

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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Queen Victoria is another woman who would not conceal her age if she could.

It looks as if Governor Poynter were also becoming addicted to the banquet habit.

If Admiral Schley keeps this up he will soon be as proficient as a speech-maker as he is as a ship destroyer.

Unfortunately the soldiers over in the Philippines are not in a position to celebrate a peace jubilee like their comrades at Washington.

Admiral Dewey says he leaves Manila with regrets. But not half so many regrets as were experienced by the Spanish admiral when he left Manila.

The press censorship at Manila has culminated in the suppression of a Spanish paper for printing seditious matter. The expected sometimes happens.

Memorial day is only one week off. Don't forget to lend support to the committee which has the preparations for the Memorial day demonstration in charge.

The next time Admiral Schley desires a rest he will know better than to come to Omaha. Barring possibly the 3d of last July there never was a time in his life when he has been kept busy.

Mayor Moores is using his veto pen without fear or favor and even his enemies will concede that in the discharge of his duty he stands for the interests of the taxpayers against the tax-shirkers.

Our popocatic friends are complaining because the expense of the Philippine commission is estimated at \$20,000, but when the Mutz \$10,000 snifling committee is mentioned they become discreetly silent.

When our irascible county attorney comes in contact with a Herdmanite gambler he uses a feather duster. When he comes in contact with somebody who does not train with the Herdman gang he uses a club.

When it comes to voting away right-of-way privileges to railroads the council is always very prompt, but when it comes to ordering railroads to respect by providing viaduct facilities the council is usually dilatory.

Governor Poynter has made public his appointments as members of the state brands and marks committee. As the jobs are chiefly honorary, none of them have been claimed by the Omaha gang of popocatic hold-ups.

Senator Platt is out in an interview advocating the renomination and reelection of both President McKinley and Vice President Hobart. This is where the New York senator has stolen a march on his less witty colleagues.

Neither County Attorney Shields nor his popocatic newspaper apologist has yet had a word of explanation as to his employment of his brother as stenographer on the county pay roll while the stenographic work of his office is performed by a young woman paid by assessments on his deputies.

The council has finally mustered up courage to sustain the mayor's veto against the erection of more fire traps in the business district by special dispensation. The council should show its sincerity by refusing to pass any more resolutions abrogating the fire limit ordinance in the interest of favored constituents.

As the grass begins to grow on the range the stories of probable Indian outbreaks are started with as great regularity as the small boy brings out his marbles. Montana is the first of the northern states to spring a report that the Cheyennes are on the eve of taking to the warpath. It will not require many thousand troops to settle the trouble.

A LIBERAL POLICY OF AUTONOMY.

Admiral Dewey, before the beginning of hostilities in the Philippines, expressed the opinion that the policy of the United States should be to give the natives a liberal measure of autonomy.

He gave it as his judgment that the Filipinos are as well fitted for self-government as the Cubans. Mr. Charles Francis Adams, who has contributed ably to anti-imperialist argument and who yet believes that a most grave mistake was made in dealing with the Philippine problem—in abandoning the traditional American policy and adopting that of Great Britain—has nevertheless reached the conclusion that the mistake is irretrievable and that the best that can now be done is to work for the largest practicable application of the policy of home rule.

Under the circumstances, says Mr. Adams, "the true course for the anti-imperialists would seem to be to develop to the utmost extent possible, though under the English system, the policy and principle of autonomy—the fact of native home rule. We should endeavor to limit the interference of the United States to an absolute minimum." He suggests that here a wide field for the exercise of useful influence is open to anti-imperialists, pointing out that they must endeavor to counteract a probable tendency in congress to break down the barriers and bring the Asiatic archipelago within the area of domestic politics—to treat it, so far as possible, as a domain to be exploited—the refuge of "our statesmen out of a job."

In the opinion of Mr. Adams it is the civil service struggle over again and the administration will need all the outside support it can possibly hope to receive not to find itself crowded to the wall.

This view of the situation is certainly worthy of serious consideration. Doubtless there are anti-imperialists who will regard it as a complete surrender and decline to accept it, but is Mr. Adams not correct in the opinion that the policy of holding the Philippines will be adhered to? That this is the fixed purpose of the administration there is not the least room for doubt. Is there any reason to believe it will not receive the support of congress? Our judgment is that whatever recommendations President McKinley shall submit to congress in regard to the future of the Philippines will be approved. We have observed no indications that there is likely to be serious dissension among the republicans of the Fifty-sixth congress in respect to a Philippine policy. Opposition to retaining the islands will be insignificant, so far as the republicans are concerned, and it is not improbable that events will have determined that question, if it be not already determined, before the meeting of congress.

