

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily Bee (without Sunday), one year, \$4.00...

THE SATION AS A COLLECTOR.

How far the United States can wisely go in assisting the foreign creditors of the independent countries of this hemisphere in securing the payment of what is due them is a question of very grave importance.

In a speech in the senate a few days ago regarding the Dominican policy of the administration, Mr. Lodge earnestly defended the course of the administration and said: "We have not allowed others to interfere, and rightly, but we cannot justly shirk our responsibilities."

It is most probable that they would change their mind if the United States should adopt the policy urged by Senator Lodge. They would doubtless conclude that with this nation taking upon itself the responsibility of seeing that the southern republics pay their debts they could safely renew their demands for payment and through their governments press them with all possible vigor.

The month of March is starting out all right. It will not be a safe gamble, however, to stake a wager on its ending. Dr. Osler now declares that his language was misconstrued, but he is certainly willing to admit that he has been well advertised.

Wonder if the Omaha firemen who have been agitating for a two-shift plan could not be persuaded to content themselves with a social hour at the Omaha High school.

Now that Kansas has passed the anti-discrimination bill other states may prepare to make up to the Standard Oil company any money it may lose in the Sunflower state.

Senator Bailey says that he is willing to wait until the senate and house agree on a statehood bill. The gentleman from Texas is evidently in no hurry to go to his final reward.

The forty days for the incubation of new bills have expired. The remainder of the session of Nebraska solons will be given over to selecting out of the brood those that are destined to avoid the axe.

Rider Haggard has reached the United States. Entertaining interviewers should secure an idea of his "Impressions of America" at once before the impression is eradicated by contact with the real thing.

Those who complain of the lack of musical talent in the west should remember that the work is young. The man who organized the first symphony orchestra west of Pittsburg has just died at St. Louis.

Candidate Niedringhaus in Missouri says he will favor the election of Major Warner to the United States senate when that gentleman secures forty-five votes in the joint assembly. Is this a challenge or promise?

Japanese cavalry raids are showing that the "little brown men" take as readily to the horse as to other western innovations; but that they are capable of successfully opposing the Cossacks is yet to be demonstrated.

The announcement already of a candidacy for the county judgeship, which is to be awarded next fall, indicates a lack of confidence in the scheme to extend the terms of the present incumbents by abolishing off-year elections.

Nebraska sympathizers with Colorado in its contest over the governorship, Nebraska had a gubernatorial contest of its own fourteen years ago, when it took the supreme court of the United States to tell which governor was entitled to the seat.

While no report of the interview between General Stoessel and the czar has been published it probably varied a little from what the governor of North Carolina is alleged to have said on a famous occasion to the governor of South Carolina.

The demand by the sons of Italy that October 12 be made a legal holiday in honor of Christopher Columbus should be matched at once by the sons of Erin with a demand on behalf of St. Patrick's day. According to the almanac, St. Patrick's day comes first, anyway.

The attorney general of Kansas wants it to be understood that he has no fight with anything less than the parent organization when he goes after oil companies. No wonder he resents the imputation that he has fled suit against the Kansas auxiliary of the Standard

Oil company. The essential purpose of the constitution might be defeated or seriously impaired by a too strict and literal construction in applying its mandates to conditions which were not and could not be foreseen.

The proposed investigation of the "Tobacco trust" will not be inaugurated by the present congress, as the Department of Commerce and Labor will be busy with the "Steel trust" and "Oil trust" this summer.

Former Comptroller of the Currency Eckles complains that this is a time of clamor rather than of thinking. The distinguished defender of secret rebates must concede that as long as the people only think there is little damage done special interests and that action seldom takes place without some noise following the thinking.

One member of the Colorado investigating committee has reached the conclusion that there was no valid election of governor in that state last November. That might be an easy way out of it, but the trouble is that declaring it a dead heat might only raise up another set of competing claimants.

WORKING THE SWEET TOOTH.

The sugar trust never loses its presence of mind. Whenever it hears the hue and cry in some other direction it takes advantage of the occasion and tacks on a little addition to the price of its product.

Royal Consideration. In view of the decision by the international commission in the North sea case, the least the czar can do will be to give England an order against the trawlers, but those sunken warships to make good the damage done to that fleet or trawlers.

May It Please the Court. Judge Groscup of the United States circuit court, Chicago, whose injunctions have made him famous, has himself, as a capitalist and promoter, been enjoined. The injunction is a double-edged legal weapon which has no fears of being fired for contents of court.

Sustained by the Highest Court. Twice within two weeks the United States supreme court has upheld the validity of sweeping state anti-trust laws. The Texas law is pronounced constitutional, following a similar judgment as to the Kansas anti-trust law.

