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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.: George B. Tschuck, 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 week ending December 18, 1999, was as follows: Total 774,835; Less unsold and returned copies 11,873; Net total sales 762,962.

OF ANY CITIZEN TO MIGRATE FROM ONE PART OF THE UNITED STATES TO ANY OTHER PART. All these guarantees of the constitution must be incorporated in the legislation which congress would enact for these islands. This, declares Judge Curtis, is no random statement, but a principle which has been repeatedly asserted whenever laws enacted by congress for the District of Columbia and the territories have come before the courts for judicial construction.

AN IMPRACTICABLE PROPOSITION. The advocates of bounties on exports in lieu of ship subsidies will hardly fail to see that their proposition is impracticable in view of our treaties with foreign countries. Ex-Senator Edmunds having been requested by the senate committee on commerce to investigate the matter reported that he had examined all the treaties between the United States and other countries on the subject of the duties on exports if the United States should grant bounties to its own ships and as a result found that there are twenty-six countries whose ships would have a right to claim export bounties if this country should grant them to its own vessels.

IN HIS COMMUNICATION to the senate committee Judge Edmunds also pointed out that if a bounty on exports is to be granted it must apply to all exports; it must be impartial and universal. It could not be confined to the products of agriculture, but must also include those of the mill and factory. The advocates of export bounties make a somewhat plausible plea, but the policy they desire is impracticable under existing conditions.

DOCTOR BALCOMBE'S DIAGNOSIS. Doctor Saint A. D. Balcombe has unboasted himself through the popular organ in a two-column diagnosis of the chronic disease which in his opinion afflicts the republican party of Nebraska. Like many medical doctors, Doctor Balcombe labors under the delusion that all the ills that have befallen the party in the last twenty years are due to factionism. In his narrow horizon he has been unable to see the procession of vital issues by which the party has been torn up, nor is he able to conceive a state of affairs that would cause a general uprising among the rank and file of the party against dishonest public officials and corrupt methods of administration.

THE GOOD DOCTOR started out as a druggist, got into politics and was rewarded for his zeal with an appointment as Indian agent, which enabled him to save up \$70,000 in less than four years on a salary of \$1,500 a year. With this jackpot he bought the old Omaha Republican, which for a few years afforded him a field for putting into practice his ideal of a party organ.

LIKE OTHER DOCTORS we know of, the good doctor did not swallow his own pills. While he now arraigns the Bee for kicking over the traces when party conventions have nominated notorious corruptionists he forgets that in 1870 the Omaha Republican, of which he was then owner, refused to support the regularly nominated republican legislative ticket, although a United States senator was to be elected and no charge of dishonesty was made against a single candidate on that ticket.

WHAT DOCTOR BALCOMBE is aiming at or expects to achieve by his distempered dissertation and why he has broken loose at this time after keeping silence for ten years is not conceivable. All we can glean from his screed is that he believes the party is split from center to circumference by a factional division for which he prescribes no remedy and which in his opinion cannot possibly end during the lifetime of the present editor of The Bee.

A SUB-PEPLEXING QUESTION. A sub-committee of the house committee on ways and means has been charged with the duty of determining the meaning of the term "United States" in the provision of the constitution which declares that "all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States." The determination of this perplexing question is of vital importance in its bearing upon the status of the new possessions and particularly in respect to whether our customs laws must be extended to the new territory.

IT IS CONTENDED on the one hand that although the new possessions are a part of the nation, it is entirely within the power of congress to say whether or not the customs laws or any other laws of the United States shall be applied to them. Those who hold this view urge that when the terms on which the new possessions were acquired are not fixed by treaty they are such as the new master may impose. On the other hand it is argued that any general legislation by congress in behalf of these possessions will make them integral parts of the United States and therefore entitled to all the rights and privileges provided in the constitution.

BY TURNING THE backs on free silver and promising never to take it up again, Maryland democrats should not take political promises so seriously. Take a lesson from the party in Nebraska and subordinate everything to the one idea of enhancing the silver dollar's ambition. Local leaders of the party might be short on office, but furthering the Nebraska man's cause should be satisfaction enough for any sacrifice.

