

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

FOUNDED BY EDWARD ROEWATER

VICTOR ROEWATER, EDITOR.

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Table with columns for Fiscal Year (1907, 1908) and various categories like Sundry civil, Legislative, Army, Navy, Fortifications, Penitentiaries.

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WHEN OUT OF TOWN: Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them...

It will be difficult to convince Senator Platt that it pays to advertise.

Maybe Mr. Harriman will note the necessity of a new headquarters building, as well.

Cleveland is discovering the difficulty of running street cars with mayor's messages.

Sir Thomas Lipton is building another yacht, but whether for racing or advertising purposes is not announced.

Harper's Weekly calls Mr. Bryan "the advance agent of his own circus."

An Illinois man named Lemon has joined the army. He should be assigned to duty under Colonel Stewart at Fort Grant, Arizona.

Local trade excursions are showing Omaha business men more than they ever dreamed of. It is well sometimes to know your own city.

The Standard Oil company has paid its regular quarterly dividend of \$9 a share, or at the rate of \$36,000,000 a year, exclusive of fines unpaid.

Senator Teller declares that under no circumstances will he be a candidate for re-election. The Colorado legislature is largely republican.

Editor Fales has won his libel suit in the supreme court. This is a vindication for a free press, but does not mean that a newspaper is entirely irresponsible.

With Panama suffering from insomnia and Colombia talking in its sleep, Dr. Magoon, an eminent specialist, has been summoned from Cuba to look after the two cases.

Premier Stolypin asserts that the Russian government has no intention of assailing Finnish autonomy. The government simply asks that the Finnish people become Russians.

If Peary were as successful in locating the North Pole as he is in winning cold dollars from the public every year we could have a border of poles all around the Arctic circles.

Speaking of keynote speeches, no man ever heard one of Senator Burrows' talks without getting anxious to go out and place a bet on himself, if he happened to be a candidate.

The want ad that brought the horse home before the paper was out worked better than such ventures usually do. It serves to emphasize the oft-repeated assertion that it pays to advertise.

It is asserted that Senator Flint of California is the best dressed man in the senate. Perhaps, but it is little short of a shame to rob Senator Keen of New Jersey of his only claim to distinction.

Congressman Frank Clark of Florida has been soundly thronged by a former official whose honesty he had questioned. He is entitled to a line of sympathy from Senator Jeff Davis of Arkansas.

Senator Jonathan Bourne, the sole surviving member of the "second elective term" crusade, is in position to sympathize with the man who has stood five raises only to draw the eight of spades to his try, four, five and six of diamonds.

A BILLION A YEAR.

The present session of congress, now on the eve of adjournment, furnishes another striking illustration of the manner in which the country's needs have grown in the last decade and the imperative necessity of making some intelligent provision, at an early date, for an increase of the national revenues.

Only eighteen years ago the party out of power raised the cry of extravagance because the appropriations for two years aggregated nearly \$1,000,000,000, and the "Billion Dollar Congress" was something of an issue.

But disbursements have grown, as the country has grown, and the national congress now appropriates nearly \$1,000,000,000 a year. The appropriations by the present session of congress will fall but a little short of a billion dollars.

As an inspiration of the growth in national expenditures the following tables have been prepared, showing the appropriations by the congress for the fiscal year ending with June, 1892, and by the present congress for the fiscal year ending with June, 1908:

Table comparing fiscal years 1892 and 1908 for categories like Sundry civil, Legislative, Army, Navy, Fortifications, Penitentiaries.

Heretofore the increase in expenditures has been more than met by a persistent and consistent increase in the public revenues. Each year since 1898, when the republicans took charge of the national administration of affairs, the customs and internal revenue receipts have grown until the treasury was burdened with an enormous surplus, an irresistible invitation to liberality in appropriations.

The situation has changed materially, however, in the last year. The decrease in imports, caused by the depression which set in last October, has wiped out the surplus of receipts over revenues and left the certainty of a deficit of from \$40,000,000 to \$60,000,000 at the close of the present fiscal year on June 30, next.

Appropriations by the present session of congress, compared with the estimate of probable revenues, indicates a still heavier deficit for the fiscal year ending with June, 1909.

