

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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Table showing circulation statistics for the Omaha Daily Bee from April 1907 to April 1908, including daily, weekly, and monthly figures.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of May, 1908. ROBERT HUNTER, Notary Public.

WHEN OUT OF TOWN. Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have the Bee mailed to them. Address will be changed as often as requested.

General Confidence is making a tour of the west.

The third term sob squad will soon have to go out of business.

Mayor "Jim" will umpire the next event in the Park board tournament.

Secretary Taft is in Panama, but he did not take his handbag with him.

Laporte, Ind., certainly is not proud of the kind of advertising it is receiving.

As another sign of returning confidence, Frank Gould and his wife have kissed and made up.

Congress refused to pay much attention to the president's latest message until the country did.

"The Taft boom is beginning to drag," says the New York Press. Yes, dragging everything behind it.

It is difficult for anyone to be a pessimist with strawberries at 10 cents a box, and of fine quality at that.

A potato trust is being formed on Long Island. The attorney general should promptly prepare to smash it.

A Chicago man used a \$100 check as a bottle stopper. The average Chicago man uses checks as bottle openers.

Of course state pride will prevent any Kansas from admitting that Mrs. Ganness' record equals that of Kate Bender.

"Is there anything harder to get than money?" asks an exchange. Mr. Bryan would probably answer in the affirmative.

Richard Croker announces that he will not come to America until after the presidential election. He need not hurry, even then.

Senator Foraker, in his fight for delegates to the Chicago convention, is demonstrating that he is also something of a Rough Rider.

Eastern papers are speculating about Mr. Bryan's second choice at Denver. Mr. Bryan's second choice is William J. Bryan of Nebraska.

With churches beginning to celebrate twenty-fifth anniversaries Omaha must be considered as having reached a stage where it has a history to point back to.

A huge rattlesnake has been discovered in a case of cigars in San Francisco. The snake in the grass is common, but a snake in the weeds is a new one.

The editor of "An Appeal to Reason" has had his paper barred from the mails. His next publication will be entitled "An Appeal to the Supreme Court."

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat declares there will be a "free field" at the Chicago convention. Unquestionably, but the wise one will continue to play Mr. Taft as an odds-on favorite.

What are the Jacksons going to do to match the new Dahman Democracy Cowboy Band? An old Hickory Drum Corps or a Hermitage Megaphone Quartet might be improvised on short notice.

ATTACKS ON FORESTRY.

Westerners not allied with the lumber barons and the land grabbing syndicates will offer scant support to Senator Heyburn of Idaho in the vicious attack made by him upon the forestry service and its administration in the west.

The senator appeared to be very much exercised because rangers and other field of the forestry service wear green suits. That may or may not be a mistake, but it has little to do with the merits of the case.

The forestry service is a comparatively new branch of the government service and a very unpopular one with the element that has been looting the timber resources of the country for years.

The administration of the service may stand in need of improvement, but this is a matter of detail that must be worked out by the proper authorities. It cannot be accomplished by such abuse as that offered by Mr. Heyburn in the senate.

Senator Heyburn's assertion, however, that there is no danger of a timber famine and that the supply in the west is sufficient to meet demands for generations to come marks him either as woefully ignorant or the subject of guilty making wild statements for the purpose of influencing legislation.

The facts about the depletion of the national timber resources are becoming too well known to be longer misrepresented, even by such an eminent authority as the statesman from Idaho.

THE LOCOWEED.

Stockmen of the west will be interested in the result of a series of investigations just concluded by the experts of the Department of Agriculture on the loco weed and its effect upon cattle, horses and sheep that eat it.

While stockmen of the west have never had any doubt about their herds becoming "locoed," scientists have been disputing for a long time over the effects of the weed, or plant, and the investigations just ended contain what will be accepted as the latest authority on the subject.