IF IT BE a sound position that any legislation by congress for our insular acquisitions will make them an integral part of the United States, entitled to all the guarantees of the constitution, the proposition that military government should be maintained over them for an indefinite time will find many supporters, for there are extremely few of our people who are disposed to place these acquisitions upon an equality with our states and territories. Meanwhile much light on the subject is expected from the members of the ways and means committee having it under consideration and great interest will attach to the expression of their opinion.

THE SUNDAY BEE. The Bee Sunday will be a most attractive number from every point of view. Its special cable letters, telegraphic news and local news reports will be unexcelled, as will also be the various features that distinguish a great weekly magazine.

THE SCHOOLER discusses the study of English in the Nebraska schools with pictures of school room work in Fremont and views of the handsome High school buildings in Hastings and Nelson.

AMONG THE OTHER pictorial features are a portrait of President Burgess of the Board of Education, a picture of the Dewey cup, a portrait of a young Scotch bagpiper of Omaha in costume, groups of Beatrice, Neb., and Missouri Valley, la., foot ball teams.

THE FASHION PAGE shows timely living models posed in latest garments that will please the women. The Bee Sunday will be the best newspaper. Don't fail to read it. All newsmen.

INDIAN AGENT MATTHEWSON has sounded an alarm at Washington over the alleged moral degeneracy of the Omaha and Winnebago Indians since the Department of Justice decided to do away with field deputies connected with the United States marshal's office. According to Mr. Matthewson the red and white bootleggers who supply Indians with firewater are now operating under restraint and drunkenness and debauchery among Indians are on the increase because the field marshals are no longer allowed to round up the standing witnesses, whom they escort in crowds and drove from the agency to Omaha and from Omaha to the agency every time the federal court holds a session.

IT IS DOUBTFUL, however, whether Agent Matthewson can convince Attorney General Griggs that he has made a mistake in stopping the most flagrant abuses that has demoralized the United States marshal's force. The attorney general has never lived on an Indian reservation, but he knows enough to know that the periodic excursions of United States field marshals to the Indian reservations exert no restraint upon Indians addicted to bad habits. These Indians can get all the firewater they can pay for whether the deputy marshals are off or on the reservation. He knows, moreover, that contact with the Indians and the opportunity to earn big mileage fees while traveling on railroad passes have had a demoralizing influence upon deputy marshals as well as upon the Indians, who become professional perjurers and habitual drunkards in order to have a good time every few weeks. This is why the same old Omaha and Winnebago braves and squaws have filled the corridors of the federal building year in and year out.

INSTEAD OF REVIVING the old practice the Indian bureau should employ a deputy agent specially detailed to keep down drunkenness on the agency. Such an officer will do more to restore good order and decency on the reservation than a small army of field marshals. Democrats who are fighting Congressmen Sutherland on the ground that the nomination next fall should go to a demagogue are simply wasting time. If it is done for amusement at a period when politics is dull the fight is all right and will serve the purpose as well as anything else. But when it comes to convention time the democrats will fall in line for Sutherland or some other popular "for Bryan's sake." Just for good measure the populists may consent to give the democrats a road supervisor or something of equal caliber.

LET THE DEMOCRATS adopt the ostrich as their campaign emblem of 1900 by all means. Then prepare for fun when the republican elephant fans the ostrich with his trunk.

THE AMERICAN club of Pittsburg is said to be ready to contribute \$200,000 to the republican campaign fund if President McKinley will address the club at the Grand anniversary April 27. That is a pretty high price for a campaign speech, but the club will have a first-class article or none.

THE REPUBLICAN NATIONAL committee at its recent meeting in Washington fixed the representation of the territories in the next national convention as follows: Six delegates each for Arizona, New Mexico, the Indian Territory, Oklahoma and four delegates for Alaska. The plan of admitting territorial delegates to the national convention of either political party is based upon the theory that having representatives in congress they should be represented in national conventions, too.

THE WOMAN SUFFRAGISTS of South Dakota are generally of the opinion that they not only want to vote themselves, but want the women of Puerto-Rico, Hawaii and the Philippines to vote also. It is a question how many men in some of those places could vote wisely, and inasmuch as in primitive countries the women are largely drudges and less fitted for affairs than their husbands the utility of ballots in their hands might well be questioned even by the most ardent theoretical woman suffragists.

