

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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And 'the court' came back. It's pretty hard to lose Judge Gordon.

The Presbyterian seminary's success in securing money for a new building must certainly be gratifying to its friends.

Real estate men are not the only ones who differ as to value of property. The same condition frequently exists between buyer and seller.

It has been decided that horses and mules are not contraband of war. Any one who is at all familiar with the animal would not hesitate, however, to declare the mule a belligerent.

New York can gain many other pointers by closely studying Omaha's methods. It is not alone in the public schools that experience walks hand in hand with enterprise in this city.

St. Paul papers hoot at the story that Jim Hill is to build a line of road across Nebraska, saying it is ridiculous. Probably the St. Paul editors have not read up on Nebraska crop reports recently.

An admirer of Mrs. Nation asserts there is nothing modern about the hatchet wielder. Any one who has seen her picture can readily believe she is a genuine antique.

The railroad situation in the west is furnishing a veritable fifteen-block puzzle for the outsiders, and possibly some of those who think they are on the inside do not really know the correct location.

Now is the time to finally decide on what you are going to do to help Omaha this season. The spring activity is almost at hand, and you cannot meditate much longer on what you intend doing.

One thing appears reasonably well established. The coming of the twentieth century didn't bring the millennium with it. For evidence in support of this statement see the telegraph columns of the daily newspapers.

The foreign legations in Peking are to be fortified and, in addition, surrounded with a fence of barbed wire. The flowing raiment of the Chinaman will be a serious handicap in attempts to assault the foreigners in the future.

The republican legislature in South Dakota has passed an anti-firecracker bill. The fusionists will be more than ever convinced now that it is the intention to abolish the Fourth of July, for what would a Fourth of July celebration be without firecrackers?

Promises of the Omaha & Northern railroad promoters are very fair and the public will welcome the day when the work of redeeming them is commenced. These men did not ask to have their franchise made "attractive;" they only ask a chance to get across an Indian reservation.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY

The recurrence of the anniversary of Washington's birthday finds the memory of that illustrious man as reverently cherished by the American people as at any time in their history, his name still honored above all others, his patriotic example still the most potent force in our national life, his counsel the best guide to national duty and honor.

To say that the name of Washington holds first place in the reverence of the American people is to voice a universal sentiment, for however much we may cherish the memory and honor the deeds of others who won immortal fame in the cause of popular government and in the service of their country, we have to remember that it was the sword of Washington, guided by the loftiest patriotism, that gave us popular government and that to his wisdom more than to any other of the great men who founded the republic we owe the political institutions under which this nation has grown to greatness and power.

The illustrious character of George Washington is the best heritage of the American people. His pre-eminence as a patriot is unquestioned, he will ever hold first place in the affection of his countrymen, as a figure in history there is none above him. The influence of Washington, which dominated most of the great men of his time, is still potential and will continue to be as long as the republic lives. As has been said, by a distinguished statesman: "The nation and the name of Washington are inseparable. One is linked indissolubly with the other. Both are glorious, both triumphant."

THE BURLINGTON'S NEW PRESIDENT

The retirement of President Perkins of the Burlington and the election of former Vice President Harris as his successor is an event significant outside as well as inside of the railway world. As one of the principal states comprising the field of the road's operations, Nebraska has a special interest in the management and policy of that great corporation.

The choice for the presidency of Mr. Harris, whose active service with the road began in Nebraska and who is more thoroughly familiar with conditions prevailing in the Nebraska division than any of the higher officers not located here, is the best assurance that the opportunities of this great railway system in this state will not be neglected. Having worked his railroad apprenticeship in Nebraska, President Harris may be depended on to keep his eye in this direction and to pursue a policy designed to build up and develop the resources of the rich regions referred to in railway parlance as Burlington territory. No one knows better than President Harris that the prosperity of the people who depend upon the railroad for traffic and transportation is essential to the prosperity of the railway corporation or recognizes the identity of interests at least, in everything that makes for promoting the state's material welfare and expanding its trade and commerce.

Another point not to be overlooked in the choice of Mr. Harris is that it is a direct promotion strictly in line with the established practice of the road. Instead of looking to the official roster of some other corporation or jumping the heads of its own higher officers, the place has been filled by the man next in line almost in conformity with civil service principles. This could not fail to have a good effect upon the subordinates and employes of any great corporation which can maintain the highest efficiency only by inspiring confidence that merit and loyalty will eventually be recognized and rewarded.

With the change imperative on account of President Perkins' health, the selection of President Harris as his successor is not only logical but calculated to give the Burlington an executive fully equipped for the position and conversant with its requirements particularly at a time when huge consolidations of its competitors call for a broad and public-spirited yet careful administration of its affairs.

