

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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GEORGE B. TSCHUCK, Notary Public.

If Simon is ever annexed Nebraska should have first claim to colonize it.

It is always easier to do nothing than to do something. The community that does nothing, however, is distanced in the race.

Judging from its personnel, the committee appointed to wrestle with the consolidation problem seems to be built on the plan of a diversity of interests.

The same newspaper organs that stood up for Bartley after his embezzlement had been disclosed are standing up for Stuefer and his crooked bond deals.

Whenever a public officer is exposed in a piece of crooked work, he always blames the persons uncovering him for the trouble he has brought upon himself.

The school board would strike a popular chord by making a New Year's resolution to abolish the odious secret ballot in the election of its officers and employes.

For Yale to get a goose egg at the hands, or rather feet, of its Harvard rivals in the year of its bicentennial makes the ignominy all the more difficult to endure.

It appears that Senator Patterson told the people in attendance upon the consolidation meeting, called by the Real Estate exchange, several things that they did not want to hear.

As the only living ex-president Mr. Cleveland's health is an object of solicitude on the part of all American citizens, who hope that his life may be spared for many years to come.

Austrian life insurance companies are said to resent the intrusion of American life insurance companies seeking to make inroads on their territory. And our fraternal haven't touched them yet.

The republican party stands for honesty and integrity in the management of public affairs. The republican party cannot afford to shield or defend officers who betray their trusts when honored at its hands.

There is imminent danger that our Dave will be in such haste in his race across the continent to connect with the opening of congress that he will not have time to stop off to congratulate the boys who did the fighting at home.

Those suburban electric railways radiating out from Omaha are bound to come because the business in sight will soon fully justify their construction. But no speculative franchises need be given away to bring this about.

It is plain that the pilgrimage made by David B. Hill to Lincoln just prior to the Kansas City convention did not remove the necessity of further evidence to prove that he is a democrat to the satisfaction of Mr. Bryan's Nebraska admirers.

If the Englishman failed to turn an honest penny out of King Edward's co-convention by routing his house to foreign visitors and submitting other little privileges, the proud claim of belonging to a nation of shopkeepers might be forfeited.

Omaha's city charter prohibits the granting or extension of any franchise except by vote of the people ratifying a proposition duly submitted. It is too bad that South Omaha's new charter was so carefully framed to omit this salutary provision.

It is the design to make the McKinley national memorial a popular tribute to the lamented president. If every admirer of the great McKinley would contribute his mite, the list of contributors would include every man, woman and child of mature intellect in the country.

RESIGNATION OVERDUE.

When the first republican governor, chosen after Nebraska's attainment to statehood, became hopelessly involved in scandals growing out of the fraudulent leasing of school lands, a republican legislator preferred charges of impeachment against him and removed him from office.

When a republican state treasurer betrayed the trust reposed in him by the embezzlement of money belonging to the state school fund, he was promptly arraigned by republican prosecuting officials, tried and convicted before republican judges and made to pay the penalty of his odious offense by imprisonment in the penitentiary.

When only a few weeks ago a candidate nominated for a minor office by the republican state ticket was found to have been an innocent beneficiary of stolen school money, republicans throughout Nebraska with almost unanimity of mind demanded his withdrawal and out of respect to the party that had honored him he filed a voluntary resignation from the ticket.

When in the face of all these lessons another republican state treasurer permits the sacred trust funds in his custody that make up the endowment of the public schools to be used for private gain, can any republican who has the interest of his state and his party truly at heart lend countenance to such indefensible action?

When the demand was made upon Joseph S. Bartley that he make a cash accounting on turning over at the completion of his first term as treasurer, he defiantly retorted that if the demand were insisted on he would meet it with his resignation. Later events proved that it would have been better for both Bartley and the state had his resignation been forced at that time.

When the late republican state convention embodied in its platform a demand upon all custodians of public funds for periodical exhibits of the amounts and whereabouts of public moneys confided to their keeping, Treasurer Stuefer said he would resign before he would comply. Mr. Stuefer's resignation is now overdue.

