

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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Net total sales \$118,033. Net daily average \$3,808. Subscribed and sworn before me this 1st day of June, 1900. M. B. HUNTER, Notary Public.

PARTIES LEAVING FOR SUMMER.

Parties leaving the city for the summer may have The Bee sent to them regularly by notifying The Bee Business Office, in person or by mail.

There ought to be no trouble in floating a boom in the prohibition national convention.

Have you been counted in the 1900 census? If not you will have to sprint to get under the wire.

That fall festival for Omaha is a fixture, including both the Ak-Sar-Ben carnival and the musical prelude.

The present cold wave is doubtless due to the big pitcher of ice water which the democrats have mixed up to pass to Candidate Towne.

No matter what happens, the Chinese need have no fears as to the personal safety of their diplomatic representatives in this country.

St. Louis announces that the city is again on a peace footing. A little guerrilla fighting and more or less "sniping" are still going on, but nothing of a serious nature.

The State Republican league meeting at Lincoln will be a grand ratification of the ticket nominated at Philadelphia and republicans all over Nebraska will join in the chorus.

The candidate for governor put in nomination by the democrats of Arkansas goes by the name of Jeff Davis. That sounds strangely familiar and pertinently democratic.

Idaho reports simply a bad hailstorm. Since the Iowa man told of hail as big as foot balls all competitors in this line have declined to post entrance money and say merely that it hailed.

Chairman Edmisten insists that Towne is the proper man for the democrats to nominate at Kansas City. The convention meets in a state whose people insist on being shown.

The architects have made a careful examination of the new porch at the Bryan residence and pronounce it equal to the strain of sustaining all the proposed new planks of the democratic platform.

Ex-Senator Hill may as well put his vice presidential aspirations, if he has any, in cold storage with his ice trust friends, as Colonel Bryan gives it out cold that he will not accept a challenge for a joint debate with him on the same platform.

Kentucky democrats are anxious to have the Goebel election law repealed. The law was intended to render it impossible for the republicans to carry the state, but in practice it strongly resembled a bulky mule—its principal scene of activity was at the rear end.

Matthew Gering has recovered his second wind and decided that if he cannot have the nomination for congress he would not object to being the fusion nominee for attorney general. He can smash as many trusts as the present incumbent of that office and not half try.

The discovery that the present system of assessing property for county taxation by precinct assessors is sadly defective is nothing new. A complete revision of our revenue laws has been an urgent demand for years past and the next legislature should respond to it without fail.

It is pleasing to read in the Omaha Bryan organ that "South Omaha packers say business was never better than at the present time." This item must have escaped the eagle eye of the campaign editor who still persists in denying that any substantial prosperity has been brought to the country under the administration of McKinley.

THE MINISTERS SAFE.

The Chinese minister at Washington has received official information from Peking of the safety of the foreign ministers and of arrangements to escort them out of the city.

Meanwhile the situation appears to be growing more serious. The disturbance, according to the latest advices, is spreading to the southern provinces, a fact which shows how little value there was in the assurances given by the viceroys of their ability to preserve order without the aid of foreign troops.

Senator Lodge rightly declared that the supremacy of the party that has saved the standard of sound money and guarded it by law is as necessary for its security and for the existence of honest wages and business confidence now as it was in 1896.

A MATTER THEY AVOID.

Neither Mr. Bryan nor any of his adherents, so far as we have observed, has had anything to say in condemnation of the disfranchisement of negroes in the south.

The republican platform has this to say on the subject: "It was the pliant purpose of the fifteenth amendment to the constitution to prevent discrimination on account of race or color in regulating the legislative franchise."

Devises of state governments, whether by statutory or constitutional enactment, to avoid the purpose of this amendment are revolutionary and should be condemned.

A colored citizen of Georgia, prominent among his people as the editor of a religious journal, recently said: "Liberty is a long way off yet for a good many people in the United States."

Hundreds of thousands of colored men in the south are not enjoying the liberty and the equal rights which the constitution of their country entitles them to, but it is safe to say that the Kansas City platform will be silent in regard to this, though it is at once repugnant to the Declaration of Independence and in violation of the constitution.

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A MISTAKEN VIEW.

Those who think that because we have the gold standard fixed in law the success of the free silver democracy would have no serious effect upon the financial and business conditions, that industrial and commercial affairs would move on as actively and smoothly as now and that there would be no impairment of prosperity, in our judgment take a most mistaken view of the situation.