The experts have discovered that there are two varieties of the loco plant, one that poisons horses, sheep and cattle, while the other poisons only horses. The report says:

The external symptoms of the disease described by stockmen were in general corroborated. The principal symptoms are the lowered head, slow, staggering gait, muscular movements showing lack of muscular co-ordination, sometimes more or less paralytic symptoms, a generally diseased nervous system, and in the later stages of the disease extreme emaciation.

The principal pathological changes are pronounced in the whole system, diseased stomach walls, and in some cases a congested condition of the walls of the stomach, while in chronic cases there are frequently ulcers. Generally speaking, locoed cattle have ulcers in the fourth stomach. There is an excess of fluids in the various cavities of the body. This is especially noticeable in the epidural space of the spinal canal. Here the effusion is more or less organized, presenting the appearance of a gelatinous mass, which is especially abundant in the lumbar region and about the exits of the spinal nerves.

Experiments show that the loco weed may be exterminated in pastures or enclosed fields, but that it is almost impossible to accomplish this on the open range. It was also established that loco poisoning comes on in a slow and cumulative manner, so there is no possibility of animals becoming immune. The experts offer the assurance, however, that the poison is not communicated to humans either through the meat or the milk of the affected animals. As to the remedies to be used in treatment of stock affected with loco poisoning the department reports:

It was found that locoed cattle can in most cases be cured by a course of treatment with strychnine, while locoed horses can generally be cured by a course of treatment with Fowler's solution. The animals under treatment must not be allowed to eat the loco weed and should be given not only nutritious food, but so far as possible, food with laxative properties. To this end magnesium sulfate was administered to correct the constipation which is almost universal among locoed animals. It should be noted, too, that magnesium sulfate may serve to some extent as an antidote to the poison.

EXPERT TESTIMONY REFORM.

The medical and bar associations of New York have undertaken a work of reform in the matter of presenting medical expert testimony in court proceedings, a reform the need for which has been glaringly emphasized in the Thaw trial and similar criminal cases.

Committees of the two associations have framed a bill to be submitted to the lawyers and physicians of the different states in the hope that something like uniformity of action may be secured by all the different legislatures.

By the provisions of the proposed measure, medical societies, through proper committees, shall make up lists of names of members in good standing and of not less than seven years' practice, who, in the opinion of the committees, are competent to give expert testimony. When expert testimony is needed the courts shall select one or more persons from such lists, "who shall investigate the facts in the case and give their opinion upon any such question arising in such proceeding and make their report in writing to the court."

The opinions are to be open to inspection by the attorneys in the case and may be submitted to the jury, if request to that effect is made.

The best part of the proposed reform is the elimination of the expert as a witness before the jury. In the Thaw trial, for instance, alienists were kept on the witness stand for days and bombarded with hypothetical questions—one 30,000 words in length—that could not be grasped by the average juror, and served only to con-

fuse and befog the real question at issue. As these experts flatly contradicted each other, the only effect was to bring the medical profession into disrepute and to create the suspicion that an expert is prepared to take any side of any case depending upon compensation.

TERMINAL TAXATION ELSEWHERE.

The taxation of valuable railway terminals for the support of local government, which the last Nebraska legislature tried to work out, constitutes by no means a local problem. The evasion of a proper share of city taxes burdens by the railroads under the system of unit assessment and mileage distribution has become so flagrant, generally, that the true remedy for the abuse is being widely sought.

In Pennsylvania it was thought that the way out could be found in the assessment and taxation of railroad rights-of-way within city boundaries as real estate and, proceeding on this theory, Pittsburg listed the terminals without first securing special enabling legislation. The railroads have naturally contested this new assertion of taxing power, and while the lower court decided favorably to the claim of the city, the supreme court of Pennsylvania has just given a reversal on appeal, holding that the law there does not authorize the taxation of a railroad rights-of-way as real estate.

Commenting on the decision, the Pittsburg Dispatch sees a suggestion of the possibility of making the proposed reform effective in the remark of the court that "if it is the policy of the law to make the essential instrumentalities of a franchise taxable," the legislature "should make it clearly apparent," and suggests that the people will act upon that hint at the earliest opportunity.