NICARAGUA CANAL BILL.

Representative Hepburn of Iowa, who reported the Nicaragua canal bill which was passed by the house of representatives at the last session of congress, intends to again introduce the measure at the opening of the coming session, which will be a week from today. It is the opinion of Mr. Hepburn that no material changes will be needed in the bill, unless there shall be found in the new canal treaty, when ratified, something that will require a reconstruction of the measure. He stated a few days ago that from the information he had received there is nothing in the agreement with Great Britain which will prevent the United States from building an isthmian canal exactly as we choose and as provided by the house bill of last session.

That measure authorizes the president of the United States to acquire from Costa Rica and Nicaragua for the United States control of such territory belonging to those countries as may be desirable and necessary on which to construct a canal. When control of such territory shall have been secured, the bill requires that the secretary of war shall be directed to excavate and construct a canal between points designated. The sum of \$140,000,000, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the completion of the canal, the money to be drawn from the treasury from time to time as the same shall be needed. It is probable that some modifications will have to be made in the bill, but in any event there appears to be no doubt of its passage if the new treaty is ratified, which now seems assured.

Meanwhile the announcement is made that the Department of State, having received an advance notice of the contents of the canal commission's report, is preparing to negotiate new treaties with Nicaragua and Costa Rica. In pursuance of the protocols signed some months ago. The understanding already effected between our government and the two Central American states gives assurance that no difficulty will be found in securing control of the territory necessary for the construction of the proposed canal. It is thus made practically certain that the Nicaragua route will be selected, regardless of any proposition that may yet come from the Panama company.

PUBLICITY FOR TRUSTS.

Forecasts of President Roosevelt's message state that his attitude on the trust question will appeal to the popular feeling in regard to the combinations and while he will recommend no specific action by congress, he will go at least as far as he did when governor of New York and insist on publicity in the operations of combinations of capital. How this publicity and supervision are to be maintained he will leave to the supervision of congress. It is said that influential members of congress have endeavored to dissuade the president from an aggressive attitude as to trusts, but so far as can be learned he has put a good deal of force in the paragraph dealing with industrial combinations and has handled the subject vigorously.

In his message to the New York legislature in January, 1900, Mr. Roosevelt said: "That abuses exist and that they are of a very grave character it is worse than idle to deny. Just so long as in the business world unscrupulous cunning is allowed the free reign which, thanks to the growth of humanity during the past centuries, we now deny to unscrupulous physical force, then just so long there will be a field for the best effort of every honest social and civic reformer who is capable of feeling an impulse of generous indignation, and who is far-sighted enough to appreciate where the real danger to the country lies. The effects are bad enough when the unscrupulous individual works by himself. They are worse when he works in conjunction with his fellows through a giant corporation or trust. The first essential is knowledge of the facts—pub-

CONGRESSMAN SHALL GET OUR REVENUE.

congressman shall get our revenue talking about spending part of our redundant revenue on a Pacific cable private capital will have put down the wires that will complete the electric girdle of the world.

Too Anxious to Unload.

There is nothing small about the proposition of a syndicate to buy up the railroads of the country and sell them to the government.

Equality in Taxation.

One effect of the decision of the supreme court of Illinois in the matter of franchise taxation is seen in a movement started by the St. Louis Board of Education to force the Missouri State Board of Equalization to tax franchises.

Get Into the Bandwagon.

The French journalist who predicts the world supremacy of the United States within the present century is merely exercising the usual journalistic proclivity and his advice to his own country to make friends with ours in such a way as to secure a share in American trade is wise.

Teetotalers Are Good Risks.

Some insurance companies are now issuing policies to total abstainers as a separate class. Whether or not the abstainer is likely to live longer or not is a matter still in debate.

An "Old Saw" Revisited.

