

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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CORRESPONDENCE. No danger that the sinners in the city hall and court house will go on a strike.

Ak-Sar-Ben's dates for 1904 are already fixed. Mark them down with red ink on your calendar.

The taxpayers want the mayor and council, the police commission and the school board to slow up a little.

Russia must prove that its fence of infantry is of more enduring stuff than Weyler's trenches of barbed wire.

Chalmers Huntington says provisions are higher and the pie-bits will not allow him to reduce their rations.

Japan seems to be as effective in destroying the power of Koreans who favor Russia as in demolishing battleships.

The present situation in Great Britain is one in which the Irish Parliamentary party can play the game of "heads I win, tails you lose."

It is always easier to expand public expenditures than to contract. It is always easier to increase public salaries than to reduce them.

Instead of traveling in "royal style" Emperor William is going in for comfort and will take his trip to the Mediterranean in a regular liner.

With Tom Hector as their candidate for mayor, the democrats of South Omaha are headed for Retrenchment and Reform, with two big Ra.

The Crawford county system, as manipulated by the democrats of South Omaha, works very much like the famous machine that turned in dogs and turned out sausages.

Omaha has just experienced the heaviest fog in its history. It is to be noted, however, that the city broke through to bright daylight on very short meter.

An Omaha man has set up a claim to have been the discoverer of radium. Omaha has never been short of self-confident claimants for all the high honors in sight or prospective.

Very few senators can stand up against a charge of favoring their own homes regardless of justice. It is probable that if they would attempt such a course there would be a change of senators.

Mr. Schwab's dislike for American reporters is as natural as it is sincere. Publicity has had much to do with squeezing the water from many stocks and Mr. Schwab was nearly drowned in the flood.

Perhaps Mr. Bryan may regret that his recent visit was not with Mr. Murphy, rather than Mr. McClellan. Had that presidential stock seems to be lower than before the Hoffman house conference.

If American traders who want the United States to settle the trouble in San Domingo would prepare to foot the bills resulting from such action the government might look upon their demands with greater favor.

The museum in the Omaha public library has acquired a case of stuffed birds through the generosity of one of our public-spirited citizens. Some of the rare old birds of which the city boasts may soon have a look and see what they are coming to.

It must not be forgotten that in addition to the tax levy imposed for the year the city is piling up a debt of nearly \$100,000 a year for hydrant rentals and water supply, which is being converted into judgments that bear big rates of interest and will have to be paid sooner or later. Had not the authority to impose a tax for this purpose been repealed, another mill would have had to be added to the levy.

NO AMERICAN INTERVENTION.

The suggestion that comes from the consul general of the United States at St. Petersburg, that this country may ere long find an opportunity to intervene in the far eastern war and thus do Russia a good turn and benefit itself and the world at large, is not likely to find much favorable response here.

Our government might be placed in a different position were it to undertake intervention. It is conceivable that that might draw it into complications. However, neither of the belligerent nations is looking forward to intervention and the war must become vastly more destructive before either of them would seriously consider a proposal of mediation or intervention.

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men in the new Jackson street engine house will let them handle the new apparatus?

The fire chief is quoted as saying that the Harney street engine house must be kept up because it is in the neighborhood of two of the largest hotels. Do they maintain engine houses next to every hotel in Chicago, New York and other large cities?

Perhaps the mayor and council may not be aware of the fact that other cities cut their garments according to their cloth. The city of St. Joseph, for example, claims a census population several hundred greater than Omaha.

It turns out that the new Cuban tariff is not altogether satisfactory to American exporters, who think they suffer under discriminations by it.

The names of the members of the new Panama commission will be sent to the senate today and undoubtedly they will be prompt confirmation.

The fact that Omaha's new federal building has just been completed and formally turned over to the government fifteen years after congress made the first appropriation for its site and construction should lend encouragement to other cities having public buildings under way.

That federal judgeship for the northern district of Iowa has been held vacant altogether too long. While the judicial business may not suffer seriously, the accumulation of an unearned salary in the treasury at Washington is liable to increase the surplus to the danger point.

When the fact is recalled that kiting is unknown among the Japanese their attempt to "Hobsonize" Port Arthur was a double folly.

Let the Japs take warning. Old General Klumb, the celebrated Colonel Dragoo, and the redoubtable Major Blomfield are on their way to the front with blood in their eyes.

It is to be remembered that the distinguished novelist now at the seat of war have not yet described the first battle that was fought. When they do make connections with the events of the day there will be something fearful and wonderful in the way of language.

The question of whether the sword of officers of infantry shall be abandoned has been taken up by the general staff of the army. It is regarded by most officers as a useless ornament and an impediment on the march.

