

ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871.

OMAHA, SUNDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 2, 1902.

SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS.

NO USE POUNDING

when the peg don't fit the hole.

Banners and show bills and shouting are in vain. The old time bluster and hurrah have lost force. The time is fast passing when the cheap cigar which tastes like a roll of straw, flavored with verdigris, can be "circus"-ed into popularity. Its now a question of stock, gentlemen; "pounding" won't do.



Push is a good thing if direction is right.

People are getting wise on the question of material and there is a sure, steady advance of a new order of things in a 5-cent cigar. The old familiar tactics of "booming" cheap cigars are causing people to smile—and to appreciate more than ever a real effort to give them quality.

The efforts of Bondy and Lederer of New York, to get right stock are well known. By reason of their success in transplanting Vuelta sprouts to their own plantations they are producing for the first time a five cent cigar with a prime genuine Vuelta filler. The best kind of a properly cured Sumatra wrapper with all bitterness removed, is added. The sweet, cool taste and fine fragrance obtained is very different from the "circus"-boomed 5 cent cigars.

PEREGOY & MOORE CO., Distributers, Council Bluffs, Ia.

O'KEEFE AND REPUBLICANS

They Name County Officers Against Connolly and Hofeldt.

HENRY OEST NEW CHIEF AT HOSPITAL

Peter O'Malley Gets County Auditorship, Dr. Lee Van Camp as Physician, and Dr. White Assistant Doctor for South Omaha.

It was O'Keefe's list of county officers that the Board of County Commissioners adopted Saturday. The list submitted by Connolly and seconded by Hofeldt, the other two democratic members of the board, fell with a dull and audible thud, and all that Connolly could do was to protest that any man who accepted a position under such conditions was not a good democrat.

In the caucuses last week O'Keefe and his colleagues have remained steadily in variance, and the meeting yesterday was delayed an hour by the efforts of Connolly and Hofeldt to contrive, with the advice of some friends, a means of circumventing the new member. Finally Connolly exclaimed in despair: "Well, I guess it's no use. You might as well call the meeting to order."

The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with and the report of Ed Dee, superintendent of the court house, announcing the dismissal of Engineer B. C. Foley and Janitors Abner Travis and Henry Beall was referred to the committee of the whole.

Then Connolly brought the principal issue to a test by moving the adoption of a resolution which he submitted, appointing Dan W. Cannon superintendent of the county hospital, Mr. Dan W. Cannon matron of the same institution, Peter O'Malley county auditor, George W. Covell assistant county auditor, W. R. O'Shaughnessy clerk of the Board of County Commissioners, Dr. F. J. Wearne county physician, Dr. W. S. White assistant county physician and Patrick Ford county poor agent.

O'Keefe's List Wins.

O'Keefe then presented his list, which includes J. Henry Oest as superintendent of the county hospital at a salary of \$75 per month, Mrs. J. H. Oest as matron at \$25, Thomas O'Connor as county agent at the county store, \$75; Dr. Lee Van Camp, county doctor, \$150; Peter O'Malley, county auditor, \$122.50; Dr. W. S. White, South Omaha, assistant county doctor, \$50. Mr. and Mrs. Oest were to serve after April 1, the others from the present date. O'Keefe moved the adoption and Ostrom seconded. Harte voted with them and the motion carried.

When Connolly arose to vote on O'Keefe's list he said: "I have no objection to any of the names in that list. They are all good men and I think they are qualified. My objection is to the manner in which they are securing their jobs. As democrats I don't see how one of them can take

his position at the hands of two republicans and only one democrat.

"They'll be very apt to do it, though," remarked O'Keefe good-naturedly. "Yes, I suppose they will," assented the defeated member. Hofeldt maintained his usual silence and the republican members sat back as interested spectators.

O'Keefe's list makes no mention of an assistant auditor, which leaves the present incumbent, Halfdan Jacobsen, in that office until a change is specifically provided for by resolution. All on the list are democrats and Peter O'Malley was on Connolly's list, being the one democrat on whom both factions of the democracy could agree. The republican members could not, however, have made capital of the split, and so decided to vote with O'Keefe, partly because of his evident desire to co-operate harmoniously in things not political and partly because his nominees are in some instances those now in office and known to be qualified.