Shakespeare makes somebody say, "I am a great eater of beef, and I believe that this habit has brought me up." Whether or not the Italians consume twenty-four pounds per annum per capita, the Spaniards twenty-seven pounds, the Bohemians and Hungarians thirty-one pounds and the Americans 146 pounds.

Why This Discrimination?

The mere fact that England is treated exclusively at representative New York conventions inevitably prompts the query: Why? Certainly it is not because England or England contribute chiefly to our national prosperity and expansion. Altogether the best and most wholesome additions to our population have been made by Germany, Sweden and Norway.

SETTLERS OF THE WEST.

One of the features of the December (Christmas) issue of the second installment of "The Settlement of the West: A Study in Transportation," by Emerson Hough with pictures by Frederick Remington. This chapter of the epic of the west is entitled "Against the Waters." It begins with an account of the "American West."

An Episode of the Days of the Keel Boatman.

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Up to Providence Now.

Senator Stewart says Providence settled the silver question. This should make it easier for Mr. Bryan to cut his cards for a new deal.

Danger Apprehended.

It should have been made a condition of Pat Crowe's return that he would promise not to kidnap any members of the reception committee.

A Common Characteristic.

J. Sterling Morton's Conservative. We note that when a political machine is smashed the smashers always gather up a few stray levers, cogs, bolts and pulleys and organize a reconstruction bureau.

Caveat of the Business.

Cleveland Plain Dealer. President Roosevelt doesn't like it at all. Press official news leaks out and into the newspapers ahead of time. But that's the sort of strenuous business that modern news getting is.

The Old Adam Again.

Baltimore American. The officer who hypothesized \$20,000 from the order of the Macabees falls back on the old plea, "A woman tempted me." He should have reflected that this excuse did not avail in the original instance.

Cable Without Subsidy.

Philadelphia Record. While American statesmen continue to discuss the scheme for a subsidized submarine telegraph line from our coast to the Philippines, the recently organized Commercial Cable company is fashioning the first section of the chain whereby it proposes to link the United States with its far eastern possessions. By the time

THE IRRIGATION MOVEMENT

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Perhaps those members of congress who are saying that President Roosevelt is favorable to the movement in the far western states for the adoption of a scientific and extended system of irrigation, Senator Warren of Wyoming, a state which is vitally interested in irrigation, and who is one of its enthusiastic advocates, is confident that the president is on their side.

DISCUSS FUTURE OF FUSION.

Hasings Tribune (rep.). The Omaha Bee has felt the pulse of fusionism in Nebraska and finds it somewhat weak and on the decline. Several of the populist and democratic leaders expressed themselves in regard to the future of fusion in this state and according to their own state they do not know where they "sit."

ROUND ABOUT NEW YORK.

Ripples on the Current of Life in the Metropolis. There was a hot time in one house in Brooklyn. It was a social, a family, a euchar party given by Mrs. Harriet Burton, an artist, which was attended by 200 women. Everything was "just lively" until the windup, when there was a mixup rivaling a riot at a bargain counter.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

A Missouri school teacher recently whaled a bunch of his pupils. The boys retaliated and Missouri is short on teachers. Evidence taken at Washington goes to show that Colonel Meade's jugs were the worse for it. A New York woman, in an application for divorce, charges her husband with cruel and unusual punishment, to-wit: stealing her false teeth.

PLANES OF FUN.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "I see that the women who attend the New York horse show will be allowed to go to the races. I suppose the horses will be decontam, too." "No, they will be decontam."

THE UPSTREAM PILL.

Josh Wink in Baltimore American. It's easy when you're drifting with the current down the stream. When the dam is shifted beside you and the laughing ripple gleam; When the water is shallow and the bottom is cushioned soft and bank. In the happy, glowing sunshine, while the water flows, and the stream is clear, But there comes a sudden waking to the fact that the dam is there, and the water is shallow and the bottom is cushioned soft and bank.

THE IRRIGATION MOVEMENT

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Any plan which will materially aid to the productivity of the arid region covering part of half a dozen states will largely contribute to the population, wealth and prosperity of the country.

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