While we are not sure that we are completely out of the woods in the fight for terminal taxation in Nebraska, the railroads seem to have concluded to accept our terminal tax law. Should there be a contest of it later and a resumption of the fight for a terminal tax law that will stick, the experience of Pittsburg may help us avoid pitfalls.

COLONEL STEWART MOVING AGAIN.

Officials of the War department who are making every effort to check desertions from the ranks of enlisted men doubtless would offer a handsome premium if one of the colonels of the coast artillery would turn up missing some fine morning. Colonel William F. Stewart is now on his way from St. Augustine, Fla., back to Fort Grant, Ariz., to resume entire charge of the affairs at that post, which is garrisoned by a caretaker, a sergeant and a milk cow.

Colonel Stewart is generally credited with having a contentions disposition, so much so that officers refuse to serve under him, and his appearance at an army post, it is alleged, is a signal for all kinds of trouble. He refuses to retire, as he is yet two years under the active service age limit, and is such a rigid observer of army rules that no excuse for forcing his retirement has been found. He was recently marooned at the deserted post in Arizona, but, through the influence of friends, received a transfer to Florida, where he was unattached. It appears, however, that trouble broke out as soon as the colonel landed in Florida. The Florida delegation in congress protested against his being stationed in that state and the protest was so emphatic that the colonel was ordered back to Fort Grant, for the good of the service.

It must smack a good deal of the sort of discipline employed in some of the older armies of the world, but the officials at Washington insist that they are powerless to do anything until Colonel Stewart agrees to quit the service.

The death of Secretary Bennett of the State Board of Assessment is doubly unfortunate at this particular time because of his recognized efficiency in that capacity and also because it leaves the board badly handicapped right on the eve of a new and most important assessment of railroad property under the terminal tax law, to say nothing of the equalization of the quadrennial reassessment of real estate. It will behoove the board to exert its best effort to find a competent and trustworthy man to fill the vacant secretaryship.

Officers of the Nebraska State Lumber Dealers' association express themselves as entirely satisfied with the decision of the supreme court instituted on the theory that the association was violating the anti-trust law. Attorney General Thompson, who prosecutes the cases, expresses himself as also satisfied. The court should congratulate itself on for once successfully performing the difficult feat of satisfying both sides in the same law suit.

The park bonds voted at the recent special election in Omaha drew just fifty-one votes more than the two-thirds majority required by law. The one vote without the fifty would have been enough at a pinch, but the extra measure will make the purchasers of the bonds feel easier.

If the Methodist general conference takes the ban off dancing, theater-going and card playing the refusal of a former Nebraska governor to sanction an inaugural ball as contravening his religious precepts will lose all authority as precedent.

Even the democrats are getting tired of the filibuster game of the

party in congress. Leader Williams is simply delaying, not obstructing, the legislation the republican party is determined to pass for the benefit of the country.

The suggestion that the ticket nominated at Denver may be Bryan and Sullivan is enough to give cold shivers to the Nebraska populists who walked out of their St. Louis convention in professed devotion to Bryan. It would take a ramrod to make Sullivan go down the throat of a Bryanite demagogue.

Half of the Illinois delegates to the Denver convention are to go in automobiles, as guests of Roger Sullivan. They had better look out for tacks and broken glass in the neighborhood of Fairview.

The only regret is that the silver service presentation ceremonies could not have taken place right here in Nebraska, but the blame must be laid to nature in failing to give us a salt water coast line.

If Roger Sullivan stops over in Lincoln often enough on his trips between Chicago and Denver Mr. Bryan may yet take back those opprobrious epithets he hurled at him a little over a year ago.

Mrs. Hetty Green has given up her \$16 a month flat in New York and removed to a high grade hotel. The real shock will come, however, when Mrs. Green dons a Merry Widow hat.

Young Quentin Roosevelt is well posted on the batting averages of all the leaders in the base ball leagues. Admiration for the big stick appears to run in that family.

It is not believed, however, that President Roosevelt will do all the things planned for him by the Washington correspondents when he retires from office.