WANT AN OFFICIAL DECLARATION

The latest reports from Cuba indicate that no real progress has been made by the committee of the constitutional convention appointed to draw up a proposition defining the future relations between the United States and the Cuban republic. An official letter is expected from General Wood setting forth what he considers the relations should be, but General Wood having informed the committee that he represents the executive department at Washington and could not say how congress would act in the matter does not improve the situation, if indeed it is not embarrassed thereby. At all events, it affords the Cubans a reasonable excuse for asking an official statement from Washington as to the wishes of this government.

Unquestionably the representatives of the Cuban people who are making the constitution for the republic have the right to ask for clear and explicit information regarding the concessions desired by the United States, given in such way as will assure them that if such concessions are granted they will be accepted by this government. Congress is the proper authority to do this. The executive department may indicate what it thinks the future relations between this country and Cuba should be, but in the absence of an expression by congress on the subject the Cubans are quite justified in hesitating to submit propositions and asking for official assurances in the binding force of which they can have full confidence.

OF VAGUE MEANING

Senator Towne's speech was less expressive than Nebraska's next senator will be. Breaking it down, however, is a cost which falls on the state.

Has No Parallel

The joint-smashing record of Mrs. Carrie Nation up to date represents a carnival of lawlessness that probably has no parallel in the state, not even in the far western frontier in the early days of mining development.

What It Means

Count Walderser's campaign, if it begins, will not stop short of Sian Fu and if a column of troops is pushed thus far as it Manchuria might bring the partition of the northern half of China.

Requested to Commit Suicide

Retrenchment seems to be the order of the day with the Chinese government. Boxers condemned by the envoys have been requested to commit suicide and save money and trouble.

Gratulations Advised

Dr. E. Benjamin Andrews "sees in the near future" the downfall of the British monarchy and the establishment of an American republic in its place.

Legislative Anarchism

Senator Barlow of Indianapolis has introduced a bill legalizing "joint smashing" in hotels, as well as in the streets and saloons, while most of the people go armed. The ingredients for a first-class riot are fast being mixed.

Need Not Worry

Public opinion in Kansas is rapidly assuming a condition that will make it unnecessary for Mrs. Nation to worry over the outcome of the cases against her. At Winfield, Kan., they are poisoning the water in the wells, as well as in the streets and saloons, while most of the people go armed.

If Books Were Baked

Dr. Kuflewski of the Public Library board exhibited to the members at their last meeting a volume of disease germs found in volumes on the third floor shelves. He asserted that disease was spread by library books and advised, for the protection of the public health, that all such books be periodically sterilized by the dry process.

Touched the Black Man's Heart

Nick Chile, a negro saloon keeper of Topeka, Kan., furnished an illustration of a self-sacrificing gallantry which has few parallels in the history of the world. He found Mrs. Carrie Nation standing on the jail steps crying vainly for a bondsman.

How the People of the World Really Govern Themselves

St. Louis Globe-Democrat. The St. James Gazette of London has been counting up the different sorts of governments which are in the world, and seems to be startled at the great number of republics which it finds. There are over sixty republics in the world, it says, and it is surprising to find that the presidents outnumber the kings. There are twenty-four presidents and only twenty kings.

More Presidents Than Kings

The balance is more than made straight by the emperor and the sultan, the mikado, the rajah, khedives, amera and other potentates who prefer their special title to that of the king. This is, indeed, a surprising revelation to a monarchist, to whom the designation president is rather unfamiliar.

Was Mrs. Stowe Truthful?

Defense of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" Against Mr. Smith's Denunciation. Indianapolis Journal. Mr. F. Hopkinson Smith's attack on "Uncle Tom's Cabin" and attempts to give reasons for his declaration that it was and is a vicious and harmful book.

Whipping-Post for Wife-Beaters

People who take the holy ground that the lash is a relic of barbarism always forget that the wife-beater is a relic of barbarism. It must be humiliating to a community to be so completely in the hands of cowards who beat women, but it never can be any more humiliating to punish them in such a manner that their presence should be made known through the blackened eyes and piercing accents of their victims.

Local Option the Remedy

Susan B. Anthony's conviction that the ballot, not the hatchet, is the proper remedy for the liquor traffic is consistent with that admirable American's career. But Miss Anthony knows well that the ballot would not bring about prohibition of the liquor trade.

A Man Who Knows Things

The new king is the most experienced man of the world that has ever ascended a throne. He has seen life in every capital, he has met every celebrity of his time; he has for long been in touch with almost every man of note and eminence in the world.

Long Skirt Condemned

Consumption causes one-fifth of all the deaths in this country. Physicians attending a tuberculosis congress at Ottawa, Canada, stated that women's long skirts are responsible for thousands of deaths ascribed to this disease. The draperies are scavengers which pick up and cherish tuberculosis germs that develop in households.

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