A Coming Tug of War. If the Hon. Robert Marion La Follette of Wisconsin comes into full possession of all the rights, privileges and perquisites attached to the office of senator, may he in his initial appearance in the senate of the United States, and the Hon. John C. Spooner retains all of his rights, privileges and perquisites, the proceedings attendant upon the confirmation of the nomination of the Hon. Joseph Taylor to the United States judge for the eastern district of Wisconsin will resemble a tug-of-war. They will be exceedingly interesting to all onlookers.

DAYS OF WRATH FOR TRUSTS. Determination to Rid the Country of Evil Fungus. As objects of respect and depreciation, we now have the Oil trust, the Beer trust, the Fruit trust, the Salt trust, the Copper trust, the Tobacco trust and the Corporation trust in the United States senate.

SELF-REFORM BY RAILROADS. Abuses the Managers Could Eradicate, but They Don't. Senator Depew took occasion the other night, in the course of some remarks at a political dinner, to honor, and to commend the activities of the Roosevelt administration in "putting the law on" the "trusts" and all the corporation "combinations" that have been and are violating the federal laws.

The local democratic organ that sold out last fall to oppose the voting of bonds to erect a municipal electric lighting plant capable of lighting all the public streets, parks and buildings is now boasting a scheme to install a miniature electric lighting plant in the city hall with capacity limited to the demands of that building and one or two adjoining public buildings. This is very much like swallowing a camel and choking at a goat.

The Grand Island Independent calls upon Representative Dodge to particularize with reference to the statement he is said to have made that the opposition to a bridge bill came from a county official who wanted to perpetuate "his graft." The Independent thinks that is pretty close to an accusation that some county officer has been profiting illegally by the distribution of bridge fund favors. Here is a chance for Mr. Dodge to make good.

There is no good reason why South Omaha politicians should get excited over the proposed consolidation bill which is pending at Lincoln. This bill in no way infringes upon the right of South Omaha to say yes or no whenever the annexation invitation may be extended. When the time comes, the

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Gossip About Inaugurations Past and Coming. The oath of office which President Roosevelt will subscribe to on Saturday is short and to the point, and reads as follows: "I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of president of the United States and to the best of my ability protect, preserve and defend the constitution of the United States."

At the close of the oath the president-elect bows his head and kisses the open pages of the book, and it is his customary for him or his wife or friend to select some appropriate passage at which the book shall be opened and the verse upon which he shall press his lips. Sometimes when those interested forget or neglect to choose a passage, the Bible is opened at random by the chief justice of the supreme court.

The verse that General Grant kissed at his second inauguration is found in the eleventh chapter of Isaiah, and reads as follows: "And the spirit of the Lord shall rest upon us; the spirit of wisdom and understanding; the spirit of counsel and might; the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord; and shall make him of quick understanding in the fear of the Lord."

President Hayes was sworn in twice. The first ceremony there was a great deal of political feeling growing out of a doubt of his election, and at one time it was feared that some hot-headed democrat might try to prevent his inauguration. To complicate matters, March 4 fell on Sunday, and as a precaution at noon of that day the oath was administered by Chief Justice Waite in the blue parlor of the White House.

At his second inauguration Mr. McKinley of the supreme court purchased a new Bible, opened it at random and offered it to the chief justice, who did not turn a page. After the Bible had been kissed the chief justice handed it to Mr. McKinley, who placed his finger as nearly as possible upon the spot where the president's lips had touched. It was an entirely accidental but very appropriate passage—the twentieth and twenty-first verses of the sixteenth chapter of Proverbs, which read as follows: "So he that handleth a matter wisely shall find good, and he who so trusteth in the Lord, happy is he."

So much for the solemn official function. Consider the inaugural ball. The ball dress of the chief lady of the land on that occasion will interest at least one-half of the grown people, and this is described by the New York World: "Mrs. Roosevelt will wear a gown made entirely of American materials and by a New York City modiste. The silk for the costume was woven in Paterson, N. J., and after enough had been made for Mrs. Roosevelt's dress the design was destroyed. Likewise the pattern used by the modiste was burned after the material was cut."

Although the gown will be extremely simple, the material alone cost \$1,000. It is an electric blue silk, with a design of golden ferns, and the neck is decorated with a row of blue and gold medallions. Both the waist and skirt are of the same electric blue. A golden thread is woven into the silk, and at night the lights in the ballroom will bring out the gleam of the gold, and the gown will change from blue to gold with each wave of the material. Slippers and stockings of the same silk will complete the costume, and Mrs. Roosevelt will wear a large electric blue feather in her hair.

More than 100 yards of chiffon and forty yards of taffeta were used by the dressmaker, and the costume is believed to be one of the handsomest gowns of its kind ever made. Miss Mary Fitzpatrick of 731 Lexington avenue is the modiste to whom the work of making the gown was intrusted. She has made Mrs. Roosevelt's dresses for ten years.