Analyzing the appropriation bills, it will be seen that the remarkably heavy increases have been in the army and navy expenditures. These expenditures have been the natural, and apparently unavoidable, result of the war with Spain and the nation's entry thereby into the list of world powers.

RAILROAD RATES AND WAGES.

A committee representing the Nebraska Railway Employees' association is before the State Railway commission protesting against any reduction in railroad rates and giving as a reason that lower rates mean lower wages.

The close relation between rates charged by the railroads and wages paid to their employees is admitted, but other factors must be considered in connection with the question. A communication from a representative of this committee, published in The Bee, sets up the point that it is the middleman who is mostly concerned.

The middleman is necessary both to the producer and the consumer. It is a physical impossibility under present conditions of society for the producer to market his products directly. He must sell to the consumer through the middleman, and sometimes his wares pass through several hands before reaching their final destination.

Each of these handlers must take his toll for profit, and the effect of this toll is felt at both ends of the line. If any one of the agents that intervene between the producer and the consumer takes any more than a just share for his services he is working a hardship on all the others.

This principle is so plain that it can only be intentionally overlooked and any argument that does not give it full weight is worthless. The State Railway commission will undoubtedly give due consideration to the claims of the railway employees, and it is not conceivable that it will deliberately take action that may result in a reduction of wages, but the railroad belief that lower rates mean lower wages cannot be accepted as an excuse for maintaining the unequal and unjust charges that are now imposed on shippers.

UPLIFT IN STOCK MARKET.

The stock market has had a practically uninterrupted rise of between 17 and 15 points in the last nine weeks.

The rise in price movement of the hundred and thirty-first anniversary of its adoption. As its stars and stripes were borrowed from the coat of arms of George Washington, his farewell address might be read aloud as the educational feature of the day by all who celebrate the anniversary.

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OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

The steady uplift and growing self-confidence of oriental people is driving home the unwelcome fact that the nations of the west must revise their policies in dealing with the east.

They are conspicuous in Egypt, India, and in China, and were brought sharply to the world's attention when Japan drove the Russian bear from the Yellow Sea. The demand for home rule in Egypt, though feeble, is a reflex of the stronger insistence of the natives of India for relief from alien rule.

In that vast empire, with its teeming millions, the fires of liberty, started and fed by education, are certain to develop into a conflagration unless Great Britain concedes the natives far greater participation in the government of the country.

China is fully awake and growing self-reliant at an astonishing rate. A vast army is being drilled into shape and a spirit of patriotism aroused which already has shown its strength and determination in resenting by peaceful means the aggression of Japan.

These facts are not ignored by the London Spectator. "The western peoples," says the Spectator, "commenting on Asiatic unrest, 'Will soon be compelled to revise their ideas of the eastern world. The fact is often disputed, but there undoubtedly is a comity of Asia which is at least as operative as the comity of Europe, or it is possible that there is an emotion abroad akin to the one which produced the crusades and that, though not so directly connected with any religious impulse, it is still fatal to quiescence, and is sweeping through Asia, from Nagasaki to the Bosphorus, stirring up races which for ages have slept the sleep of contentment, but are now determined to advance upon some path, mental or physical, which they think open. What the result will be we know as little as our readers, but of this we feel quite sure, that the fixation of the continents will be permanently altered, or to be more exact, the widespread effort to alter that relation will call on the men for new exertions and new aims, for new and more careful meditation.'"

The hitherto thriving business of kidnapping foreigners in Morocco, Bulgaria and Asiatic Turkey is spreading a panicky scare. Great Britain's Foreign office serves notice on the thrifty brigands of those localities that the public treasury will no longer pay cash for the release of Englishmen, but will pursue heroic methods, more likely to fatten graveyards than purses.

Similarly the American State department frowned upon the proposition that congress should reimburse those who had been determined to advance upon some path, mental or physical, which they think open.

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Two Englishmen who strayed beyond the reservation of Sultan Abdul Hamid and were taken to the hospitable Ratsul, yielded the princely sums of \$40,000 and \$100,000 each, while the esteemed Perdicaris of New Jersey and his son-in-law brought \$70,000 to the brigand's treasury.

The countries held up and forced to deliver at long range regard further contributions as the means to the further extension of their protection from the rages of the countries involved or there will be something done in the vicinity.