The adjournment taken was until next Saturday morning, but before it was announced O'Keefe served notice that he is preparing to wage war on the tax department, explaining that a visit made Friday by all members of the board except Connolly had convinced him that the set of duplicate tax books has brought a useless expenditure. He says that it has been claimed that the four extra men in that department were necessary to keep up these books, but that he finds they have not been kept up, and that the money paid for the volumes, each of which cost about \$15, and nine or ten of which were purchased each year, has been, like the superfluous salaries, a waste of county money.

FIGURING ON AUDITORIUM

Contractors Preparing to Submit Proposals for Construction of Big Building.

Contractors are beginning to make estimates on the Auditorium and the proposals are that by February 19, the day the proposals close, there will be at least a dozen bids submitted for some of the contracts.

As a rule the contractors do not like the form in which the specifications are prepared. It requires them to make bids on the different classes of work, while some of them prefer to bid for the whole work and either do it themselves or sub-let it. One of the contractors said:

"I believe that the company will find out, when it is too late, that the separation of the contracts will be more expensive than it would have been to let the contract to one bidder who would give bonds to complete the entire structure. If there is more than one principal contractor on the work it will be found that there are many little things overlooked which will have to be done at extra expense to the company, which, under a blanket contract, would have to be done by the builder at his own expense."

There will be two or three bids for the whole work, the contractors figuring on each separate specification, while many will figure on parts of the work. At this time several of the painters and glaziers have made estimates and one or two roofers are ready to submit bids. None of the masons or structural iron men have completed plans so far as known, but there remains nearly three weeks in which the figures may be prepared.

CITY ENGINEER'S EXPENSES

Number of People Employed and Salaries Paid in His Office.

WORK TO KEEP ALL HANDS EMPLOYED

Some Account of Duties Performed and Services Rendered Public by This Department of City Administration.

OMAHA, Feb. 1.—To the Editor of The Bee: You ask me who are the fifteen persons employed in the engineering department and what they do? The following is a list with the work they are employed to do and the salaries paid:

- Andrew Rosewater, city engineer, \$208.33
George W. Craig, assistant engineer, 150.00
E. T. Peterson, tax levy clerk, 50.00
Mathew Hughes, permit clerk, 50.00
Mrs. C. E. Perkins, stenographer, 75.00
W. B. Johnson, computer, 75.00
Thomas W. Jaycox, assistant computer, 60.00
James McDonald, draughtsman, 80.00
Leon Coulter, draughtsman, 60.00
Charles Logasa, draughtsman, 60.00
M. J. Lacey, field engineer, 50.00
Edward Evonabus, field engineer, 50.00
George W. Roberts, engineer sewer connections, with horse and wagon, 95.00
William Donahue, rodman, with horse and wagon, 85.00
Frank Sevranow, rodman, 60.00
H. J. Cathron, axeman, 50.00

As to what is done and what is being accomplished in this department: The department maintains a record on a large scale of every square mile of the city in square one-fourth section plats on which every change is shown in the nature of special allotments and subdivision streets condemned, where widened, and located, and with all dimensions for ready reference at all times.

Before any street is paved or repaved the district is created for paving or repaving, is platted and all preliminary data prepared for petitioners. Then surveys are made, cross-sections taken and details showing cross-sections of streets, connections of sewers, etc., estimate of material required as the basis for bids of contractors.

When the work is ordered all these details are laid out, grade and line stakes set for the workmen. When a contract is completed new plans and details are prepared, with estimates and plats of property subdivisions showing ownership for preparation of tax levies, and tax levy ordinances are also prepared.

One branch of the service is kept constantly busy preparing permits and detail data for house sewer connections to be made at places all over the city, and one field engineer and helper are engaged on all such sewer connections. After the work is done plats showing all details are prepared by the permit department for permanent record.

Other Work of Department.

Aside from this work one to two persons are kept busy throughout the day showing records, plats and data to citizens and people who contemplate building. Then men are constantly employed preparing data for plans for work from three months to one year ahead for contemplated sewerage and other construction. During the last year surveys, plans, estimates and descriptions were made of the sewerage of what is known as the Walnut

Hill and Clinton Hill territories. The description of properties necessary to be condemned, which will cover fifty pages of typewritten matter, are just being completed, and with this ordinance providing for condemnation of ground necessary will be needed. After these ordinances are passed plans for the work and ordinances describing in detail all the contemplated work will have to be drawn and submitted for approval.

In addition to this, all engineering park work, which had heretofore been done by special men employed by the park board at an annual expense of from \$3,000 to \$5,000, was done by the engineering department without cost to them.