In his speech as permanent chairman of the republican national convention Senator Lodge said: "Business confidence rests largely upon sentiment. Do you think that sentiment would be a hopeful one the day after Bryan's election? Business confidence is a delicate plant. Do you think it would flourish with the democratic party? Do you not know that if Bryan were elected the day after the news was flashed over the country wages would go down, prices would decline and that the great argosy of American business now forging ahead over calm waters, with fair breezes and with swelling canvas, would begin to take in sail and seek the shelter and anchorage of the nearest harbor? Do you not know from recent and bitter experience what that arrest of movement, that fear of the future, means? It means the contraction of business, the reduction of employment, the increase of the unemployed, lower wages, hard times, distress, unhappiness."

This does not exaggerate the danger to the material interests of the country involved in the success of the free silver democracy. But, say some, the gold standard being fixed in law and the senate in control of the republican party, the democracy could do nothing hostile to that standard. Not at all, it is true, but there is no assurance that the senate would remain republican throughout a democratic administration, which would certainly exert all its power and influence to change the political character of that body.

The local Bryan organ is writing laudatory obituaries about the late editor of the Chicago Chronicle, whose bill of Bryan in 1896 called down on him all sorts of imprecations from the same source. Mr. Russell deserves all the eulogies that are being pronounced upon him, but would doubtless have appreciated these utterances more if they had been offered during his lifetime.

The Douglas County Democracy has issued a special invitation to Boss Croker of Tammany hall to stop off on his return from Kansas City to permit

WESTERN DEMOCRATS TO PAY HIM A TRIBUTE.

Western democrats to pay him a tribute. Why not include the populists and other members of the so-called reform forces in this invitation? All hail to Boss Croker, the champion of reform!

Secretary Porter did not cut much of a figure in the Third district fusion convention. The secretary started out bravely in his campaign, but early received an intimation that he had better display less perilous activity. He knew the power of the fusion machine too well to defy it and consequently subsided.

TWO OF A KIND.

The eyes of the world are now turned from Com Paul to the dowager emperor from a shrewd old man to a shrewd old woman.

SLIGHT HOPE FOR KRUGER.

The hours are rapidly passing from sight in view of the serious condition of affairs in China. But Kruger will not fail to take advantage of it in arranging terms of settlement with Great Britain.

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE DOLLAR MARK.

The dollar mark, that the democratic cartoonists put on Mark Hanna's clothes, is a mark of honor. They indicate that since Mark Hanna's party took charge dollars are more plentiful in the people's pockets.

COAL CHASING LEE.

There seems to be a mistake somewhere. This is the season of the year for the announcement that the price of coal will go up, instead of down, as we are confronted with the statement that there is to be an increase in the price of coal. It certainly has every appearance of being a typographical error.

AMERICAN IDEAS SPREADING.

Strikes were rare in Porto Rico before the United States occupied the island, but now they have become common, largely through the influence of a socialist who was released from a Spanish prison. As the country is likely to be overpopulated, it is likely that the abundance of labor will work out a reaction from the strike mania.

TILMAN AND COXIE OUTDOES.

Bryan's brief, uncomplicated harping on money, imperialism and trusts just got out as a campaign document along with a cheap squirt of prophecy from Jones, chairman of the democratic national committee, is a piece of shallow demagogism worthy of Tilman or Coxie and apparently not below the accepted political standards of Bryan.

CORNER SPONTERS LOST TO SIGHT.

About three years ago and for a month after the Bryan convention, all-year orators of glib tongue and shallow sense always found audiences at the street corners. Now a 16-to-1 orator pure and simple would empty a hall about as quickly as a report that the building was on fire.

SUPPRESSING THE COLORED VOTE.

One short resolution in the republican platform is especially timely. It is this: "It is the duty of the republicans to prevent discrimination on account of race or color in regulating the elective franchise. Devices of state governments, whether by statutory or constitutional enactment, to avoid the purpose of this amendment are revolutionary and should be condemned."

That is a fit word spoken in due season. It does not threaten in terms, but it implies a threat to put in operation the power of diminishing the representation in congress which is allotted to the states which are colored. The fifteenth amendment will neither be repealed or become a dead letter because white men practice dishonesty to get around it, or because they practice murder, as Senator Tilman brutally admits here, or because they are ignorant. We are glad that the republican convention was outspoken on this point.

PROSPECTIVE WHEAT SHORTAGE.

Partial Failure Confined to Spot—The World's Crop. Lack of rain and a June sun that scorches instead of promoting thrifty growth have very seriously damaged the crop of spring wheat in the three great states of Minnesota and North and South Dakota.

The effect of this prospective shortage must be to seriously diminish the value of the year's export, create high prices for wheat and incidentally cause a rise in the prices of corn and oats, both of which can be substituted for wheat to a limited extent for food purposes. It is fortunate that our system of collecting crop reports has become so perfect that adverse crop conditions are known so early in the season that the farmer can make a judiciously increase in the planting of other crops to fill the place in some measure of those which have failed.