"Viscount Morley of Blackburn" makes a sonorous and impressive mouthful for those who "dearly love a lord," but it grades harshly in the ears of friends and former associates of the distinguished Gladstonian commoner.

His surprise and regret is feebly expressed by Justin McCarthy in a letter to the New York Independent. "Morley retains his position as Indian secretary," says Mr. McCarthy, "but gives up his seat in the representative assembly and moves into that hereditary chamber which no English public man has ever condemned and denounced more strenuously than he." It is suggested that Morley's acceptance was prompted by the permanent emoluments of the office, a suggestion implying the sacrifice of principles long maintained for pecuniary results.

Striking proof of the power of militarism in Germany was given in the Reichstag, recently, when Privy Councillor Paasche, one of the leaders of the National Liberal party and vice president of the imperial legislature, formally apologized for the attack made upon the minister of war in December. On that occasion Herr Paasche, speaking of the revelations made by Editor Harden, accused the military of endeavoring to hush up the whole affair, mentioning, especially, Lieutenant General von Einea, the minister of war. In uttering these criticisms, he was acting in his civic capacity as a public man.

Herr Paasche, however, is not only a privy councillor, the leader of a great political party, and vice president of the Reichstag, but he is also a major of Landwehr, and in this capacity he owes obedience to the military authorities and is subject to the jurisdiction of the military court of honor. Taking advantage of this fact, the minister of war ordered Major Paasche to withdraw the accusations made from the rostrum of the Reichstag, and to offer a full apology for having uttered them. He insisted that this apology be given, and merely permitted Herr Paasche to choose his own time. The latter chose the third reading of the military estimates as the most suitable time, and offered his apology from the rostrum of the Reichstag with the same publicity as that with which he made the original charges.

Bishop Thoburn, Methodist missionary bishop in India, who is attending the general conference in Baltimore, discredits stories of a possible revolution in India. Having lived in India and southern Asia for forty-eight years, he possesses first hand information which carries weight.

"There may have been a plot among a few concealed satellites to kill Lord Kitchener," said Bishop Thoburn, "just as plots of the kind develop in this and other countries, but the insurrection can become anything like national in scope appears to be most improbable. The trouble is reported from a part of India, where a serious uprising is the least likely to occur. The Bengalee are not a warlike people. The climate, damp and warm, has produced a race of people who are not muscular. They have flesh, but are small-boned, and invariably have small wrists and ankles. These physical characteristics have tended to make them other than warlike in nature."

MAN AFRAID OF HIS SHADOW.

Retiring Representative Littlefield of Maine says that the average congressman is afraid of his shadow. He quotes Speaker Cannon as having said that the only thing more cowardly than a congressman was a member of congress.

Mr. Littlefield might go a bit further and find a reason for the cowardice he charges. It is found in the elemental tendency to look out for self and its preservation. The average congressman does not find his place served to him on a silver platter. He works for it. He fights for it. He costs him a great deal of money and treasure and peace of mind. He goes to Washington in a fever of excitement, one side of his brain at work on the constituency situation back home, the other, wondering why Washington failed to meet him with a brass band. Before the session is half over, he reads in the Prairie Telegraph, his official organ, that Judge Smiley has announced his intention to seek congressional honors.

That day does the incumbent become a coward. He sees peril in every shadow. He watches the country papers for the spirit of his district. The thought of expressing a straight opinion sends him into a panic. He writes letters to the editor back home and showers them with garden seeds. He is a full-fledged congressional coward before the end of the first session.

Four-year terms might help. The congressman would have two years in which to think of the nation's business and two in which to run for re-election.

OUR NATIONAL ASH HEAP.

Atlanta's Blaze Swells the Fire Losses of the Year. The national ash heap still gaining mass, both by small fires and by conflagrations. Atlanta's experience helps to swell the figures materially.

The destruction of a half-dozen business blocks there means more than in some other cities of her class, because the new Atlanta is substantially and somewhat expensively built. It is in outward appearance more like a prosperous New England city than any other place in the south. Moreover, its fire department is more completely up to date than any other in that section. It has been the city's particular pride and its chief had been one of the best paid officials in that capacity in the United States.

