

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSHWATER, EDITOR.

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 31st day of March, 1905.

If the people of Seward had only waited until Governor Mickey got through they might have saved the expense of that banquet.

Since Paraguay proclaims its fear of the United States it may be in order to ask what mischief that South American republic has been doing.

It now appears that Emperor William's trip to the Mediterranean was more for the benefit of his country's health than of his own.

The remarks of the president at Louisville show that so far as the present chief executive is concerned sectional lines do not exist except as a memory without bitterness.

General Sakaroff's intimation that army officers and not civilians are responsible for defeats in Manchuria would indicate that Russians are not utterly round the power of education.

The promise of the Santa Fe to Kansas oil producers not to do it again is probably the best answer to Mr. Rogers' explanation that the Standard Oil company does not fatten on railroad rebates.

The president has shown his unqualified confidence in the men at the head of the Panama Canal commission by telling them in advance the size of the tip each is to receive in addition to his salary.

In deciding that there shall be no further mobilization of reserves at present the Russian war department gives strong evidence of its desire to keep the real fighting as far from St. Petersburg as possible.

When the New York insurance inspector completes his examination of the Equitable Life Assurance association's books people may learn how far the game of "frenzied finance" has been played.

Before taking the spring municipal elections are all nonpartisan struggles between reformers and grafters—after taking, they are all notable victories for the political party whose candidate happens to win out.

In filling the place formerly occupied by Dr. Oster, Johns Hopkins has found a man who is only 38 years old. Presumably this is by way of precaution against a too early requisition upon its chloroform stores.

H. Rider Haggard is visiting Colorado. If he cannot find material in that state for a novel which will equal his most lurid productions America will be forced to the conclusion that it is not as wild as it has been painted.

It is announced that the Omaha Woman's Club expects soon to hold "a social triumph." Whether this is to be on the order of the barbaric triumphs of the old Roman emperors or just a dainty pink tea is not specified.

Nebraska will be prominent in the construction of the Panama canal, notwithstanding the fact that up to date its most pretentious canal enterprises have been confined to the building of mill races and digging of irrigating ditches.

The republican nomination for congress to fill the vacancy in the First Nebraska district is considered as good as an election. That is why the content for the endorsement of the republican convention will create more interest than the election later.

Our Danish friends were satisfied to devote one day to the memory of Hans Christian Andersen, but our German compatriots propose to give four days to the memorial celebration in honor of Schiller. The Germans are bound to keep ahead of the Danes in astronomy.

ANOTHER "OPEN DOOR" ISSUE.

In the great commercial competition which the world is now experiencing the policy of the "open door" is becoming more and more prominent. It is being realized by all the commercial nations that the policy inaugurated by the United States in regard to China and adhered to by other countries is good for other parts of the world where there is trade to be had and that the principle is of very wide application.

The newest issue in regard to the "open door" in trade, and which is very naturally attracting a great deal of attention, is that created by the visit of the German emperor to Morocco, in which he took occasion to say that French assumption in regard to that country would not be permitted to militate against German trade interests there and that Germany was in favor of giving all nations an equal chance in the trade of Morocco.

That our government will sympathize with the position taken by Germany is not to be doubted. The demand of that country that Morocco shall give equal opportunities to all commercial nations in its markets, rather than permitting France to have complete control of those markets, is a demand in which this country can fully concur, but there is no reason to believe that it has taken or will take any action in the matter.

Up to the middle of last month there was withdrawn from national banks government deposits to the amount of \$25,000,000. Further withdrawals are said to be in contemplation to the extent of \$20,000,000. It is stated that the withdrawals already made had a noticeable effect in increasing the issue of bank currency, not because additional currency was needed, but because it tended to lower the price of the bonds released from security for the deposits and afford a slight profit in using them as the basis of new notes.

ANOTHER ERA OF TRANSFORMATION

In his brief career of fifty years Omaha has gone through several eras of transformation. The first was the initial metamorphosis that put a pioneer community on a river bank where previously there was nothing but a ferry landing.

