

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION...

THE POLICY OF FAIR DEALING. It is an unfortunate fact, very generally recognized, that fair dealing between railroad managers is the exception rather than the rule.

IN VIEW OF THIS there is great force in the declaration of President Roosevelt, made in his Philadelphia address, that "it is in the interest of the conscientious and public-spirited railway man that there should be such governmental supervision of the railway traffic of the country as to require from his less scrupulous competitors, and from unscrupulous big shippers as well, that he should to the public welfare which he himself would willingly give, and which is of vital consequence to the small shipper."

THE RAILWAY MEN OF THE COUNTRY generally were earnestly in sympathy with this view of President Spencer of the Southern railway there would be no difficulty in solving the problem that confronts the country and is recognized on all hands as the most serious question for the determination of the federal government.

EXPLANATIONS ARE IN ORDER. Two vital amendments to the Dodge water bill were offered in the house before the passage of that measure. One provided that the water board should not be allowed to draw salaries or perquisites, or make expenditure out of the water fund before the city shall have acquired the water works—the other that the board be forbidden to renew, modify or extend the existing contract between the city and the water company without first submitting the proposition to a vote of the people for ratification.

IT IS A MATTER OF NOTORIETY that the water company was in accord with Mr. Howell in his attempt to force the purchase of the works by compulsory legislation. It is a matter of notoriety that the capitalists who have a controlling interest in the street railway company are also largely interested in the water company.

IT WAS ALLEGED that General Grippenburgh will retire from the command of Russian forces in the orient, but if the present death rate is maintained for any considerable time the army will beat him into retirement.

ADMIRAL BOTROVSKY should send notice of his intention to join the squadron of Admiral Rojestvensky several days in advance if he wants to make sure that his squadron is not mistaken for part of the Japanese navy.

TEXAS HAS DECIDED to make the marriage of divorced persons difficult in that state. And yet there are people who will not admit that the Lone Star state has improved much from the description given by a distinguished army officer.

THE WORLD-HERALD has not yet taken back its double-shotted demand upon Governor Mickey to endorse Governor Folk's rules for the guidance of professional lobbyists, which Governor Folk now denies having pronounced.

SOME AMERICANS familiar with political discussion in this country will be surprised to hear that one reason Germany is considering the purchase of the coal mines is for the purpose of combating socialism. Over here advocacy of government ownership of coal mines brings down at once denunciation of the advocate as a socialist.

MEETING. Mr. Dodge takes it for granted that all Omaha favors the pernicious measure, when, in fact, the overwhelming majority of our citizens are against it. The mere fact that people who are opposed have not rushed to Lincoln at their own expense in way-below-weather, while the members of the board and the would-be \$10,000 water commissioner, who travel mostly on passes, have camped at the capital, affords no proof that the bill is in harmony with popular sentiment.

EQUALITY IN RATES. President Roosevelt is a good friend to the railroads. He has just called their attention to the fact that it costs no more to haul a poor man's freight than a rich man's, and that the rates ought to be equal.

GRAFT'S LAST PROP GONE. The supreme court has declined to interfere in the case of Maches, Lorenz and Graft, and the three postoffice "grafters" must now take their medicine from the mills of the gods turn out a highly satisfactory graft.

DEGREES OF WIFELY SELF-SACRIFICE. Just what degree of self-sacrifice a husband may rightfully demand of his wife has never, it is believed, been definitely determined by the courts. The matter is rather a delicate one and standards have been changing rapidly of late years.

MAKING MILLIONS IN A DAY. The amazing statement was made before the City club of New York recently that the Edison company, which has acquired all the companies which entered into the Consolidated Gas company of New York in 1884 was \$17,000,000 on the same day of the consolidation this capital was raised to \$60,000,000, although no capital was contributed by the Edison company.

A MATTER OF RULES. Contrasts in the Methods of the Two Houses of Congress. Each senator is a powerful factor in legislation. "One senator, under the rules of the senate, is equal to the whole house of representatives."

TIPS FROM THE WATER LOGGED. Western irrigation enthusiasts might receive some valuable information by consulting certain successful Wall street operators.

SPECULATION LINKED WITH BUSINESS. Somebody should call Mr. Rockefeller's attention now to the fact that nothing will settle the dust along his railway tracks so well as a liberal sprinkling of oil.

HIGH ROAD TO POPULARITY. Nobody would for a moment hurry the government, but if the supreme court could be induced to hand out a light slap to the coal trust it would be appreciated about now.

A FORGOTTEN PARTY. Somebody has proposed that the Nebraska legislature shall pass a law providing for an eight-hour day for the hand organ monkey, but nobody thinks of the farm hands.