So it is not because of exceptionally bad building or of weakness in the means of fire protection that a loss of over \$1,000,000 has just been incurred. The confidence of the citizens has apparently been for some time justified, because not for many years, if ever, since the torch was applied to her when Sherman marched to the sea has she experienced so large a loss from a single fire. The first third of the year has not been an encouraging one for the insurance underwriters. April was a particularly bad month, the figures rising to \$2,869,000 for this country and Canada. This was nearly \$10,000,000 more than the losses for March, though with the Chelsea destruction eliminated the records of the two months were about the same. There were twenty-eight fires, involving a loss of between \$100,000 and \$200,000, and nine about the latter figure. Atlanta leads thus far the present month.

THRILLING SPECTACLE AT FORT CROOK.

During the storm. Kansas City Journal. One of the most remarkable events in the annals of American arms occurred at Fort Crook, Neb., the other day when a tornado struck the place. As the dispatches tell the story: "When the officers recall the fury of one of these terrible outbreaks of the angry elements can not imagine the dreadful reality of the scene, with the heavens blacker than night, the darkness intensified by blinding flashes of lightning, the terrors of the storm multiplied by the terrific crashes of heaven's artillery, and the air filled with swirling clouds which hide all else but the awful figure of death, the ghostly funnel-shaped cloud which makes gigantic leaps along the ground, uprooting trees and whirling houses, animals and human beings through the air on the wings of the death-dealing wind. It is a sight to appal the stoutest heart and to cause the human mind to realize the utter impotence of man in the presence of angry nature. The charge of the six hundred at Bataklava was a trivial incident of military duty compared with the steadfast discipline of the six hundred American soldiers at Fort Crook, who coolly formed in line and braved the tornado's fury as though it were a matter of mere routine duty. They were the men who, at the art of a great painter, Speaking of Ajax defying the lightning, here were six hundred Ajaxes, each a hero, defying a cataclysm of nature of which the lightning was but a minor feature. Nothing approaching it has occurred since the hurricane in Samoa's harbor, when an American admiral in full dress uniform stood on the quarter-deck of his flagship as it drifted on the rocks and ordered the ship's band to play the American anthem while the crew of the vessel cheered a British warship as it fought its way inch by inch in the teeth of the gale out to sea. It is true that no lives were lost in the Fort Crook tornado, but it is certain, nevertheless, that to every soldier who dressed on the colors in the teeth of the storm, death seemed inevitable at any moment. The danger was real and the escape must have appeared to be miraculous for the tornado destroyed a number of lives before and after it struck Fort Crook. At all events it was a remarkable feat of the discipline of the American soldier which European critics are so fond of decrying."

DEFYING A TORNADO.

History and fiction alike have dwelt upon the dauntless spirit of men who have manifested their willingness to "charge" gates of hell or scale the heights of heaven," but doubtless no better illustration of this spirit was ever given than when this devoted band of American soldiers at Fort Crook formed ranks to "do or die" together in the face of a real-life tornado. Those who have never viewed the fury of one of these terrible outbreaks of the angry elements can not imagine the dreadful reality of the scene, with the heavens blacker than night, the darkness intensified by blinding flashes of lightning, the terrors of the storm multiplied by the terrific crashes of heaven's artillery, and the air filled with swirling clouds which hide all else but the awful figure of death, the ghostly funnel-shaped cloud which makes gigantic leaps along the ground, uprooting trees and whirling houses, animals and human beings through the air on the wings of the death-dealing wind. It is a sight to appal the stoutest heart and to cause the human mind to realize the utter impotence of man in the presence of angry nature. The charge of the six hundred at Bataklava was a trivial incident of military duty compared with the steadfast discipline of the six hundred American soldiers at Fort Crook, who coolly formed in line and braved the tornado's fury as though it were a matter of mere routine duty. They were the men who, at the art of a great painter, Speaking of Ajax defying the lightning, here were six hundred Ajaxes, each a hero, defying a cataclysm of nature of which the lightning was but a minor feature. Nothing approaching it has occurred since the hurricane in Samoa's harbor, when an American admiral in full dress uniform stood on the quarter-deck of his flagship as it drifted on the rocks and ordered the ship's band to play the American anthem while the crew of the vessel cheered a British warship as it fought its way inch by inch in the teeth of the gale out to sea. It is true that no lives were lost in the Fort Crook tornado, but it is certain, nevertheless, that to every soldier who dressed on the colors in the teeth of the storm, death seemed inevitable at any moment. The danger was real and the escape must have appeared to be miraculous for the tornado destroyed a number of lives before and after it struck Fort Crook. At all events it was a remarkable feat of the discipline of the American soldier which European critics are so fond of decrying."