Emperor William studied Greek for two months in order to speak to the people at Corfu, only to learn that his speech was all Greek to them.

"It is dangerous to speculate with other people's money," says the Chicago News. Or with your own.

No Second Choice This Year. Chicago Record-Herald.

Presidential "second choices" are beginning to be troubled by the conviction that "there ain't goin' to be no second choice" anywhere this year.

The Busy Time to Come. Washington Post.

Present indications are that Secretary Taft will not resign until he reaches the re-nailing stage of his campaign, when he will be too busy to bother with a side issue like the War department.

Uncle Sam's High Credit. St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

Japanese bonds are quoted at 90 and British consols at about 85. Both yield a higher interest than the United States 2 per cent, which is being done in the case of the Philippines are to be commended for their quickness in catching up with the American procession.

Absorbing American Way. Baltimore American.

The Filipino assembly is cutting down official salaries, and the American office-holders are being done to freeze them out of their jobs. In the case of the Philippines are to be commended for their quickness in catching up with the American procession.

Rejoicing Over a Good Thing. Baltimore American.

The Porto Ricans are enduring the existing political situation with some thing more than cheerful acquiescence. There was a general celebration on Saturday of the eighth anniversary of the establishment of civil government in the island. There were parades, mass meetings and speechmaking galore, and nothing in the reports indicates that there was any fretting for a complete home government outfit.

First Aid to Farmers. The World To-Day.

A farmer in Ohio wrote to the Department of Agriculture that he had struggled for twenty years, on an eighty-acre farm heavily mortgaged, but had been unable to reduce his debt or rise above poverty that made the bringing up of his family a humiliation. He asked if there was any hope for him upon the farm, or if he might as well give up the fight. The department reports that he makes a detailed report of his farm and its soils, and upon this it based a plan of farming, which he was recommended to follow to the letter. There was a profit the first year of \$2,000, and the department believes that ultimately the despoised eighty acres can be made to yield \$5,000 a year.

Asserting National Power. Philadelphia Press.

The steady assertion of national power through national regulation of national subjects," to quote Senator Knox's apt phrase at Trenton, is the cornerstone of the republican party.

When Senator Knox declared that this "national regulation" had been of great benefit to the country, he spoke the opinion of every candid man. Discrimination in freight rates has been prevented by national legislation. "Such regulation as may be necessary to control combination and correct the tendency toward monopoly," is equally demanded.

This is the next constructive step now needed in railroad reform, it will keep competition open. Federal regulation of great corporations will prevent such corporation from using the monopoly they have acquired to crush the weak, to maintain prices, and in Senator Knox's terse words, "to capitalize the country's prosperity for the benefit of their promoters."

"To capitalize the country's prosperity" is the object of many a trust. Combinations seek to grasp an industry and make the property of the industry as a whole pay tribute to the trust.

Only federal regulation can prevent this, exactly as only federal regulation could prevent discrimination in rates. The trust is as much determined on one now as it was on the other. Undue interference with corporations no desire. Publicity, full reports, and precautions by restrictions on watered capital, so as to prevent combinations from efforts "to capitalize the country's prosperity" the people as a whole demand.

ON PRESIDENTIAL FIRING LINE.

Progress of the Campaign for Party Leadership.

Chicago Record-Herald.

William Howard Taft has more than enough votes in sight to assure his nomination on the first ballot. Connecticut, Kentucky, New Jersey, Utah and Wyoming played a big part last week in increasing his total to 483, or 279 without contests. This week's selections in California, Idaho, Missouri, Montana, North Dakota, Oregon, Texas and Washington should add 198, giving him 681, and 487 net. Georgia, which is doubtful, and Louisiana, which will be contested, may be disregarded. Seven scattering districts are to act before the bars are put up Saturday night, and Alaska has not yet voted. One section of the vote will amount at least to six more than enough. Summary to date is:

Table showing electoral college votes for various states and territories, including Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin, Wyoming.