The action of The Hague tribunal in imposing upon the United States the duty of carrying out its decision in regard to the claims against Venezuela has been somewhat sharply criticized.

WHERE WAR RAGES.

Colonel Sir Howard Vincent, M. P., a writer on military subjects, discusses some phases of the organization of the Russian army in the United States Magazine of Great Britain. "In marching," he says, "the Russian infantry has absolutely no equal."

The Russian does not yield to the Italian in his love for dancing and fun. They sing every inch of the way and often a dancer will step in front of his company and by every carved stick and the dancing round.

"It is in mounted infantry work that the world militaria is now hurriedly following the ancient lead of Russia. Wholly apart from the sixteen regiments, with ninety-six squadrons, of Cossacks, the finest mounted infantry in the world, equally good on horse or on foot, dare-devils to whom riding and horsemanship are as much second nature as their own arms."

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Gossip About Places and People in Battle Army.

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DRIFT-BURDENED EUROPE.

Philadelphia Press. Now, as during the corresponding crisis during the Spanish war, the danger before the financial world comes from the enormous increase in the past decade of public debts. The United States in the last ten years has added little to its total public debt, federal, state and local.

European financial centers have made comparatively few additions to the capital stock of new enterprises. South African mines have been exploited and expanded in that period, but their total is not a third of our trusts alone.

This has gone on all over Europe. Even England has had to add heavily to its debt to pay for the war, and in five years has swollen its great debt by the amount of its local debt in the past twenty years is nearly as large as the entire local debt in the United States, and we kick about the size of that all the time.

The development of life insurance in the United States goes on apace among the companies devoted to this form of business, in spite of the competing efforts of benevolent organizations that make insurance a specialty.

Admiral Togo, chief active commander of the Japanese navy, is about 70 years of age. He is not of princely or noble birth, but is a simple gentleman, a Samurai of the great Satsuma clan, as so many of his fellow officers are.

Admiral Togo received a great part of his education at the Naval College, Greenwich, England, where he went through the regular course of instruction current some thirty-odd years ago.

The Japanese and Russian armies were facing each other for the first time. With the break of dawn a deadly battle. The stillness of the night was suddenly shattered by a most astounding series of flashes, and a hot rain of bullets from the Russian camp.

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Supremacy of Nebraska Butter Tested by Long Years.

Chicago Inter Ocean. A jar of butter placed in the spring of a Nebraska farm fifty years ago slipped from a ledge, sank into the sandy bottom of the well and was lost. Recently a party of hunters resurrected the buried jar and found the butter to be as sweet as the day it was churned.

A small quantity of the butter has been received by the widow of the man who owned the Nebraska farm half a century ago, Mrs. Decatur of San Diego, Cal., and some of the remainder, having been put into cold storage, will probably be exhibited at the St. Louis World's fair as the oldest butter known to be in existence.

And in imagination also one can hear the veteran boarder from Omaha offering odds of 10 to 1 with the star boarder from Memphis that he found the hairs of a man's long eyelid in the butter Mrs. Harris served yesterday.

It is unfortunate that the fifty-year-old jar of butter should be discovered on the heels of the announcement that we have been eating chickens and eggs of the first and Colombian exhibition period all winter. It will simply have the effect of making life harder for the St. Louis boarding house keepers, who must be outwardly calm while boarders recite in all the accents of a cosmopolitan population.

The world production of copper is now a little less than 600,000 tons a year, and the United States supplies about 55 per cent of it. Twenty-five years ago our annual output approximated 25,000 tons.

Wearily Willie—What's your idea on pensions? Dusty Rhodes—Well, I think every man who hasn't worked for twenty years ought to have one.—New York Sun.

Real Estate Agent—You really ought to buy the house. Now, if you and your wife will only discuss the matter thoroughly.—Penny—But I've noticed that the man and his wife never discuss things; the most we can ever do is dispute about them.—Philadelphia Press.

Mr. Goodfellow—I'm surprised at you. Don't you believe that honesty pays, in the long run? Mr. Skinner—Oh, yes; but I'm short-winded.—Town Topics.

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THIS COUNTRY'S COPPER BUSINESS.

Producer and Consumer of One-Half the World's Output.

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Twenty-five years ago our annual output approximated 25,000 tons. The production for 1901 is estimated at nearly 350,000 tons.

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WYLLIE'S PATENT. Nothing like it for cooking. Nut, \$6.00; Lump, \$6.50. Double screened. Best coal mined in Wyoming. Telephone 127 Victor White Coal Co. 1605 Farnam.