon which the amount of bail bonds is determined. A most valuable symposium contributed by the members of the bar, and throw light upon this subject.

THE WORLD ON WHEELS: Close of the cycle show and what the event suggests—The local demand for wheels, the increased number of riders and the influence exerted in favor of better roads—Theory upon which the amount of bail bonds is determined. A most valuable symposium contributed by the members of the bar, and throw light upon this subject.

THE COMING GENERATION: Tommy and the grand duke, a true story of a brave Kentucky girl, told in simple language, by young readers by Genevieve L. Browne—Prattle of the youngsters and other bright bits for the boys and girls.

UNEXCELLED NEWS SERVICE: Full Associated press foreign cable and news—The photographic and pictorial correspondence—Unrivaled special news service from Nebraska, Iowa and the western states—Well-written and accurate local news reports.

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The secretary of the State Board of Irrigation and the city engineer of Omaha are still one and the same person, drawing two salaries aggregating \$3,000 per year.

Mississippi is pretty far from New York to start the boom for ex-Secretary of the Navy Whitney. But, then, people are usually most appreciated away from home.

The best way for Dr. Nansen to prove that he found the north pole is to bring a piece of it with him. Otherwise it is to be feared that he will have trouble in making people believe that he has found it.

Nebraska prohibitionists have declared for free silver, but they may rest assured that the free silverites will not declare for prohibition—at any rate not the democratic contribution to the free silver ranks.