The second was that which accompanied the completion of railway connection east and west and transformed a border outfitting station into a vigorous thriving city.

The third was that of the '80s, culminating in the boom period of the latter part of that decade, during which Omaha was transformed into a western metropolis with pretensions of the highest order.

The fourth era of transformation is now upon us. Omaha is now grown up to fit the clothes that were made for it during the boom days and is beginning an additional expansion to which it must accommodate itself by still further changes.

Unless all signs fail the present era of transformation will work greater and more important improvements in Omaha as a city than any which it has experienced in the past.

The railroads which are centering in Omaha are all adapting themselves to new methods of transportation, in the benefits of which Omaha should share.

The meat-packing industry is unquestionably in a transitional state, but whatever organization of these interests may result, Omaha is sure to retain and emphasize still further its importance as a chief factor in the buying and selling of live stock and preparing the animals for consumption.

The establishment of a grain exchange for Omaha is forcing a readjustment of the currents of grain traffic and opening the way for the development of great elevators and big milling plants at this point.

The transformation progress is equally visible in our factories and jobbing houses along other lines, while in retail trade the movement is so rapid that the advances can be seen almost from week to week.

So far as the external appearance of the city is concerned Omaha is on the brink of a building season, or more probably a succession of building seasons that will make even the permanent inhabitant look around for landmarks.

A casual survey of the city will disclose building projects already under way that when finished will completely change the landscape in almost every direction. Warehouses and store buildings, churches and schools, palatial residences and modest dwellings are all rising in profusion in the various sections of the city, while scarcely a day passes without the announcement of a number of new buildings in immediate contemplation.

Still other building projects of more than ordinary significance are waiting on certain conditions, which are fast materializing.

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Under such circumstances Omaha has a right to expect every loyal citizen to contribute his full share toward advancing the transformation movement. If everyone interested in Omaha's progress and prosperity does this, whether that share be big or little, the Omaha of the immediate future will be as far ahead of the Omaha of the recent past as the Omaha of today is ahead of the Omaha of twenty-five years ago.

UNITED STATES NOT INVOLVED.

There is probably no ground for the statement that our government is involved in the Morocco issue between Germany and France, which is just now commanding a great deal of interest and attention in Europe. As the country which primarily proclaimed the principle of the open door in connection with the trade of Asia, it is most natural that the United States should feel some concern in regard to a recognition of that policy wherever it may have present or prospective trade, but the business of this country with Morocco is not of such immediate importance or value as to justify it in manifesting any great concern regarding the result of the issue that has been raised between Germany and France.

That our government will sympathize with the position taken by Germany is not to be doubted. The demand of that country that Morocco shall give equal opportunities to all commercial nations in its markets, rather than permitting France to have complete control of those markets, is a demand in which this country can fully concur, but there is no reason to believe that it has taken or will take any action in the matter. The question is one to be determined by the European powers which are chiefly interested and this can be done without any interference on the part of the United States, which has only a remote interest in the matter.

CALL FOR GOVERNMENT DEPOSITS.

Up to the middle of last month there was withdrawn from national banks government deposits to the amount of \$25,000,000. Further withdrawals are said to be in contemplation to the extent of \$20,000,000. It is stated that the withdrawals already made had a noticeable effect in increasing the issue of bank currency, not because additional currency was needed, but because it tended to lower the price of the bonds released from security for the deposits and afford a slight profit in using them as the basis of new notes.

Slavery and Rebates.

In a formal statement answering the protests of the Congregational ministers against the acceptance of Mr. Rockefeller's gift of \$100,000 to the board of trustees, Mr. H. H. Rogers makes this telling comparison: "Slavery in certain sections of the United States was legal until President Lincoln's emancipation proclamation. Rebates in railroads were just as legal until the passage of the interstate commerce act."

DOLEFUL PREDICTIONS SCOTED.