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POLITICAL DRIFT.

Alabama partially consoles the Bryanites for the loss of Pennsylvania. A candidate for office in Philadelphia bears the name of Foose Quick. Straw vote gettings will now take a vacation till the glancing shadows of September.

The late John Hay once declared the democratic party to be "a fortuitous confluence of unrelated prejudices." The man who fathered the Woodrow Wilson presidential boom seems to have left the bantling on the doorstep of a political orphanage.

Judson Harmon, democratic candidate for governor of Ohio, proposes to cut out presidential rainbow chasing and plug for Buckeye votes from seeding time till harvest. When the New York Sun observed the crowded condition of the Taft hand wagon this pathetic leader in curved italics appended on the editorial page: "Let us alone."

"The watch dog's honest bark" was usually melodious when the congressional "pork bar" appeared with an appropriation of \$75,000 for a postoffice at Danville, Ill.

All New York state politicians, officeholders and others are guessing at the identity of a state senator who claimed to have been offered \$50,000 for his vote against the race track betting bill. Every mother's son of them is entitled to another guess.

After spending thirty years in the national congress, mostly as senator from Colorado, Henry Moore Teller announces that he will retire to his home in Colorado next March and there spend the remainder of his days. Senator Teller was born in Allegheny county, New York, in 1829.

There'll be many a stout poker game on the democratic train between New York and Denver. It is a long trip and there'll be plenty of opportunity for some of the experts at the great American game to put in good work. Already some of the Tammany delegates and their friends are hussling their resources with the idea of having plenty of cash on hand. No I O U is to be taken. Times are hard and everything in the poker line is to be on a cash basis.

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SMILING REMARKS.

"Those knights of old were queer chaps, weren't they?" said Willie, looking up from his illustrated story book. "Why?" asked Tommy. "Because they seemed to be perfectly well satisfied with a lot of rainwater, who, from these pictures, were nothing but pickers."—Baltimore American.

"Why?" exclaimed the center pole to the light-rope, "that fellow walks on you just as easy as can be, seems to come natural to him." "Well," replied the light-rope, "it doesn't come any more natural to him than to me. We both end up by being taut."—Philadelphia Press.

—I actually believe some man is calling on Miss Passay. —The idea! What makes you think so? —"Why?" asked Tommy. "Because they seemed to be perfectly well satisfied with a lot of rainwater, who, from these pictures, were nothing but pickers."—Baltimore American.

One thousand Chicago women applied to the city clerk for permits to wear sandals on the municipal thoroughfares. "Sorry, ladies," he said, "but we have no funds with which to widen the sidewalks."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"I'm thinking of running for congress," said the village lawyer. "Will you vote for me?" "No, sir," answered Farmer Cornsweat. "I'm in favor of letting the present congressmen stay where they are. There's no good of continually taking men and getting 'em out of the habit of hard work."—then bring 'em back home agin."—Washington Star.

Carolyn Wells in St. Nicholas. Once there was a little boy, whose name was Robert Reever. And every Friday afternoon he had to speak a piece. So many poems this he learned, that soon he had a store. Of recitations in his head, and still kept learning more.

And now this is what happened: He was called upon to recite a piece. And he forgot the piece he was about to speak! His brain he puzzled. Not a word remained within his head! And as he spoke at random, and this is what he said:

"My beautiful, my beautiful, who standest proudly by the shore, the breaking waves dashed high! Why is the Forum empty? What means this stir in Rome? Under a spreading chestnut tree there is no place like home.

"When Freedom from her mountain height, erred, Twinkle little star, Shoot if you must this old star head, King Henry of Navarre, Roll on, thou deep and dark blue hilled, crag of Draceneia, My name is Robert, on the Grampan Hill, ring out, wild bells!

"If you're waking, call me early, to be or not to be, The curfew must not ring tonight! O, Charge 'em, charge 'em, On Stanley, and let who will be clever! The boy stood on the burning deck, but I go on forever!"