

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE. E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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Subscribed in my own name to before me this 30th day of September, A. D. 1901. M. E. HUNTER, Notary Public.

Last chance to register is next Saturday, November 2. Mark it down.

The impending execution of Czolgosz will simply exemplify the triumph of law over lawlessness.

Mr. Swift's enlargement of his Omaha meat packing establishment cannot come any too swiftly to suit Omaha.

The Pan-American conference threatens to resolve itself into a mutual admiration society for the representatives of the different countries participating.

This much must be said for the late lamented so-called silver republican party: The leaders held out long after all the privates had retired in disgust.

More than \$80,000 was expended on roads and bridges in Douglas county during the past year. What has the county to show for this extraordinary expenditure?

If the state auditor can succeed in fending off of Nebraska all the tontine fakes that fatten on gullible victims he will earn a big credit mark from all intelligent people.

Not a person has been found to say a word against the character or qualifications of Samuel H. Sedgwick, the republican candidate for judge of the supreme court of Nebraska.

Ten minutes is all the time the Rock Island magnates gave Omaha on their inspection tour of the line. This would indicate that they are satisfied with local conditions and management.

The Real Estate exchange must not allow itself to be diverted from the pressing problem of tax reform by consolidation rainbows. Consolidation is bound to come in time, but tax reform will have to come first.

Iowa republicans are to keep right on bombarding their opposing candidates up to the very eve of election just as if Iowa were a debatable state. That is the kind of political devotion that builds up impenetrable republican majorities.

It is announced that Andrew Carnegie and family will winter in Italy in a quiet Riviera spot. It is noteworthy, however, that the precise location of the spot is not disclosed for fear it might become too popular for donation-seeking pilgrims.

Another twenty-four-hour visitor has discovered that Omaha is "the very worstest city" on the American continent. This gentleman also makes his living by discovering the worst cities in existence and describing them for pay in magazines or on the lecture stage.

Omaha's retail grocers, butchers, restaurateurs and hotel keepers propose to go into the ice business to escape the exactions of the ice man. The strange part about it is that they have actually taken up the project before the ice crop has been sown and in time to come in on the harvest.

Senator Jones of Nevada has the hardihood to admit publicly that the free silver issue is dead beyond resurrection. Mr. Bryan, however, who is only a disciple of the Nevada pioneer, persists in touring Nebraska with renewed appeals to his former followers to continue to stand by silver.

A dispatch from way up in Wisconsin tells us that the stone is being quarried, dressed and saved there for William J. Bryan's new residence in course of erection at Lincoln and that the stone is of the best quality procurable. This does not look as if prosperity had failed to include Mr. Bryan or that two unsuccessful candidates for the presidency have impaired his financial standing.

LOOK TO THE ASSESSORS. No mark reform can be had in our system of taxation until the people wake up to the importance and necessity of electing fearless, impartial and competent assessors.

The tap-root of systematic undervaluation of taxable property is in the assessors. While every assessor is sworn to make returns that represent the salable value of real and personal property returned for taxation, the great majority of assessors are endowed with indomitable consciences.

This lax condition of affairs is growing worse in Nebraska from year to year. The effect not only works inequality and discrimination, but opens the way for cumulative injustice in the equalization of assessments by county and state boards when they are called on to appraise the property of franchised corporations, railroads and common carriers.

These boards are impudently by the attorneys and agents of the corporations to outdo the assessors in undervaluation and for justification of such a course they point to the outrageously low valuations placed on taxable property by the precinct assessors.

If the people of Nebraska can arouse themselves sufficiently to exact pledges from the candidates for assessor and county commissioner that they will do their duty without fear or favor if elected the first step toward genuine tax reform will be taken.

THE LEADING EXPORTING NATION. The United States is at the head of the list of exporting nations. According to the treasury statistics of average monthly exports of twenty countries for 1900 and 1901, the United States has this year passed the United Kingdom, whose average monthly exports show a marked decline from last year, when they were in excess of the exports of this country.

Whether or not this country will continue at the head of exporting nations is a question to be determined by events which cannot be foreseen. As the greater part of our exports are agricultural products good crops in Europe would make a very decided difference in our export account.

No question as to the authority of congress to do this and since a few of the combinations have adopted the policy of making their affairs public perhaps no great opposition would come from that source to legislation requiring that of all of them. At all events, it has the power to compel the industrial combinations to do what is required of the railroads in this matter.

It is expected that President Roosevelt will make some practical recommendations on this subject in his annual message, he having indicated an earnest interest in it. The president, in what he has said regarding the industrial combinations, has shown that he does not favor a policy of extermination, which would have a disastrous effect upon all interests.

AN EFFICIENT FIRE DEPARTMENT. The efficiency of the Omaha fire department has been subjected to a severe test within the past ten days and there is no dissent in the popular verdict that from the chief down the department has never shown itself to greater advantage as a fire-fighting force.