It seems to be simply impossible to reconcile the statements of some of the railway managers of the country as to the effects of congressional legislation regulating railway rates with the actions of these same and other managers in regard to making liberal loans in railway improvements. In some of the hearings before the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce before the adjournment of the short session statements were made by railway officials and attorneys indicating that the proposed railway rate regulation would take the bread and pie from the mouths of widows and orphans whose savings were invested in railway securities.

Railroad Managers Discredit Tearful Pleas of Railroad Lawyers.

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The constitution of Nebraska, in section 4 of article ix, expressly declares:

"The legislature shall have no power to release or discharge any county, city, township, town or district whatever, or the inhabitants thereof, or any corporation, or the property therein, from their just, proportionate share of taxes, levied for state purposes, or due any municipal corporation, nor shall the commutation of such taxes be authorized in any form whatever."

The late assembly of anarchistic lawmakers, however, which sat as a legislature in Lincoln, passed a bill which has been signed by the governor, directing the auditor to strike from the records of his office all taxes charged against Hamilton county prior to and including 1891, when its court house was burned.

If this law is not in direct conflict with the constitution no law could ever be declared unconstitutional. How such an act could receive the sanction of men who have taken oath to obey and enforce the constitution of the state passes comprehension.

The auditor to refuse to carry out these directions, at least, until the supreme court formally authorizes him to nullify the constitution.

The truant officer's report for the month of March shows that twenty-six youngsters in as many days who ought to have been at school. One truant a day out of 10,000 school children cannot give Omaha a very bad record.

Strange is it not that those who are protesting against the exclusion of non-Protestants from the active membership of the Young Women's Christian association never thought of protesting against the exclusion of non-Protestants from the active membership of the Young Men's Christian association. Does one principle apply to men and another to women?

PERSONAL NOTES.

Winnebago "Injun" Chief Big Bear is dead. It is a bad year for bears. Standard Oil folks seem to find Standard Oil money just as good as any other.

Poor Mr. Carnegie bewails the fact that the demand for libraries has dwindled to one a day. The provincial council of Havana has voted to accept a proposition to purchase. Not improbably Don Quixote is thought to have been an ancestor of some Cuban statesman of the obstructionist group.

This is an eastern writer's pen picture of the Missouri executive: "A rather small man with a round, big head, black snapping eyes and thin lips closing tightly over a wide, straight mouth to Governor Joseph W. Folk of Missouri."

The festive plumber is not the only man with a cinch in this great and glorious land. A Jersey man holds possession of half an acre of ground which is needed to give the proper artistic touch to the entrance to Mr. Durham Bull Duke's new home. Every time Mr. Duke tries to buy the ground the price jumps \$2,000. The last jump registered \$10,000 and the owner has several jumps coming.

A philosopher who has a reputation for advanced views makes this statement: "Andrew Carnegie is doing more than any other man to morally pauperize America. He has begun his demoralizing work at the foundation head, pauperizing municipalities by gifts of libraries and library buildings and demoralizing education by his gifts to colleges. He is teaching America that its one aim must be to get something for nothing."

The youngest man elected to congress last November is Frank Lefevre of the Twenty-fourth New York district, who is not yet 30 years old. Mr. Lefevre called at the House a few days ago and was introduced to the law by New York state attorneys with one of his constituents, Mr. President," said he. "That's 'Who is it?" "Judge Alton B. Parker." "Oh, yes, I know the judge and respect him," said the president. Mr. Lefevre lives in New Paltz, four miles from Esopus.

A PRENOMENAL SCHOOL BOARD.

The city of New York has a Board of Education. That may look to most people like a commonplace statement, but it is not. We have plenty of boards of fads, including the non-school-government fad, in the United States. Few boards of education, when we find one, we feel refreshed and are justified in making some remarks indicative of greater surprise.

The New York Board of Education has lost patience with the fads and has said so by the decisive vote of 22 to 12. It has grown tired also of some things which are not fads—things which are well enough in themselves and would be well enough in the schools if they could be introduced without stifling and an idea of duty or crowding more important things into corners.