In this view of the situation, therefore, what better effort can the anti-imperialists make than to promote public sentiment in favor of giving the Filipinos a liberal measure of autonomy—enabling them to the fullest extent practicable to show what capacity they have for self-government? Endeavor in this direction, there is every reason to think, would have good results. We have confidence in the good intentions of President McKinley toward the Philippine people. We believe he sincerely desires to give them a fair opportunity to show their fitness for self-government. He will be strengthened in this by the support of intelligent public opinion and anti-imperialists can find no more profitable use of their influence.

FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMERCIAL CLUB.

Henry W. Yates, president of the Nebraska National bank, has delivered an address before the South Omaha Commercial club on the uses and abuses of commercial clubs. According to Mr. Yates the only functions of a commercial club are to encourage manufacturing enterprises already launched in the community and induce other manufacturers to locate there, although in his judgment it is better "to take care of and encourage the industries we now have than to be continually hunting for new institutions." On the other hand, Mr. Yates considers it an abuse of the functions of the commercial club for such bodies to discuss questions upon which the public is divided or which are likely to stir up opposing public sentiment. As an example he cites the postal savings bank proposition, to which he is opposed, and the controversy over the bank clearance system, which solely concerns the Omaha and South Omaha bankers, with which, being a strictly private interest, it would, in his opinion, be unwise for a commercial club to interfere.

In this narrow view of the functions of commercial clubs the great majority of business men will not concur. If commercial clubs are to confine themselves simply to fostering industrial concerns already established and entertaining visitors at periodic banquets their usefulness will be circumscribed in very small limits. Passing resolutions to encourage home industry, providing dollar dinners and organizing occasional junkets would constitute the sum and substance of their contributions to the promotion of the public welfare. Surely that can not be the only object of business men's associations, whether known as commercial clubs, boards of trade or chambers of commerce.

Such organizations on the contrary are expected to voice the demands of the business community on matters that concern its prosperity and to take concerted action for remedying any abuse or wrong that tends to cripple or impede its progress and growth. Both the examples cited by Mr. Yates are in point.

damaging bank clearings exhibits are purely a private concern of the banks is absurd and untenable. Anything that vitally affects the reputation and business rank of a city becomes a matter of public concern and a proper subject for action on the part of commercial bodies.

The interest of the whole community is greater than that of a part of the community and commercial clubs are in duty bound to exert whatever influence they may have for the protection of the community from everything that threatens to affect it injuriously.

On the Front Row.

America's representatives at the peace conference have been given seats in the front row. It is an appreciated honor, and if the congress adjourns without making some headway it will not be the fault of the men in the orchestra chairs.

Germany's naval attaché in Washington finds much to admire in our war ships, officers and bluejackets. They are certainly a credit to our sea service.

The stationer comes to New York that hotel proprietors throughout the country are complaining of loss of business due to the decline in the numbers of commercial travelers.

In regard to the contest of the avowed candidates the situation appears to have undergone no material change in the past week. Sherman of New York is still regarded as the leading candidate, but according to the Washington correspondent of the New York Tribune a fortnight ago, while those of Colonel Henderson appear to have improved, it is now said that the Iowa candidate is likely to get the vote of Pennsylvania.

PAYING CUBAN SOLDIERS.

As now arranged payment of the Cuban soldiers will begin on Saturday next, when it will be shown how many of them are disposed to accept the money and surrender their arms and equipment. The present indications are that the men will generally refuse the conditions, although the modified order of General Brooke in regard to the giving up of arms provides that they shall be kept in arsenals as souvenirs, in which the soldiers will retain a proprietary interest and may recover them whenever a Cuban government is established.

It is not clear what the question will arise what the next step shall be in the work of pacification. It is announced that the American authorities will not undertake a house-to-house search for arms, but with 30,000 or 40,000 men having guns at their command and dissatisfied with their treatment the situation will be exceedingly unsatisfactory.

The post-mortem tax collection machinery which is part of Iowa's revenue system gives promise of checking extensive tax shirking. It is a matter of common notoriety that the amount of moneys, credits and similar property returned for assessment as personalty is only a small percentage of the inventoried value of their estates after death.

How Imperialism Turned American Sentiment from the Boers. Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

When the Transvaal was raided by Dr. Jameson's band of buccannery the occasion was a just cause for the party of Americans who then were unfriendly to England.

It is meet that our merchants, manufacturers and sailors should carry trade into lands beyond our rightful political sphere of influence, but the time has not yet arrived when we can justify the party of brains and industry of our young manhood from the forces and activities needed to develop to the full the resources of our own political institutions on a plane of integrity and efficiency.