But the very best fighting force cannot be expected to cope successfully with great conflagrations unless it is equipped with the best modern apparatus. In this respect the department is still behind other cities covering no larger area. It is not merely essential that the equipment for putting out fires shall be up to the latest standard, but the department should be in position to meet demands upon it in case part of its machinery is disabled while the fire is raging.

No expenditure for this purpose will be begrudged by the taxpayers, who will cheerfully second any effort on the part of the fire and police commission to keep the department abreast with all the requirements likely to be put upon it.

The property owners of Omaha have contributed \$2,000,000 this year toward maintaining state, city, county and school government. This enormous tax revenue is apportioned roughly between the three bodies that control the city, county and school government, one-half, or \$1,000,000, to the city; one-quarter, or \$500,000, to the county, and \$500,000 to the school board.

Remember that Judge Dickinson held the evidence of willful irregularities in the police court sufficient to justify the impeachment and removal of Police Judge Gordon and the writ of ouster was reversed only on technicalities by the supreme court. The citizens of Omaha should make Judge Dickinson's writ of ouster effective by their votes at the coming election.

the exports nearly \$25,000,000 came to this country. That is Cuba buys nearly one-half of its foreign supplies from the United States and sells to us nearly three-fourths of its products for export.

Pinking the Eagle. The cost of living has gone up in Manila since the Americans have been there. The childlike, untutored native has grasped quite as keenly and just as promptly as the cultured and experienced Parisian the fact that the American eagle is a mighty fine bird and very easy to pluck.

Dodging a Vital Question. The trusts are not replying freely to the question sent out to them by the federal income commission whether they are selling their shares at a profit to strangers than to our own people. Most of them are said to be not replying at all.

A City Worth Saving. New York City. Roundly stated, 615,000 voters will decide our city election. Their decision will control the government of 3,500,000 people.

Tip for the Commercial Club. The Commercial club ought to visit the Great Western Type Foundry and see the actual work of the fire department last Saturday night and then go back to the club rooms and kick themselves for going off half cocked last night.

One of the Disadvantages of Public Service at Washington. The physicians and surgeons who attended President McKinley in his death lack of exercise. This may well have been the cause of his death.

Willing to Divide. Indianapolis News. If Admiral Schley comes out of the investigation with all of the Santiago honors it will not be his fault.

Taxing Corporations

The street railway, gas and telephone companies of Chicago will have to pay much heavier taxes for 1901 than they paid for 1900. They have been under-assessed in past years by the State Board of Equalization.

Chicago, the pretext being that their properties were leased to the Union Traction company, which was assessed slightly. The supreme court says these two omitted corporations "earned during the year prior to April 1, 1900, a great dividend of from 4 per cent to 25 per cent per annum upon their stock, mainly in the form of rents accrued from the leases of their rights and privileges to use the streets of the city of Chicago to other corporations."

When the state board shall have made that fair valuation of the capital stock, indebtedness and franchises of Chicago public service corporations the supreme court has ordered it to make, the total value of valuations in this city will be largely increased. The public interest will be served.

CALKINS RIGHT MAN FOR PLACE. Wood River Interest. The republican state central committee has named Hon. E. C. Calkins of Kearney for regent of the State university to take the place of H. L. Goold.

ROUND ABOUT NEW YORK. Ripples on the Current of Affairs in the Metropolis. There is a bare possibility of the fools who poured their money into the coffers of the Franklin syndicate of Brooklyn last year.

PERSONAL NOTES. With \$75,000 worth of postage stamps in stock, the looters of the Chicago postoffice are booked for a prolonged kicking.

Herbert Gladstone gives much time to outdoor exercises and is president of the National Physical Recreation society. He is, besides, enthusiastic on music and has often assisted the Kyrie society as a vocalist.

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POLITICAL TALK IN THE STATE.

Pender New Era. There is a rumor flying about the state that Joe Bartley is somewhat interested in the great fusion organ of the state, The World-Herald.

Pierce Call. The World-Herald this fall is pursuing the same tactics toward republican candidates and the republican party of the state as it did in 1896 and 1899 toward the lamented President McKinley.

Brooklyn Life. "Papa, what's the difference between an amateur and a professional politician?" "Oh, from two to twenty thousand a year."

Chicago Tribune. "My dear Miss Billmore, I've just received your kind note in which you accept of my offer of a chair. I do not know who George is, but my name, as you know, is William."

Washington Star. "You say you regard the railroads as a menace to human happiness?" "Oh, that's a very different matter. I don't want and don't need them."

Philadelphia Press. "I'm going into the business for myself," the plumber's clerk announced. "What," exclaimed his employer, "you don't know nothing about plumbing?" "I know all I need to apply the clerk."

New Orleans Times. "My brain is on fire," tragically exclaimed Mrs. Robbins as she threw up her hands in despair. "Why don't you blow it out?" absent-mindedly replied the evening newspaper. And then he dodged a flying hairbrush.

CHILDHOOD'S LOST BELIEFS. Eugene Field. I once knew all the birds that came and nested in our orchard trees.