One of the members, assailing at a recent meeting the present system of student-teacher relations, said: "I have said 'need air, freedom and slow teaching,' and he added: 'Children are pushed en masse from one course into the next. Under the present system 10 per cent of the pupils are reported as 'backward.' There never was a time when there was so much complaint against our school system. Only one hour a day is now devoted to essentials. So far as moral training is concerned, the course of study is deficient. Children should be taught honesty, truthfulness, unselfishness and an idea of duty. We treat the school children like chickens in an incubator.'"

Yes, or perhaps more like sausage skins, to be stuffed to bursting with all sorts of scraps and odds and ends. Teachers are expected to do the teaching in a psychologically scientific fashion and to excite interest in anything and everything save the essentials, which are to be administered only homoeopathically and with sugar coating. In no case is the teacher to be obedient to the whims, obedience is in accord with the inclination of the pupil, and so the omission of the fundamental requisite of moral training is imperative.

It does not appear that the New York Board is yet fully wise in the fact that the omission is a radical mistake in our system of education, but it has resolved to cast the fads out of the lower grades. It has ordered the daily school sessions in the lowest grade to be reduced from five hours to three and a half. The little ones will not be required to sew or to go through the alleged hygienic exercises. There will be less drawing, less physiology and less music in their daily round. Their attention will be given mainly to the rudiments.

INDIANS GOING TO MEXICO.

The report that large bodies of Indians are leaving the United States to settle in Mexico will not cause any alarm here. This movement, if the stories are to be believed, has been under way many years, yet the Indian population of the United States shows no falling off. It is in the neighborhood of 250,000. In fact, the Indian population, counting in this computation all who are constructively classed as Indians, is on the increase. The full bloods are diminishing. They form but a small percentage of the total, and they will be a smaller part, absolutely as well as relatively, ten years hence. The mixed bloods, however, are increasing in numbers.

Everybody who reads the accounts of Mexico's wars with the Yaguas will see that the Indians will be likely to get at least as good treatment in the United States as they will on the other side of the Rio Grande. The Indian problem here is being solved slowly but surely. All the red men who have not adopted the white man's style of life are on the reservations, and they are being treated well. Thousands of them take up lands every year to engage in other pursuits, which make them self-supporting. The Indian of the nomadic stage is extinct in the United States. There are about 20,000 Indian children in the various schools, and the number is increasing.

Assimilation in the citizenship of the country is the Indian's destiny, and the time will not be long before all of them reach that status. When, in 1908 or 1907, Oklahoma and the Indian Territory are admitted as a state about 80,000 of the five civilized tribes in the Indian Territory will be merged in the mass of the country's citizenship. In fact, that stage will be reached on March 4, 1906, when the tribes, government of the Cherokee, Creek, Choctaw, Chickasaw and Seminole will be dissolved. These Indians have been governing themselves and been conforming to the white man's ways for generations. They are as civilized as the average resident in the territories. The white man's citizenship will also become diffused in the mass of the citizenship eventually. Thousands of them are making the change every year. The best home which the United States Indian can get is that which he has in the United States.

ROUND ABOUT NEW YORK.

Ripples on the Current of Life in the Metropolis. Some remarks have been heard and read of late on the subject of "race suicide," and considerable skill has been shown with reference to the cause and the remedy. Yet very little attention is paid to a conspicuous source of the "race suicide" in the large cities. New York is particularly distinguished in its annual slaughter of innocents. It is a matter of record that 25,000 children under five years died in New York City last year, and 15,000 of that number were babies of one year or less. The cause of this appalling mortality is largely due to impure and adulterated food, cannot tell how many children die in this city each year by reason of improper or impure food, but I do know that every day we receive complaints that children have been poisoned by bad food.

The greatest source of danger are preserved or dirty milk and embalmers' meats. Milk is preserved with formaldehyde. Meat is embalmed with borax, boracic acid or with salicylate.