Total, 463 70 85 52 36 25 138 Foraker gets two in Florida, one in Georgia, two in Ohio and five in South Carolina.

In the Claim Stage. Kansas City Star (ind.).

The contest between the Bryan and the Taft managers has reached the "claim" stage. The backers of Johnson and Gray were first in the field with big claims showing the impossibility of Bryan's nomination on the first ballot. But following the action of the South Carolina and Ohio conventions, the Bryan men express glowing confidence that nothing can defeat their candidate. As all these predictions are based on conflicting judgments as to what the unattached delegates will do, it is not easy for those unfamiliar with local conditions and individual preference to form an opinion. But, generally speaking, Mr. Bryan cannot consistently hope for much help from those who are not instructed for him. To omit instructions is manifestly an indication of hostility to the "peerless leader." There is a good deal more to a mere chance that the nomination may go to "some other man."

Turning In for Bryan. Philadelphia Press (repl.).

The news from South Carolina is that pretty nearly all the counties are instructing for Bryan, and Bryan substantially gets the delegation from Texas. These facts do not indicate that the Nebraskan is to be defeated.

We have contended all the time that if Bryan is to be defeated that result will have to be brought about by the cooperation of the south. He has almost everything from the Ohio line westward except Minnesota, and he got the delegates in that section secured before the Johnson movement, or any opposition effort, began to be at all effective. The delegates in the eastern states who will be against Bryan are not sufficiently numerous to assure his defeat for the nomination.

Some Songs in the Stream. Washington Post (ind.).

If Mr. Bryan's nomination cannot be effected without the abrogation of the two-thirds rule, he will not be nominated at all. There will be scores of delegates at Denver instructed to vote for Mr. Bryan's nomination who hope to see him elected to the nomination, and none of these will vote to repeal the two-thirds rule. And hence Mr. Bryan's friends must secure 66 votes for their favorite or go down in defeat.

But there is another and more serious danger confronting Mr. Bryan, and that is that it is more than likely that the convention will make a platform innocent of Mr. Bryan's pet political heresies. He was indiscreet enough to adopt it. That platform contains things that even a democratic national convention that ever sat in this country, not even that of 1896, would have touched with the tongue. There is small chance that these fads will successfully run the gauntlet of the resolutions committee at Denver, unless the democratic party is bent on annihilation.

Heart and His Rib-Sticker. Brooklyn Eagle (ind. dem.).

There is no likelihood that the Hearst ticket will carry a single state, but nothing is surer than that it will cost Mr. Bryan some of the commonwealths he would otherwise carry. In other words, it will undoubtedly sure the assurance of a third defeat for the Nebraskan. This is how its consequences will count. This is why the program should be taken into serious consideration by the Denver convention. Without a Hearst ticket in the field, the outlook for Bryan at the polls would be unpromising enough. With it, even his ghost of a chance would vanish.

The Field Workers. Kansas City Star (ind.).

The prestige of Secretary Taft's long lead over all the opponents is seen in the action of recent conventions. Whenever the forecast of a state or district convention denotes that there's doubt as to what will be done, the result is almost invariably Taft instructions or a considerable number of republicans to get together unhampered by local or personal considerations, to regard any other candidate than Taft with serious suspicion. In other words, it will guarantee for him is obviously both the best fit and the most popular of the men in the race.

Indiana's Female Bluebird. St. Louis Republic.

The female Bluebird of LaPorte, Ind., shows the symptoms of the criminal insanity which is said to be "reversion" to type below the level of man. In studying such cases they use the female as a comparison. The common law of insanity drawn with a view to capital punishment regardless of insanity theories takes a simpler and more effective view of attributing inhuman crime in both sexes to "the malice and instigation of the devil."

HOOSTING FREIGHT RATES.

Railroad Managers Ignore Experience and Economic Laws.

Chicago Tribune.