Unfortunate as the partial failure of the spring wheat crop will prove it does not indicate a permanent decrease in the wheat supply. The richest soil and the most perfect tillage will not insure good crops when climate conditions are adverse. The Nile valley was as fertile during the seven famine years of biblical days as it was before or has been since, so far as the soil was concerned. So of the wheat belt of Minnesota and the Dakotas. Their fertility has not been exhausted. The richest soil will not yield a full harvest without rain or irrigation. There has been an unusual growth in the great spring wheat section and irrigation was impossible. The damage is irreparable for this year and probably only for this year. Minnesota and the Dakotas must make what shift they can to tide over the loss caused by the exceptional shrinkage of their principal crop and the rest of the world must make good for the loss of this item of its food supply from other sources. While the loss of 125,000,000 or 150,000,000 bushels of wheat in the great northwest will be severely felt in that locality it will precipitate no famine anywhere.

POLITICAL DRIFT.

Variety of Views, Incidents, Refusal and Contradiction. The manner of man Governor Roosevelt is not to be accused of extracting from an article on "The Personal Equation in Politics," contributed by him to a current periodical. Speaking of himself, he says: "I am a little inclined to envy a man who is forward to a long and steady course of public service, but in my own case such a career is out of the question, and, personally, it seems to me that a man's comfort and usefulness are greatly impaired the moment he begins to get worrying about how his vote and actions will affect his own future."

When I was in the legislature I soon found that for my own happiness, as well as for the sake of doing good work, I had to cast aside all thoughts of my own future, and as soon as I had made up my mind to this I stepped simply as I thought right, not only disregarding my own future, but even disregarding people themselves. If I honestly thought them all wrong on a matter of principle, not of mere expediency, then I began thoroughly to enjoy myself and to fight in what I was doing good."

FORMER PRESIDENT CLEVELAND HAS A SHOT AT THE NEWSPAPER MEN.

Former President Cleveland has a shot at the newspaper men in his last magazine contribution. He says: "A larger part of our people, more decently disposed, are benevolently willing to put at the service of a public officer all their knowledge of the past, and to advise him in any real or imaginary emergency, but even their advice is disregarded that the set abode of the task of demonstrating that the popular choice has been a sad mistake, and that an abundance of excellent material for public place has been overlooked. It is safe to say that after every presidential election the fact is developed that in our newspaper establishments alone there are thousands who have been thus neglected."

THE TALK OF ADMIRAL SCHLEY AS A TAIL TO THE BRYAN KITE.

The talk of Admiral Schley as a tail to the Bryan kite has not wholly died out. Some thoughtful democrats imagine they can drag the hero of Santiago into the pool of politics, but they are not acquainted with the bluff old sailor. The admiral's unequivocal letter to Colonel A. K. McClure of the Philadelphia Times is supplemented by another, dated Rio de Janeiro, March 27, and addressed to a friend in Washington. In this letter the admiral says: "I thank you for your very kind letters, and I wish I knew enough of politics to understand what these rumors are to which you refer in your notes. I am only an old sailor, who has spent forty odd years trying to learn the dangers of the sea upon which he has passed most of his life, and with the experience gathered in hoping to be useful to his country, has sought wisdom enough to avoid embarking on new waters bounding with shoals that are uncharted and unknown. No, my friend; I have no political aspirations whatever. I don't know even what a presidential bet looks like, and I never heard one buzzing in my ears, for I sleep too soundly."

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New York World: The Chinese minister says there is no war in China. The natives are just burning towns to keep warm and killing foreigners for fun.

Kansas City Star: There is some uncertainty as to whether China is at war with the United States, but there is no doubt that the soldiers of the two countries are fighting and killing each other.

San Francisco Call: It is a safe prediction that the nations will find it a good deal easier to get into China than to get out, and, moreover, they are going in harmoniously, but they will hardly come out that way.

Philadelphia Record: What is the use of quibbling over so patent a fact as the existence of a state of war between China and the civilized powers, including this government? American troops have been landed on Chinese soil, invaded the territory and fought battles with China's armed forces.

Minneapolis Journal: There will be in China a detaching collision of the power of arrested civilization against the power which leads the progress of the civilized world. Before China is brought into the family of civilized nations, there will be a baptism of blood. It is to be regretted, but it is only through such tribulation that any progress has been accomplished in the world.

