

The Omaha Bee.

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OMAHA PUBLISHING CO., Prop'rs. E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

Proclamation by the Governor

Convening the Legislature

WHEREAS, The constitution of the state of Nebraska provides that the governor may, on extraordinary occasions, convene the legislature by proclamation; and

WHEREAS, Important public interest of an extraordinary character requires the exercise of this authority;

Therefore, I, Albinus Nankov, governor of the state of Nebraska, do hereby convene the legislature of said state to meet in special session at the capitol in Lincoln on Wednesday the 10th of May, 1882, at 12 o'clock in the day for the purpose herein stated as follows, to-wit:

First. To apportion the state into three congressional districts and to provide for the election of representatives therein.

Second. To amend an act approved March 1st, 1881, entitled "An act to incorporate the cities of the first class and regulation of their duties, powers and government," by conferring additional power upon cities of the first class for the purpose of paving or macadamizing streets and alleys and also providing for the creation and appointment of a board of public works therein.

Third. To assign the county of Custer to some judicial district in the state.

Fourth. To amend section 69, chapter 14, of the compiled statutes of Nebraska entitled "Cities of the second class and villages."

Fifth. To provide for the expenses incurred in suppressing the recent riots at Omaha and protecting citizens of the state from domestic violence.

Sixth. To give the assent of state to the provision of an act of congress to extend the northern boundary of the state of Nebraska.

Seventh. To provide for the payment of the ordinary and contingent expenses of the legislature incurred during the special session hereby convened.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the great seal of the state.

Done at Lincoln, this 20th of April, A. D. 1882, the sixteenth year of the state, and of the independence of the United States, the one hundred and sixth.

S. J. ALEXANDER, Secretary of State.

NOTICE TO NEWSDEALERS.

The publishers of THE BEE have made arrangements with the American News Company to supply News Desks in Illinois, Iowa, Nebraska, Wyoming and Utah. All dealers who keep THE DAILY BEE on sale should hereafter address their orders to the Manager, American News Company, Omaha, Neb.

THE LEGISLATURE WILL CONVENE NEXT WEEK AND THEN COMES THE TUG OF WAR.

MR. BLAINE has retired, but the smell of his gunpowder still lingers in the committee rooms of the capitol.

HIGH prices are complained of in every section of the country, and they do not appear to have reached their limit.

An auxiliary Pullman company is to be organized in England. The English people will soon learn something new about expensive traveling.

ACCORDING to the New York Mail the present house is like Barabam's show in one respect, it has so many "rings" that it is impossible to see all that is going on in them.

DEBATE still continues on the tariff commission bill, but as that is just what that measure was drafted to accomplish, the loss of time does not seem to cause much regret among congressmen.

THE purification of the primaries is being urged with more or less vigor in nearly every Atlantic state, and especially in New York and Pennsylvania where boss rule has made the caucus and primary elections a fraud and a farce.

COMMENTS throughout the state on THE BEE'S expose of Omaha's methods of assessment are general and emphatic. Undervaluation of property is not confined to Omaha, and investigation could be profitably made in every county in the state.

JAY GOULD announces that his railroads propose to get right down to business and earn dividends now. Mr. Gould has evidently fished the lambs for all they were worth as a bear and now intends to unload on a rising market.

How anti-monopoly converts are increasing in Nebraska. Candidates for offices are experiencing such remarkably sudden changes of heart that they have hardly time to throw out of sight the last letter from railroad headquarters before they take their places in the "mourner's seats."

It is stated that the coming appointment of a major general from the five brigadiers will be made in accordance with the special fitness of the officer as an Indian fighter. There is one brigadier general who is recognized throughout the west as the ablest Indian pacificator in the army and he commands at present the department of the Platte, with headquarters at Omaha.

THE CREDIT MOBILIER AND OMAHA.

When the Pacific railroad bill was passed and United States aid was voted to induce capitalists to build it, the question was not, is not this wrong? But rather, can we get the roads? During that time slowly pushing the Rock Island to Iowa City. He saw the opportunity to seize the charter for the Union Pacific. Bringing Dillon, Ames, Bushnell, and a few more into association with him, years elapsed before he could persuade his associates to enter upon the work in earnest. Mr. Webster Snyder, of this city, who was general superintendent and manager of construction, will remember how, previous to the abandonment of what was known as the "Day Line" for that of Mad Creek, and until the first forty miles of the road was completed to Fremont, the local debt of the company mounted up to millions, and also what danger existed that the whole thing would collapse on the hands of the men who had laid down considerable money to carry on the enterprise. Such was the want of confidence in it, with all the aid that was given by the government, that, right here in Omaha, where Edward Creighton and the Kountzes, of this city, had the opportunity afforded to them, by laying down a comparatively small sum of money, to own, or at least control, this now wonderful property, they did not desire to incur the hazard, and it turned out at last, as Mr. Dillon told a senate committee in a hot and heavy speech pending the passage of the Thurman bill, that but for the Credit Mobilier construction scheme the Pacific railroad would have been an exploded dream for this generation of fault-finders whose malicious hindsight is so remarkable. [Omaha Herald.]

Edward Creighton and the Kountzes of this city were probably unable to take control of the Union Pacific as it was first organized and under the restrictions and limits imposed by its unamended grants. The original constitution to the company by the United States made a land grant of alternate sections on each side of the track within a limit of ten miles, reserving for the government all mineral and coal lands and making the property of the company a first mortgage to secure the loans advanced by the nation.