TAKES HOLD OF THE RIGHT END. President Roosevelt desires congress to empower the director of the census to collect data concerning divorce that can be used as a basis for general and uniform legislation. In the states, under his supervision of matrimonial bonds shall be less

oasily obtainable. The president, as usual, takes hold of the right end of the stick. First find out the prevalence of an abuse, and the causes thereof, then be prepared to provide an intelligent remedy.

BURNING WORDS PUT OUT. A man may, and probably sometimes does, think strongly when trying to talk through a telephone, but there are ten good reasons, lately supplied by the courts, why he should keep his violent thoughts to himself.

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TWO SALARIES BETTER THAN ONE. The republic of Panama naturally objects to the consolidation of the offices of United States minister and governor of the canal zone. In a country like that there cannot be too many office holders when somebody else pays the bills in genuine money.

LONG, TEDIOUS WAIT. If the Russians are to wait for General Kouropatkin to win a victory before considering peace negotiations, as reported from St. Petersburg, it looks as though they would have a long time to wait. And if General Kouropatkin wins a victory there would be a good chance for him to repeat his success, in which case the Russians would be well pleased to see the Japanese sued for it. So far there has been no indication that Japan will be forced to take that course.

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OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

BOTH HUNGARY AND AUSTRIA are mosaic of population differing in religion and in race of which no one element is or can become predominant and the inescapable logic of facts will eventually compel the acceptance of the compromise which the Ausgleich represents.

IT REQUIRES expert knowledge to trace the distinctness between the German parties and factions. The following parties voted at the elections in 1903: The conservatives, free conservatives or imperialists, clericals or centre, national liberals, anti-socialists, who are divided into numerous small groups, league of agriculturists, moderate liberals, radicals, southern German democrats, Guelphs, Poles, Bavarian agriculturists, Alsace-Lorrainers, Danes, the social democrats.

THE PERSISTENT reports of Italian anxiety over the movements of Austrian troops upon the frontier seem to be the work of mischief-makers and one or two Vienna newspapers. They were started some time ago, soon after a correspondent of the London Times writing from Vienna denounced them as moonshine, and ridiculed the notion of the Italian government paying any attention to them.

THE CORN SPECIAL or "gospel" trains which many of the western railroads are preparing to send out this spring are another evidence of the increasing interest in scientific agriculture among those most directly affected—the farmers. It is the corn special train, which first ran in Iowa, probably will visit every corn raising state in the middle west during this coming spring or the next.

ARMENIA'S MISFORTUNE is that it is behind Turkey. If it were in front of Turkey it would get as much attention from Europe as Bulgaria, Macedonia, Bosnia, Herzegovina and Roumania have received. Armenia has no ports that European men-of-war can approach, and it is one of the European countries except Russia, and Russian sympathies are aroused only by the sufferings of members of the Greek church, while there are few foreign witnesses of the Armenian troubles which are not less in Armenia than they were in Bulgaria, when in 1876 they aroused the whole civilized world and precipitated the Russian war.

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POLITICAL DRIFT.

NEW YORK CITY'S salary roll for 1905 foots up \$1,000,000. Bigness comes high, but Omaha has that the price of the meat.

THE NEW SENATOR from Oregon, Samuel H. Piles, at one time worked in a logging camp, acquiring practical knowledge of log-rolling. A mighty handy accomplishment in his present line.

THE GOVERNOR of Kansas has accused the chaplain of the lower house of the Kansas legislature of stealing a prayer from the paragraphs in the governor's newspaper. The chaplain prayed: "There is so much in the word of God, and so much good in the word of God, that I have believed any of us to talk about the rest of us."

THE GOVERNOR says he thought that a very neat bit of phrasing up, and printed it more than a year ago, and naturally he wants credit for it.

THE GOVERNOR Higgins of New York and the majority leaders in the New York legislature are considering a state tax scheme which, if made operative, will unquestionably result in greatly increasing state revenues. The proposal is to levy a tax of 2 cents on all transfers in stock transactions.

THE GOVERNOR of Minnesota has refused to accept the fees of his office, which in the past have amounted to over \$15,000 a year. Mr. O'Brien has informed Governor Johnson that he does not believe the law which allows the commissioner of agriculture and clerk hire contemplated his taking fees. He is of the opinion that the fees belong to the state and will turn them into the state treasury.

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Fifty Years the Standard. CREAM POWDER. Made from pure cream of tartar derived from grapes.

Multiplying, and they are filled with earnest students. The special gospel trains which bring the apostles of scientific agriculture are thronged with listeners.

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THE ROYAL MOTOR CAR CO. NO BETTER CAR AT ANY PRICE. EXAMINE IT CAREFULLY AT THE CHICAGO SHOW. Feb. 4th to 11th. Stands 33-34-35. COAL WOOD COKE KINDLING. We sell the best Ohio Cooking Coal—clean, hot, lasting. Rock Springs, Hanna, Sheridan, Walnut Block, Steam Coal.