When a merchant finds that customers are not buying freely he may cut down expenses or he may lower prices in the hope of attracting custom. He does not cut his prices with the idea of making up what he has lost through the decrease in the number of sales. When the earnings of a bank shrink because there aren't so many applicants for loans no attempt is made to swell profits by charging would-be borrowers higher rates. One can understand why a railroad should lay off men when business is slack or why it should reduce transportation rates in order to stimulate the movement of commodities. It is not easy to perceive the inherent justice of the contention of the railroads that they should be allowed to raise rates at this juncture so that they may swell their gross receipts at the expense of whatever freight has to be moved.

The roads running to southeastern points have filed tariffs to become effective June 1, increasing materially the rates on fresh meats. They are dear enough already and an advance in rates will make them dearer for consumers in the southeast. It is reported that other advances are to follow; that the eastern roads intend to put up their commodity rates on July 1. If it were not resisted these would doubtless be a general increase in rates throughout the country. Such a policy is favored by railroad managers because it would provide greater revenue—it is said the higher rates will be compensated by the eastern roads will bring them in \$100,000,000—and also because it would be a remedy for "train stalling."

It has not been explained, however, how the movement of commodities would be stimulated by making it more expensive to move them.

It may be that there are reasons why the freight rates on one or another commodity should be increased here or there. If so, the Interstate Commerce commission would not pay much attention to any protest that might be made. A general increase in freight rates merely because the earning power of the roads has been affected by conditions which have affected the earning power of the entire community is another matter. As the community is less able to pay higher rates than it was a year ago when there was an extremely active demand for commodities, it should not be asked to pay them.

One experienced railroad manager has given it as his opinion that traffic stagnation, as measured by idle cars, has reached the worst point, and that from now on there will be a steady improvement in conditions. It would be much better for the roads to await that improvement, reducing dividends in the meanwhile if necessary, as some of them have wisely done, than to resort to so unjustifiable and unpopular an expedient as a general advance in freight rates.

If there were to be such an advance the Interstate Commerce commission would be overwhelmed with remonstrances from shippers. All the time would be taken up with hearings which could not end otherwise than in a declaration the higher rates were unwarranted and must be abandoned.

PLAINT OF THE PREACHERS.

Overlooking the Beam Inside for the Mote Outside. Kansas City Journal.

Two pastors of various churches in Kansas City met the other day and spent several hours deploring the apparent decline of piety and the fact that church attendance was dropping. One speaker lamented that "we are following in the path of the European countries and coming to regard the Sabbath as a day of physical and social enjoyment." "Our parks are filled," said the speaker, "while the churches are sparsely settled. Commercialism is absorbing the life of our people and things lead to a denial of a personal God."

With all proper respect for these well-meaning ministers who express regret at the seeming decline of piety and theology, it can be said that if they would seek more diligently for the causes of the condition at which they complain their protest would be rewarded. There was never a period when ministers of the gospel devoted so much time and attention to matters purely secular. In many of our churches pastors deliver addresses each Sunday that deal with political and sociological questions, and we have grown to expect programs for all our material ills from the pulpit.

Cherlymen today have practically abandoned the old school plan of preaching only the gospel, and many of them are taking active part in politics and other matters not essentially religious or theological. No one denies the right of ministers to take part in politics, but ministers who take dolia into the pulpit should not complain if a spirit of worldliness becomes dormant in their congregations. It is hardly fair for ministers to censure the use of the public parks by the people, either on Sundays or on other days of the week. If people no longer go to the churches, the fault may be something wrong with the churches, not necessarily with the people or the parks.

ANTI-INUNCTION BILL.

Text of Measure Favored by House Leaders. New York Tribune.

The Payne anti-injunction bill, which, according to the general understanding, is on the program of the house leaders for passage, is said in a Washington dispatch to the Tribune to be "devoted by many here to its simplicity and its brevity." It is certainly entitled to commendation on both these grounds, and probably also on the ground of reasonable moderation. Its text follows:

Section 1. That hereafter no preliminary injunction or restraining order shall be granted by any judge or court without notice to the party sought to be enjoined or restrained, unless it shall appear to the satisfaction of the court or judge to whom application for such injunction or restraining order is made that the immediate issue of such injunction or restraining order is necessary to prevent irreparable damage.