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ECHOES OF THE WAR.

If the contentment indulged in by the gallery gods and goddesses who "looked down upon" Rear Admiral Schley Tuesday night were preserved and properly autographed the collection would take high rank among the trophies of the distinguished officer.

Maloloy is less than thirty miles from Manila, yet day after day the American columns advanced through towns and cities from 1,000 to 10,000 population.

There Are Others.

Germany's naval attaché in Washington finds much to admire in our war ships, officers and bluejackets. They are certainly a credit to our sea service.

Effect of Trust Methods.

The stationer comes to New York that hotel proprietors throughout the country are complaining of loss of business due to the decline in the numbers of commercial travelers.

Agricultural Improvement.

The Department of Agriculture at Washington reports that the losses of farm animals from disease and exposure in the twelve months ended March 1 last amounted to more than 7,500,000 head.

Admiral Dewey has covered 800 miles of his journey homeward. When the Olympia has had necessary repairs made at Hong Kong, which will require about two weeks.

General Fred Funston is steadily gaining in weight, notwithstanding the hardships of the campaign. Before his promotion the newspapers which described him said that he weighed ninety-five pounds.

LOTS OF ROOM AT HOME.

No Need of Going to Asia for Land to Grow Opium.

In his recent interview in the Republic, Secretary of Agriculture Wilson extols expansion, but makes a rather limping argument in its support.

Right after saying this the secretary speaks in glowing terms about the resources of Texas, the vast opportunities it holds out to development.

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CONTEST FOR THE SPEAKERSHIP.

Minneapolis Times: As to qualifications for the duties of the speakership, it is conceded that Henderson will approach more nearly the Reed standard than will Hopkins.

Chicago Times-Herald: The east will go into the caucus hopefully divided among favorite sons.

HONORS FOR DEWEY.

Chicago Record: If all the donations now proposed are carried through, Dewey won't need a home so much as a real estate office and a department store.

Indianapolis News: The home-coming of Dewey threatens to exhaust the supply of hunting. The manufacturers are missing a great opportunity in not forming a trust.

Buffalo Express: Dewey's triumph that he hopes to lead a quiet, retired life at his home in Montpelier should be a warning to those who are planning to give him a house not to insist on locating it in Washington.

New York World: The things which Dewey has done are history. The things which he has left undone are equal evidence of true greatness.

Globe-Democrat: Admiral Dewey is universally admired by his fellow-countrymen as a hero and a patriot.

Richmond Dispatch: A one-armed lecturer was arguing the pros and cons of a certain subject, and having concluded his summing up of the case went on with: "And now, on the other hand—"

Washington Star: "These Americans won't meet our half-way," said the Filipino. "No," answered the general, "we've both been traveling in the same direction. They couldn't."

Chicago News: "You told the conductor Willie was under 37."

St. Louis Republic: "Well, you see, 37 is the number in Willie's hat."

New York Journal: Penn—"Can you suggest any way in which I might improve my new woe?"

Brushe—"You might put the last chapter first."

Penn—"But all the characters die in the first chapter."

Brushe—"Yes, I know."

MY GRANDPA.

Frances Hodges White. Say, have you seen my grandpa?

His old and lame and gray, and his hair like snow, and his feet totter along the road.

Where he tries to find his way. My clothes are always warm and new; his thin and worn have grown.

They lead me when the path is rough, but he must walk alone. I wonder, wonder, why it is, but I'm afraid it's 'cause he's old.

My mamma hears me say my prayer, and kisses me good night; but grandpa says his best to God.

Alone, without a high regard, but maybe God can hear his best because he is so old!

Say, have you seen my grandpa? His clothes are black and fine; there's flowers all round his head like those He uses to love of mine.

He never seems to smell the flowers, nor open once his eyes; to see how much we love him now, as you and I will lie.

And oh! I wonder why they kept their kind words from me; from grandpa till his sad old heart had gone to God above.

And why he wears that smile that says, "I'm now no longer old?"

CROPS DAMAGED BY THE HAIL.

Some Cattle and Many Chickens and Birds Killed by a Kansas Storm.

KANSAS CITY, May 24.—Rain and hail did much damage to crops and property in central Kansas last night. In Saline county wheat and other crops for miles were completely destroyed by the heavy hail, many buildings were damaged and thousands of window lights were broken.

Some cattle and many chickens and birds were killed. At Eldorado, Newton, Abilene and Perry more or less minor damage was sustained. In the vicinity of Perry the proportions of a cloudburst were reached and small streams overflowed their banks, flooding farm property.