The petitions for all work asked to be done are submitted to the engineering department as to correctness and the ownership must be abstracted, levies of all work that is done, including the sidewalk work that is taxed against the property, are prepared by the engineering department. The stenographer employed in the engineering department does stenographic work for the Board of Public Works, as well as the building inspector, and at times is called upon by the legal department. It should be remembered that the department earns annually over \$2,000, which goes to the city treasurer, but is never credited to the engineering department, but goes into the general fund.

Among numerous other things the engineering department furnishes to the legal department photographs of sidewalks and streets whenever accidents are reported, with data and dates for future use.

The negotiations with the Union Pacific Railroad company for grounds required completing and revising extensive researches of records before being consummated. House numbers are furnished daily by the department to people upon call. I could enumerate pages of items showing what the engineering department does, but I think this sufficient. The fact that the work on the streets for paving was rushed through last year within less than two months not only shows the importance of preparation of plans, records and details long before or no such rapid construction could have been accomplished.

Work in Other Departments.

I might add that while employees of the department, as shown upon the pay roll, are each assigned to special services, these services are frequently called into requisition in other branches of the service, including the rodmen, who do compilation during and other work in the office.

During inclement weather the field engineers are employed in like service on the office records.

The records of the engineering department have been so perfected and are so maintained that information on any subject connected with the streets or public works of any nature, dating many years back can be obtained in a few moments.

In conclusion I would state that I should be very much pleased if a committee of the Commercial club and newspaper representatives and other heavy taxpayers would jointly call at the engineer's office to investigate what has been and is being done by the department for the city.

The \$5,000 a year allowance for the Board of Public Works includes the salaries of secretary and clerk, the street commissioner and the inspectors employed from time to time. It also includes the stationery used, telephone service and incidental expenses submitted in detail to the mayor and council.

ANDREW ROSEWATER.

ASSESSMENT SUIT BEGINS

Real Estate Exchange Petitions for Writ of Mandamus.

DEMANDS ANOTHER SITTING OF BOARD

Petitioners Court to Order Councilmen to Convene Again as Board of Equalization and Hear Complaints.

A deputy sheriff is serving notices upon the members of the city council informing them that William G. Shriver and George T. Morton, taxpayers of the city of Omaha, have filed application in the district court for a writ of mandamus to compel them to convene as a board of equalization for the purpose of equalizing the value of the personal property of the city of Omaha, especially the valuation of the property of the public service corporations.

James H. McIntosh, attorney for the tax committee of the Real Estate exchange, which is represented by Mr. Shriver and Mr. Morton, has prepared a petition for a writ of mandamus. In it the relators set up that they are the owners of certain specific real estate; that the Omaha Street Railway company, the Omaha Water company, the Omaha Gas company, the Nebraska Telephone company and the New Omaha Thomson-Houston Electric Light company are public service corporations and that it is their duty to furnish to the city assessor and tax commissioner between September 15 and November 15 a full, true, complete, detailed, itemized list or statement of all their property and franchises in the city of Omaha and the value thereof. The complaint further recites that the companies failed and refused to file such statements as contemplated by law; that from the partial and incomplete lists presented the tax commissioner assessed the value of the property of the said corporations as follows: Street railway company, \$550,000; water company, \$775,000; gas company, \$400,000; telephone company, \$100,000; electric light company, \$117,000. But that in said assessments the value of franchises was not considered except in the case of the lighting company, which had made a partial report on its value.

Value of Franchises.

The relators then allege that the values of the franchises are as follows: Street railway company, \$4,000,000; water company, \$1,000,000; gas company, \$1,000,000; telephone company, \$1,000,000; electric light company, \$140,000, and that the value of the personal property of the said companies September 1, 1901, was: Street railway company, \$1,500,000; water company, \$3,000,000; gas company, \$1,150,000; telephone company, \$500,000; electric light company, \$900,000.

The complaint then relates the events which took place at the meeting of the Board of Equalization, which, after fixing a time for hearing the complaints of the relators, adjourned before the hour for such hearing arrived, and states that in the complaint which would have then been presented for hearing the board would have been asked to fix the value of the property for the purpose of taxation at 40 per cent of its actual value, as all other property

in the city is supposed to be assessed; that is to say, street railway company, \$2,200,000; water company, \$1,200,000; gas company, \$1,700,000; telephone company, \$520,000; electric light company, \$300,000.

In the complaint the total assessed valuation of the property of the city is said to be \$35,902,055, which would be increased to \$39,490,245 should the public service corporations be taxed at the rate announced for all property, thus permitting a lower levy and reducing the taxes to be paid by the complainants and all other property owners similarly situated about 10 per cent.