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BOMBAY is a city of about 1,000,000 inhabitants. It has a high death rate, like most Oriental and practically all large Indian centers of population. Ordinarily, about seventy-five persons die there every day. That number is about twice as great as it would be if the mortality were no heavier than it is in Cleveland, in proportion to the size of the city. Now the death rate in Bombay has risen to more than 350 a day. It is nearly five times as great as the normal mortality. The cause is the bubonic plague. The pestilence is killing the people of Bombay at the rate of about 90,000 a year. If its ravages cannot be checked soon, the great western port of India will rapidly dwindle in size and importance. So far, there is little to justify hope of such a change. The plague has been increasing in virulence and the extent of its deadly work. India has many other cities more or less affected by the plague in reaping an awful harvest in Bombay is spreading through the neighboring provinces. It will surely find easy food for greater ravages where the famine now brings tens of millions to the verge of starvation and death in leaving multitudes feeble and desperately poor. About 3,000,000 men are working on government relief undertakings to get food enough to keep life in their bodies, including their families and the millions who are being fed by charity and theft. There must be a population of 20,000,000 more people in India than there are now. They will be natural prey for the plague.

JAPAN has offered to establish a school of instruction for Chinese army officers in Yankin and to report the Chinese government is likely to do so far smoother than its pride as to accept such aid in developing a decent power of resistance to outside enemies. Japan is anxious to fortify the Chinese empire, if possible, against division among the great powers of Europe. For Japan that means more than to escape the ultimate engulfing in the tide of Russian growth and conquest. But what China needs is not so much better training for her officers as it is something of the love of country and willingness to die in its defense. In Asia that willingness is a great power of the world. Chinese patriotism means little more than dislike of the ways and characteristics of other people. It knows hardly anything of devotion to China, steadfastly as it clings to Chinese habits.

IN THE LIGHT of the contradictory reports that come by cable concerning Russia's menace to Afghanistan, a paper read recently before the Kaiser at the Berlin Military society is deemed to have considerable significance. Colonel von Wartenburg, chief of a department of the general staff, was the author of the paper, the title of which was "Afghanistan and the Anglo-Russian Rivalry in Asia." After comparing the Russian and British military forces in Asia that were engaged in the possession of Kabul in such a case an important point would be the attitude of the natives of Afghanistan, and it would remain to be seen which side the Afghan forces of 37,000 men would espouse. Count Wartenburg believes that diplomatic maneuvering in which power is gained by the possession of Afghanistan, and that the victor in diplomacy will then proceed to decide the question by war, for which eventually Russia's position is not unfavorable. He would give his vote to a struggle for the possession of Kabul in such a case as an important point would be the attitude of the natives of Afghanistan, and it would remain to be seen which side the Afghan forces of 37,000 men would espouse. Count Wartenburg believes that diplomatic maneuvering in which power is gained by the possession of Afghanistan, and that the victor in diplomacy will then proceed to decide the question by war, for which eventually Russia's position is not unfavorable.

THE MERRY OLD SUB extending his power abroad. For the first time in its history the United States has surpassed Great Britain in the production of coal. Year by year we have been chronicling the increasing production of bituminous coal in this country through the constant development of new sources of supply, and we have also from time to time noted the fact that Britain's great coal fields are slowly but surely becoming exhausted. When this state of things had put forth tentatively not more than a few years ago by a few careful observers in England it was greeted with derision; now, however, it is accepted as a fact and its truth is admitted by the highest authorities. If we may accept the preliminary estimates of the Engineering and Mining Journal as approximately correct this country produced in 1899 no less than 24,581,875 tons of coal. The official record of the United States geological survey shows that in 1898 (which was itself a record year) we produced 16,592,023 short tons of bituminous coal and 45,668,075 long tons of anthracite coal, all of the latter having been mined in Pennsylvania. Ten years ago we mined but 15,985,543 short tons of bituminous and 40,714,721 long tons of anthracite coal.

RECENT CABLE DISPATCHES from various parts of Europe have mentioned that a serious and widespread coal famine is now prevailing to such an extent, indeed, that in many places industrial manufactures have been obliged to shut down for want of fuel. The shortage of coal has been steadily rising in Europe on account of increased cost of production, while in this country the cost has been steadily declining. The expectation of American coal to Europe has become a reality and we are sure to produce that one of the staples of the near future will be an enormous expansion of this business.