The petition of Wall street interests against the proposed state tax on stock transactions contains 72,000 names. The conviction is widely expressed that the imposition of the tax will drive much of the business from New York City. Opposition to the mortgage tax bill, pending in the legislature and endorsed as a republican party measure, is even more vigorous. That such a law would result in very great harm is the prediction made by Lawson Purdy, secretary of the New York Tax Reform association, who has made a special study of the situation and is satisfied that only a general protest on the part of all citizens can divert calamity.

Mr. Purdy is one of the best known authorities on tax laws in New York. It is his belief that so depressing will be the effect of the mortgage tax upon the ordinary individual and the small builder that cessation of business will necessarily follow in many cases.

More than half a million loaned on mortgages since January 1 in New York City has been loaned at 6 per cent. This bill cuts down the interest rate of a 4 per cent mortgage to 5 1/2 per cent and prohibits any contract by the mortgagee by which he shall bind himself to pay the tax. As the bill increases the tax on every new house built with borrowed money, it is asserted that it will hopelessly embarrass and ruin many people and put an end to the great building boom that is now in progress. The building and loan associations are antagonizing the measure with all their energy. There is no evidence of yielding to public demand on the part of the caucus managers, whose policy is to avoid direct property tax for state purposes and raise enough revenue by indirect means.

"Water treatment" has taken the place of sedatives and mechanical restraints for the patients in the Manhattan State hospital at Ward's island, even when they are violently delirious. This hospital, the first public institution in the United States to adopt the use of water as a recognized part of its course of treatment, has been experimenting and tabulating its results for some time of a systematic use of various forms of hot and cold baths, jets and douches, vapor and hot air baths, and finds them uniformly successful.

Forms of "water treatment" are in use there which are said not to have been tried elsewhere, notably the "continuous bath" for patients in violent delirium. The patient is kept in a bath tub of water at exactly blood heat, under observation by specially trained nurses and the physicians, for hours—days if necessary—until the delirium has abated. In one case it was found necessary to keep the patient immersed in the water fourteen days. She came out of the delirium, and under other branches of the treatment recovered from her dementia. The death rate in such cases was formerly 60 per cent, but the physicians having charge of the experiments believe their treatment will save the life of every patient under delirium, unless some other form of insanity or physical disease sets in.

Under the new scheme patients no longer subject to constraint are kept outdoors in tents and pavilions under a carefully arranged plan of treatment. In some cases a bath of carbon dioxide has been used. An elaborate arrangement of bath appliances has been established in the hospital for the full development of the system.

The warfare between the asphalt companies has resulted in another record-breaking reduction in the price of asphalt and street paving generally and in the utter defeat of the Barber Asphalt company, which recently invaded the Brooklyn field. As a result of the latest battle between the Barber company and the companies which hitherto had possession of the city, the price of asphalt on its concrete foundation has been reduced from \$1.35 per square yard, which until today was the lowest on record, to \$1.24 per square yard. There were material reductions shown in the bids in the price also of black asphaltum and of granite. The Barber company, so far as could be ascertained from the bidding blanks now being tabulated, was not low upon any single one of the contracts.

William B. Masterson, known as "Bat" Masterson, was sworn in as a United States deputy marshal the other day. Masterson said he hoped to make a good record in his new place. Incidentally, he expressed the opinion that there is more carrying of concealed weapons in New York than in the west.

"Out where I came from," he said, "a man doesn't carry a gun unless he wants to."

Modern youths of modern fastness may refer to "hayseeds," "Rubens" and "country jays." But there's no such love existing in the present atmosphere. As this nurtured in the good ol' fashioned days.

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SETTIN' HOLDIN' HANDS.

What are you tryin' to do for your country? "My friend," answered Senator Sorghum, "I am keepin' on the safe side. Some states try to do so much for their country that people get the impression that they are getting presumptuous and domineering."—Washington Star.

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