The complaint closes with a prayer for an order of court to compel the council to reconvene as a board of equalization and to fix a time for hearing the complaints of the relators, and to then fix the value of the property and the franchises of the public service corporations at 40 per cent of their real value for the purpose of taxation.

WANTS CLUB TO KEEP OUT

One Member Who Protests Against Commercial Club Discussing Land Leases.

The report that the subject of leasing the public lands in the state of Nebraska is to be brought up at the next meeting of the Commercial club created considerable interest, especially among those who are satisfied with the existing condition of affairs. One of the persons thus interested entered a protest with the secretary of the club to such a discussion, saying that at the present time the cattle raisers and sheep holders in the western part of the state have reached an amicable agreement and are in better shape than ever before. This man is considerably interested in cattle and sheep paper and deprecates anything which will cause uneasiness in this connection.

By his remarks in The Bee Friday C. D. Thompson does not desire to be understood as favoring any special plan of action on the part of the club at this time, but only desires that body to inform itself as to the conditions which exist and to formulate a plan which, if adopted, would be of the greatest advantage to the state and the city.

It is said that the promoters of the irrigation proposition do not desire to have the question of leasing the land discussed at this time, believing that such discussion will tend to produce discord in the ranks of the friends of irrigation or will attract the attention of the people from what they believe to be the most important phase of the question of the development of the west. It is stated by some of these champions that out of the entire 13,000,000 acres of government land in Nebraska not more than 2,000,000 can be irrigated under any plan which may be adopted by the government, as the irrigation of the remaining 11,000,000 acres would be too expensive to be undertaken at this time.

Shooting for Grand Prix.

MONTE CARLO, Feb. 1.—In the second day's shooting for the grand prix a strong east wind spoiled the scoring, cables the correspondent of the New York Herald. The score of the day stood 142 kills to 125 misses, but owing to the shortness of the cables the fielders did not have matters all their own way. No fewer than sixty-five misses occurred in the shooting round and sixty more zeros were recorded in the second round. The man who wrote it most favorably at present are Woodbaker and Hand Marach.

UNION MACHINISTS RETURN

Union Pacific Reinstates Eight of Eleven Discharged Employes.

LIKE NUMBER OF NEW MEN LET OUT

Move May Have Been Attempt to Test Strength of Union-Locomotive Tampering Story Decried as False.

Trouble brewing between the Union Pacific and the machinists has been settled by the reinstatement of eight of the eleven men discharged from the shops last Saturday. Eight others, the newest men on the force, have been let out instead. The other three of the first eleven were also new men, so were not taken back.

The eight who were again employed include the four officers of the union, who were discharged, and four other prominent union men, all eight being old workmen at the shops. They returned to their tasks yesterday morning. The substitute eight were let out Friday night at the end of the day's work.

What started the trouble was not the fact that eleven men were let out, which would have been nothing startling, but that four of the eleven were officers of the union and four more were prominent members. The precedent has been that when a reduction of the working force is made the man last to join is the first to go. This was violated, only three of the eleven being newcomers at the shops. Had the entire eleven been from the names last put on the pay roll the machinists would have accepted the explanation of "slack work" in good faith.

Another theory is that the action of the railroad was merely a "bluff" made for the purpose of learning whether the union could be intimidated. When it was found that the union took up the bluff the railroad took water, it is said, and then covered its tracks by letting out eight more men to keep up the "slack work" excuse.

Regarding the statement that the tampering with non-union-made Baldwin locomotives by union men had anything to do with the matter, Master Mechanic Barnum spoke plainly. He said: "There is not a vestige of truth in that Baldwin locomotive story. The man who wrote it must have dreamed it. It is a dream."

CHANGES IN CLERK'S OFFICE

Mr. Broadwell Disposes with Services of Two Typewriter Operators.

Miss Leona Groves and Mrs. Anna O'Shaughnessy, typewriter operators, have been released from the office of the clerk of the district court. The appointment of an assistant cost clerk has not been made by Clerk Broadwell as yet, but it is hinted that Andrew Gallagher of the regular force may be made a second deputy. Under Deputy John Grossman, to attend to costs and collections, Asel Steere, Jr., the retiring deputy, has resumed law practice, but will be a daily visitor at the clerk's office for some time yet to assist when needed in the busier hours of the morning. The clerical force in the office remains the same as heretofore except for the changes mentioned above.