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THE ROAD was begun by Americans three years ago and has now been completed to the Han river. A bridge costing \$1,000,000 is being built across the river, and in a few months it will be possible to run trains from the coast right into the city of Seoul. The Japanese have a concession for another railroad from Pusan, on the southeastern coast, to the capital, and will, by means of it, increase their hold upon the country. In many ways Japanese interests in Korea are being multiplied. In view of the present strength of Japan's fleet it is unlikely that Russia will ask her out of Korea as she asked her out of China.

IMPRESSIVE FIGURES. In four years the convict population of New York state has declined from 12,661 to 10,250. There were only 167 lynchings in the United States last year, against 235 in the year 1892. Chicago people appreciate the public baths. The city has two houses for the purpose, and last year there gave 201,068 free baths. Municipal bond issues and sales last year in the United States, according to the Financial Chronicle's record, aggregated \$118,113,000, against \$102,684,793 during the preceding year. The original cost of the Erie canal, carrying four feet of water, was \$7,000,000. Its first enlargement cost \$4,465,411. Since then \$9,000,000 more has been spent in improving it. Its total construction cost as it stands is therefore about \$20,000,000. The governor's canal commission now recommends that it be converted into a ship canal at an additional cost of almost exactly the same amount, the estimate being \$20,000,000.

IN 1895 the number of savings banks in the United States was 1,017, with deposits amounting to \$1,841,000,000 and surplus and other assets making their holdings \$2,012,000,000. In 1899 the number of such banks was 942, with deposits aggregating \$2,199,000,000 and other assets making a total of \$2,401,000,000. Thus the savings banks increased in number by 75 in five years. The number of depositors has increased 683,000 and the average deposit per person has risen from \$89 to \$395.

FLASHES OF FUN. Detroit Journal: "The Beer should bow to the inevitable. It would be very nice if he would also say 'Good-bye!'" Cleveland Plain Dealer: "There are 70,000 times in that Dewey-loving cup." "Think of it! That's equal to 70,000 drinks!" Brooklyn Life: "Halling—'It's a very unattractive story.'" "Yes." "Oh, very? I've read the first chapter and I don't know yet, and I don't know yet how it turns out."

Chicago News: "That pain reader said he had the most unbounded faith in my future." "Well?" "Then he made me plank down \$1 in advance." Detroit Free Press: "Our literary club is going to study the Elizabethan era." "Isn't that rather hawkeyed?" "Yes; but in discussing people who are dead, you know, we won't be tempted to hawkeye."

Chicago Tribune: "All the same" might be said. "Oh, keep me searching to get even the necessities of life." Hereupon he scarily rubbed the old lamp and the light shone forth. "The goodly things I bring him a fresh lump of ice from the north pole." Indianapolis Journal: "His editorials are not so intensely mawkish as they were." "Oh, not! I might just as well have strung it out for as many days and added several hundred dollars to his bill."

Washington Star: "What I want," said Senator Lodge, "is to see the strictest laws to punish any irregularities in an election." "What for?" "Why to scare the other fellows with. We folks know where we stand, all right."

SUBLINE POLLY. Bishop Spalding. Sublime folly—from their camps uprise Two mighty armies, eager for the fray; The drumbeat rolls the brazen trumpet bray. And jays and bayonets flash against the sky. Now shall be shown on which side victory lies; Swords gleam, the booming cannon hurtle dimly; The quick, sharp rifleshots for death make way. On high the bird of evil omen crows. Men fall as in the field the fall ripe grain. Where bending reapers swing the sickle's blade. In ranks they fall, never to rise again— But before the dread blizzard thus made. The drum and all doubt man may make this truth plain. On honor, more than life, his heart is staked.

"Untold Riches" Await the man who will find a way to keep trousers from bagging at the knees—up to this time the nearest approach to such a boon is an extra pair. In our fall and winter suits were many extra pairs of trousers—and there are many pairs of odd ones—several hundred altogether—and more than we want right now—and some very tempting prices have been placed on them to help this decrease. You can find just what you want at \$2.00 Or at \$5.00 Whatever you want to pay.