Biggest Stamp Mill in the World.

TACOMA, Wash., May 24.—The largest stamp mill in the world was started up on May 13 by D. O. Mills at the Transvaal mine on Douglas Island, Alaska.

The new mill contains sixty batteries of five stamps each, with a crushing capacity of four tons in each stamp every twenty-four hours. The Transvaal and its associated mines now have 850 stamps in operation. They crush 3,520 tons of ore every twenty-four hours, averaging about one ton in gold, or 214.500 daily. One-third of this output is settled in concentrators and shipped to the Tacoma smelter. The other two-thirds, or 590,000 lbs., is the residue of gold actually released on Douglas Island.

One of Moore's Victims Dies. KANSAS CITY, May 24.—Mrs. Anna Meek, 35 years old, of Turner, Kan., who was shot on Sunday by Levi Moore, a city market clerk, died of her injuries today.

Another victim, Mrs. Ella Landis, Moore's other two victims, are believed to be dying. Mrs. Campbell had deserted Moore for another man, and he had shot her. Mrs. Landis tried to protect Mrs. Campbell, which prompted Moore to shoot them also. Moore has a family in Anniston, Ala. He is in jail.

Knock-out for Free Coinage.

Increased Production of Gold Provokes a Political Issue. Philadelphia Times (Item). The stars in their courses may not be fighting against the 18 to 1 free coinage theory, but about everything else animates and insinuates joined the army of the single standard advocates.

The gold production of the world is increasing at the rate of fifty millions annually, and the aggregate annual production is already so large that the Bryan argument that there is not gold enough for monetary purposes is already furnished its own refutation.

In 1896 the gold and silver available for coinage were not more than equal to the prospective gold output of the year 1900, showing that we are already able to add to the world's coinage of the metal, about the intrinsic value of which there is no question, quite enough to meet the demands of increasing trade. The gold production for 1897 was \$237,000,000, for 1898 \$287,000,000 and the prospect is that for 1899 it will reach nearly or quite \$345,000,000.

At this steady rate of increase next year's production will be \$400,000,000, more than three-fourths of which will be available for coinage. An interesting feature of the statistics of gold production is that of the proportion supplied by the leading countries. Of this year's production South Africa will supply \$80,000,000, Australia \$68,000,000 and the United States \$46,000,000.

These statistics are especially valuable at this juncture as indicating that the time is past for any timidity or hesitation on the part of congress in the treatment of the currency question. No party can hope to make a winning fight on a dead issue, and there never was a deader issue than that of a lightly enormous gold production increasing at the rate of \$50,000,000 a year, no considerable body of voters is going to be convinced in the future that there is not gold enough to furnish the basis of the world's monetary system.

LIGHT AND BREEZE.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "Mr. Stormer is an enthusiastic expansionist, isn't he?"

"Yes, he has left off corsets."

Detroit Journal: "I wonder why they put such exaggerated heads on cases."

"The way of the world is to hold the ground, I suppose."

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "The utter lack of all the way down the aisle and then crowded the six of us into one little pew."

"Warren's wife, on the front row, interjected: 'No, it isn't a high church.'"

Indianapolis Journal: "By the way, what is the difference in time between here and New York?"

"It depends upon what kind of a time you mean to have, out in a general way \$20 an hour ought to know it."

Washington Star: "These Americans won't meet our half-way," said the Filipino.

"No," answered the general, "we've both been traveling in the same direction. They couldn't."

Richmond Dispatch: A one-armed lecturer was arguing the pros and cons of a certain subject, and having concluded his summing up of the case went on with: "And now, on the other hand—"

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Chicago News: "You told the conductor Willie was under 37."

Hush.—That's a new scheme I've discovered. "Tell me the secret."

"Well, you see, 37 is the number in Willie's hat."

New York Journal: Penn—"Can you suggest any way in which I might improve my new woe?"

Brushe—"You might put the last chapter first."

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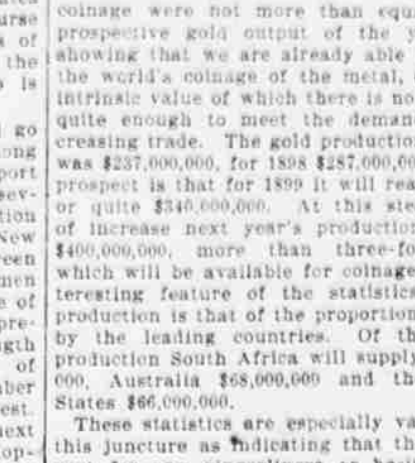
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