Philadelphia Times: A great scheme of spoliation is in progress, of which China is to be the victim, and the existing disturbances have been fomented to give some color of justification for the intervention, which is to hold and dominate all of the western hemisphere and grab all it can conquer and hold of the eastern. Handle off China should be the motto of the American people. Moreover, Mr. McKinley is again reminded that the war-making power is vested in congress, and not in the president.

Boston Globe: Though this country has a clear conscience in the matter, it cannot be denied that for more than half a century China has been subjected to a degree of indignity, insult, extortion, bullying and general abuse such as no Christian power would have tolerated. Treaties have been imposed upon her by force, her finest harbors have been seized, and vast stretches of her littoral have been placed under foreign rule. She has been compelled to transfer a part of her immense river trade to foreign flags, she has seen her best territory gridironed by foreign-built and foreign-controlled railroads, while for every concession she has made a dozen new ones have been demanded by foreign powers. Who would it be that should finally have become exasperated beyond endurance.

JUDGES RESENT CRITICISM.

Theory of Contempt of Court Stretched Beyond All Reason. Chicago Evening Post.

The supreme court of Nebraska, composed of three judges, two of whom are populists, would naturally be expected to render an extreme opinion in favor of good populists and denounce as arbitrary and tyrannical. In the contempt case against the editor of The Omaha Bee, however, the bench trampled under foot, not merely the principles of Anglo-Saxon and American jurisprudence. It stretched the theory of contempt of court beyond all reason and fairness.

A fine of \$500 was imposed on the paper as a criticism of a perfectly legitimate character, or rather for the moderate statement of an admitted fact. The circumstances are these: The republicans control the city government of Omaha, and under a law recently enacted the mayor and council are empowered to appoint fire and police commissioners. The fusionists wished to wrest these departments from their political opponents and trumped up a case for the courts. They asked that the new commission be annulled and the old law declared operative. If they succeeded the governor would have appointed the police commissioners in the greater cities of the state, and the governor is a populist.

What Editor Rosewater pointed out was that one of the judges was ex-Governor Hildreth, who, when executive of the state, was called upon to deal with a similar question and acted in a way to show that his mind was made up in favor of the fusionists. That action, Mr. Rosewater thought, disqualified Judge Hildreth from hearing the case. Now, as a matter of fact, Judge Hildreth has since recognized the disqualification. He did not sit in the case, which, by the way, was decided against the fusionists. But Mr. Rosewater's comments outraged the judges, and, after a hearing in which the

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PEPPERY POINTERS.

Chicago Tribune: Admiring Visitor—That is a rare and magnificent blinding. I never saw a finer. What is the book? I've seen it. Friend Owner—I think it's a bible.

Harpur's Harp: "The pastor of the church has been trying to boss the choir for six weeks, but they have won."

Got his wife to join."

Boston Transcript: Mr. Kake-Walkers—How did your funny act go? Did the audience laugh uproariously?

Mr. Tuff—Well, I wouldn't say so much as that. But I noticed that everybody was smiling when I was going off.

Chicago Post: "They're mentioned as being among the best people of the city."

"No doubt, no doubt. In fact, I've seen them among them myself—at the theater and opera. You know, and other public places."

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "I had a horrible nightmare last night. I thought I was being swept along through a city water pipe at frightful speed!"

"And then I woke up and found it was a pipe dream!"

Detroit Journal: To put it mathematically, points are to trousers as dresses are to creations, only vastly less so.

Somerville Journal: Employer—I congratulate you on that new baby of yours, Hildreth.

Employer—Thank you, sir.

Employer—And I have no doubt that hereafter you will be waked up early enough mornings to get to the office every day on time.

Indianapolis Journal: Mrs. Brown—Mrs. Jones, is your husband as crazy about politics this week as mine is?

Mrs. Jones—No, indeed. Why, he went down town last night and forgot to come back and take little Jim to the circus.

Washington Star: "They say you are merely a political boss," said the candid informant.

"Great Scott!" ejaculated Senator Sorghum. "The republicanism of these moderns is something astonishing. Why, that's all Julius Caesar was."

Detroit Journal: "But," cried the invalid, "the doctors will rob you of your errors!"

"Ah, yes; but in the only one they are likely to rob," chuckled this monster, insidiously. The invalid groaned.

LOOKING BACKWARD.

Indianaapolis Press.

Oh, those happy days of summer, when the harvest sun shone hot.

A flow of merriment takes me back, a captive to my own fond memories.

Where I spent the years of childhood, and those dreamy summers long.

Where I wrote in my boyish mind—a glad, unmeasured song.

How I viewed the old brick schoolhouse with a frown of hate and scorn.

As I'd stray my books together on a sunny April morn.

And how I moped and languished as a rag-bird in the rain.