The gown is made after the empire style, the bodice being of the Louis XV design. At the shoulders a quantity of beautiful old lace which has been in Mrs. Roosevelt's family for several generations is used in trimming. The neck is cut square, with a collar of bluish chiffon across the front. The sleeves are plain frills of pleated chiffon.

About thirty yards of silk are used in the skirt, which has a train a trifle longer than regulation length. The skirt has a wide circular sweep, and is very full. From the girdle to the tip of the train is a stretch of seventy-eight inches. The lining is of the same shade. Twenty yards of taffeta and chiffon were used in the lining. There are rows of the pleated material half way up the girdle. A three-inch edge of daintily frilled chiffon is at the bottom.

Philadelphia Ledger. These rooms are all in the front of the hotel and the occupants will have an unobstructed view of the avenue as far as the capitol. The prices quoted are for five or six days' lodging, each of the persons named having accompanying guests.

Means of Relief from Corporate Tyranny and Exactions. New York's recent appropriation of \$600,000 for the purchase of a site and for beginning the construction of a municipal electric lighting plant for the boroughs of Manhattan and the Bronx is a concrete illustration of what American municipalities are being driven to by the greed and rapacity of the corporations which have combined to bleed the public.

It is perfectly clear that the reasons for the great growth of municipal ownership of public utility operations—the furnishing of light and water, street railways, etc.—are very different in Great Britain, for instance, from those actuating the American cities, which have moved in this direction. In Great Britain, almost without exception, municipal government is controlled not by the most vital and corrupt, but by the best element in the community.

It is a hopeful sign that American cities in increasing numbers are exerting themselves to escape from the senseless exactions of the monopolies which their own indifference and want of foresight in the past have placed in control of public utilities.

A movement has been started in Colorado Springs to honor the 10th anniversary of Lieutenant Zebulon Pike's discovery of Pike's Peak next year. The French supreme court has refused to recognize telephone girls as state officials. As a consequence they are threatening to ring off and answer no more calls.

The Indiana senate and house have passed a resolution authorizing the Harrison Monument association to place a monument to General Benjamin Harrison in the St. Clair park, Indianapolis. George Little is bartender in a hotel in Huntertown, Pa. He is also justice of the peace for Strahan township, superintendent of his Sunday school and a trustee of the Hunterstown Methodist Episcopal church.

President Oscar G. Murray of the Baltimore and Ohio road is said to pay his valet a larger salary than is received by any other "gentleman's gentleman" in the country. The man servant rules automatically over all matters coming within the domain of his office. Mr. Murray is a bachelor and the valet is understood to stand between his master and match-making mamma.

Philadelphia Ledger. Governor Higgins, four rooms, \$1,000. Charles Mackay, the telegraph cable owner, five rooms, \$1,000. Mrs. Kingdon, mother of Mrs. George Gould, five rooms, \$1,000. Mrs. Hobart, widow of the late Vice President Garret A. Hobart, three rooms, \$500. William Nelson Cromwell, counsel of the old Panama Canal company, four rooms, \$1,000.

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Improves the flavor and adds to the healthfulness of the food.

LAUGHING GAS. "Can you imagine anything more mortifying than to think of the clever retort you might have made?"

"A New York woman has published the love letters that her husband has written her, both in an awkward and a stilted style." "Are they as warm as that?"

"How can I tell," asked the Secker After Truth, "when a compliment is sincere?" "Wait," said the Philosopher of Polly, "and see if it is the prelude to a touch."

"Senator," she asked, "if a railroad magnate were to offer you a pass, would you accept it?" "My dear young lady! How can you suppose for a moment that I would think of doing such a thing? I want my pass sent to me without any preliminary offering that might make it necessary for me to indulge in appreciative remarks."

With amber drops of honey, blossoms bright, Brown nuts of forest trees, herbs plucked With dew's benighted, oh, satyr god, we Our rustic dyes, haunter of woodland ways.

With silver oak leaf, guardian of the hars, Protector of sheep folds, lover of fair Syrinx, ring us, great Pan! Our pants In this praise, god of flocks and shepherd King!

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Advertisement for Boys' Spring Suits, featuring an image of a suit and text: ADVANCE SALE OF Boys' Spring Suits, Left Over from Last Year. This morning at 9 o'clock you can make your selection from sailor blouse, sailor Norfolk, single and double breasted suits, Norfolk and three piece suits, just as good as ever and just as stylish, 2 1/2 to 16 years of age, that sold up to \$8.00, as long as they last for \$2.50. (30 spring overcoats worth from \$5 to \$10, same price). All hats left from our damaged sale, soft and stiff, will be sold Friday for \$1.00. \$2.00, \$2.50, \$3.00, \$3.50 qualities. Browning-King & Co. R. S. WILCOX, Mgr.