

NEBRASKA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Aug 22, 1901 follows

The Conservative.

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VOL. IV. NO. 8.

NEBRASKA CITY, NEBRASKA, AUGUST 29, 1901.

SINGLE COPIES, 5 CENTS.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

OFFICES: OVERLAND THEATRE BLOCK.

J. STERLING MORTON, EDITOR.

A JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE DISCUSSION OF POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND SOCIOLOGICAL QUESTIONS.

CIRCULATION THIS WEEK, 13,500 COPIES.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

One dollar and a half per year in advance, postpaid to any part of the United States or Canada. Remittances made payable to The Morton Printing Company.

Address, THE CONSERVATIVE, Nebraska City, Nebraska.

Advertising rates made known upon application.

Entered at the postoffice at Nebraska City, Neb., as Second Class matter, July 29, 1898.

GOVERNMENT SHOWS.

The first venture of the government of the United States as a Mrs. Jarley, with wax-works on exhibition, was in 1876, at Philadelphia. Then the government was only an endorser and a loaner of money to the centennial exposition.

Subsequently, paroxysmal patriotism in congress, voted large sums of money for a United States show at New Orleans and, then again a few millions for the World's Fair and Columbian Circus of Chicago in 1892, and then for Atlanta, Georgia, and then for Nashville, Tennessee and then for Omaha and at last for Buffalo and St. Louis. These attempts at the show-business by the general government at home, to say nothing about its luscious representation at the Paris Exposition in 1899, have cost the people several millions of dollars. And besides the amounts expended by the national government, millions more have been disbursed for the same shows by the governments of the several states.

The business of government is not the show business, to be operated either in Philadelphia, New Orleans, Chicago, Atlanta, Nashville, Omaha, Buffalo or St. Louis. It is not right to take taxes from all the people and bestow them upon expositions for the pleasure and profit of a few of the people. These shows generally are promoted by persons who wish to easily make money out of the general public. The appropriations for their maintenance are secured by log-rolling lobbyists who make

their livelihood by digging just such ditches into the reservoirs of the national and state treasuries.

It is altogether wrong for a member of any state legislature to originate and push through such an appropriation, and then be appointed a salaried showman by the state executive, to draw pay out of the fund of his own origination. But, if wrong for state legislators, is it right for national law-makers to get the appointments and emoluments out of offices they have freshly created and for which they have voted as senators and representatives, liberal appropriations?

Did not Senators Thurston and Carter vote the millions for the St. Louis Louisiana purchase show? And have they not each felicitously begun to draw five thousand dollars a year in positions their votes created and salaried?

And private John Allen, of Mississippi, in the house of representatives, did he not help the bill, and is he not now quietly chewing the cud of salary which his ruminative vote brought to the surface from the depths of the congressional stomach?

How many years before all law-makers, state and national, will be making offices for themselves, and with good salaries attached, in the long string of nationally-appropriated-for-and-state-taxed-for expositions which loom up among the possibilities of the next half century?

And in this connection let some Washington correspondent of some live Chicago newspaper publish a list of the names of the patriotic citizens who represented the United States government at Paris last year. Who were they?

How many of them could speak French?

What nepotism appointed some of them, and how much salary did each get over and above expenses, and what were the expenses of each? The American people paid the bills and therefore they ought to see the bills.

AT BUFFALO.

An esteemed correspondent of THE CONSERVATIVE writing from Buffalo remarks, with an enthusiasm for governmentally-established and operated expositions, in which we do not share, that in the agricultural building the "Nebraska headquarters are maintained, and visitors are enter-

tained and made to feel at home. This exhibit is in the immediate charge of Commissioner Vance himself, assisted by Hon. T. E. Hibbert of Gage county, who was chairman of the committee that had charge of the bill in the last legislature, that provided for the exhibit, and appropriated \$10,000 therefor. There is also at the headquarters that veteran immigration agent, R. R. Randall, of Lincoln, without whom, no Nebraska exhibit would be complete. Mr. Randall is a walking cyclopedia of information concerning the growth, development, and products of Nebraska, and is never so happy as when extolling the advantages and beauties of the state to groups of interested listeners, whom he never fails to interest and favorably impress.

"Miss Leona Butterfield, of Omaha, whose artistic taste is everywhere apparent in the arrangement of the exhibit does the honors as hostess, having filled the same position with grace and credit at the Trans-Mississippi Exposition.

"Nebraska's exhibit of fruit products is located in the Horticulture building, and is in charge of Mr. J. H. Hadkinson, of Omaha, assisted by his wife. Here a splendid exhibit has been made of fresh, native grown fruits, tastefully arranged; and here as at the other booth, visitors are entertained, and attractive advertising of the state is distributed."

THE CONSERVATIVE can not refrain from calling attention to the italicised statesmanship of Mr. Hibbert, of Gage, as above illuminated. There used to be a constitutional objection to an office being held by the legislator who caused its creation within the year after that office's creation.

HISTORICAL POLITICS.

In a recent editorial the Omaha Bee—which usually has reliable personal and historical data at hand—made the mistake of asserting that Morton, the regularly nominated candidate of the democracy for the governorship in 1892, supported the Weaver electors. That during that campaign, beginning at Funk's opera house at Lincoln, Morton made gold standard speeches, nearly all his hearers will remember, and that he also worked for and supported the Cleveland electors, whose names appeared just over his own on the tickets of the Nebraska democracy, will be quite generally recollected.

It would have been suicidal to have