Section 2. That any such injunction or restraining order granted shall contain a rule on the opposite party to show cause within five days why such injunction or restraining order shall not be continued.

The proposed measure thus leaves with the court discretion to act promptly whenever in its opinion such action is necessary to prevent irreparable damage. How much this would restrict the use of the writ would depend upon the court's construction of the words "irreparable damage," but in any case, however, the bill would tend to restrain the over-ready granting of injunctions, and that is about all that should be done to restrict the employment of that valuable instrument for the protection of property.

Indiana's Female Bluebird. St. Louis Republic.

The female Bluebird of LaPorte, Ind., shows the symptoms of the criminal insanity which is said to be "reversion" to type below the level of man. In studying such cases they use the female as a comparison. The common law of insanity drawn with a view to capital punishment regardless of insanity theories takes a simpler and more effective view of attributing inhuman crime in both sexes to "the malice and instigation of the devil."

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION.

Contrast Between Foreign and American Legislation.

Chicago News.

The bureau of labor at Washington has just issued a bulletin giving information respecting the laws of various foreign countries under which wage workers who suffer crippling injuries at their tasks receive compensating payments. By way of affording a striking contrast to these enlightened measures the bulletin reviews the principles of the common law governing the American union and the mild departures from these principles made by special enactments in other states.

This is clearly shown how inadequate a form of relief is the privilege given to an injured worker to bring suit for damages against his employer, particularly in view of the limitations placed by the common law upon the employer's liability. The bulletin is well calculated to appeal to the American conscience, which, up to the present time, has been strangely callous on this subject of labor's right to relief from a share of the terrible burden imposed by accidents in productive industry.

Twenty-two foreign states, the bureau of labor sets forth, have enacted legislation on behalf of injured workmen. These include the great nations of Europe, the Scandinavian countries, Belgium, the Netherlands, Spain and nearly all the British colonies. In every instance the law fixes the compensation to be paid. Thus no deplorably long-drawn-out lawsuits are required to draw out the matter. On the contrary, nearly all the laws are framed with a view of rendering legal proceedings altogether unnecessary. When a workman is injured the law stands ready to compel prompt payment of the sum which the injury suffices to make him indubitably, so explicit are the terms of most of the laws that ordinarily no difficulty attends the settlement.

The states of the American union must proceed to take up in earnest this most necessary reform.

PERSONAL NOTES.

John Morley and Sir Henry Fowler took their seats in the House of Lords last week under the respective titles of Viscount Morley of Blackburn and Viscount Wolverhampton.

A Brooklyn taleman told the court that juggling with the law, splitting hairs and granting appeals were not the province of proper administration of justice. Well, it isn't. Yet the judge got indignant.

The Alumni association of Columbia college has a subscribed \$10,000 for the completion of a bronze statue of Alexander Hamilton, but William Ordway Partridge, to be placed in the court south of Hamilton hall, on South Field.

Conflicting reports come from Washington as to the conduct of the elephants in the circus parade. One is that they obstinately refused to pass Secretary Taft's door, and the other is that they ate peanuts from Mrs. Taft's hand.

William R. Smith, superintendent of the National Botanical garden, Washington, is credited with owning the richest and rarest collection of Burmansians in the world. He was born in Scotland, and the first book he ever purchased was a copy of Burns' poems.

A committee of Vienna citizens, which is arranging for the jubilee pageant in honor of Emperor Francis Joseph, has just insured the emperor's life with a British company for \$1,700,000 until June next, in order to cover the expenses for the preparations of the celebration in the event of his death before they occur.

Gladstone's Dowie, son of the late prophet and apostle of Zion, has been robbed of his hair. The glory of being an unkissed man is no longer him. During a court proceeding in Muskegon, Mich., the fair plaintiff whom he rescued from the toils of law impulsively snatched him, full and fair, as a token of thankfulness. Dowie turned pale and fled from the court room.

LAUGHING LINES.