Edward Creighton and the Kountzes could not and did not care to "incur the hazard" of going into congress like the sainted Oakes Ames for the purpose of changing the first mortgage, which was given to the United States, to a second mortgage, increasing the ten mile limit to a twenty mile limit, thereby doubling the land grant, and injecting other equally favorable provisions, leaving the Credit Mobilier crowd to do as they pleased by a judicious distribution of Credit Mobilier stock "where it would do the most good."

Nebraska in 1862 was a territory, and in fact continued so until the road was nearly completed. She had but one delegate in congress, who was voiceless excepting upon matters pertaining strictly to his own territory. On the other hand the Credit Mobilier gang had a royal flush from that good and honest old state of Massachusetts, with proper congressional and editorial support, from democratic cappers like Jim Brooks. The Kountzes and Ed Creighton could have gone into bankruptcy a dozen times in trying to achieve the same results, even if they had been disposed to enter upon such a wholesale system of bribery and robbery. It took unprincipled scoundrels and experienced corruptionists to engineer this unparalleled scheme of plunder, and Edward Creighton and the Kountzes would have proved entirely unequal to the task. But this is no reason why they should be stoned for not wishing to "incur the hazard," or why the rogues who lobbied their outrageous steal from the people of the United States should be held up as public benefactors. Let THE HERALD cast its eye over the startling exhibit presented by THE BEE in its last issue showing the vast empire which these land robbers have annexed to themselves—an empire comprising over 300,000 square miles and nearly 200,000,000 acres of land. Doctor Miller can, perhaps, cram his slush down the throats of people who are ignorant of the history of credit mobilier and the land grant robbers, for whom he has been a consistent and persistent tool and champion, but those who watched the beginnings and have watched the progress of this gigantic steal will refuse to be blinded to the true inwardness of a transaction which has made a half a hundred private fortunes and robbed the people of the United States out of millions of dollars in lands and subsidies.

A NEW gas company has been organized in Chicago which proposes to furnish gas light to consumers for \$1.75 per thousand feet. There are no good reasons why the price of gas throughout the country should not have fallen fifty per cent in the last fifteen years. Before that time there was a great waste of products remaining after the distillation of the gas from the coal. The coal tar was thrown away or sold at a mere trifle. Now it forms one of the most important sources of income for the gas companies. Colors and flavoring extracts are manufactured in large quantities from benzole, anthracene and naphthalene, which are themselves obtained from the decomposition of coal tar, and are treated with salts of copper

and other chemicals and acids. The aniline dyes are now superseding most previous materials for dyeing, having altogether taken the place of madder, indigo and numerous organic materials of large commercial value. Again, there have been vast improvements made in the process of gas making which effect a great saving of the product, and render manufacture very much cheaper than formerly; still the gas companies continue to maintain rates by buying out competition and exclusive privileges, while it reaps all the benefits from new inventions and improved processes of manufacture. Nothing but an earthquake or the electric light seems to be able to effect the heart and pockets of the gas monopoly.

This board of education is in a disgraceful muddle over the election of a secretary. The contest over this office may be very interesting to the parties concerned, but does not reflect much credit upon our city. We are not disposed to discuss the merits of the respective claimants, but it strikes us that the board is in honor and duty bound to settle the matter without washing its dirty linen in the courts. There is too much business to be transacted and too many great interests at stake in the conduct of our public schools to waste time in a squabble for personal gain.

Quite apart from this it is a matter of fact that the last legislature has crippled the educational interests of Omaha by remodelling the board of education law. The original act creating the board of education was framed by the editor of THE BEE in 1871 and for ten years it stood the test with but slight change. The original act created a board of twelve members, two from each ward, whose terms expired alternately every two years. The last legislature reduced the number of members to six. The object of the change we cannot comprehend. The board serves without pay and there could be no economy in reducing the number and there certainly is enough work for a board of twelve men. They have the supervision of the entire system of schools. They necessarily must divide their labors so as to assign some members to the practical work of inspecting school buildings; others to investigate the capacity and conduct of teachers; others, again, to look after the finances of the board. Now, with six members, four of whom form a quorum, and three a majority of a quorum, the burden of the whole system is upon three members most of the time, and the power vested in these three men is greater in many respects than is vested in the majority of the city council. Six members may be ample for cities of the second class and villages, but for a city of the size of Omaha the board of education as originally constituted is more efficient.

If the law had remained unchanged the squabble over the secretaryship would hardly have taken place. ALTHOUGH this is an off year in politics there is already sufficient music in the air all along the line to make the coming campaign quite interesting. The legislatures to be chosen in the various states this year will have plenty of political excitement. Twenty-five of them will elect United States senators, namely, those of Illinois, Colorado, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Alabama, Arkansas, Delaware, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, New Jersey, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia.

The indirect effect of low assessments and undervaluation reaches a good deal beyond the mere question of taxation. In the first place, as we have already shown some days ago, low assessment forces a high rate of taxation, and a high rate of taxation compels local capitalists to exact a high rate of interest on the money they loan. When a man is compelled to pay five and a quarter per cent taxes on his mortgage loans he cannot loan his money for less than ten per cent, because even that high rate only leaves him four and three-quarters net for his money. On the other hand, when a non-resident capitalist is asked for a loan on real estate, one of the first questions he asks is, what is its assessed valuation? The usual custom in the east with real estate loans is to loan to the extent of one-third of the assessed valuation. Now suppose, for instance, Mr. Poppleton made application for a loan on his three story block, corner Tenth and Farnam, which is assessed at \$12,000. All he could borrow on that property from eastern capitalists under the common rule would be \$4,000, when, in fact, the block would be very cheap for \$40,000. And Mr. Poppleton's block is assessed at about the same ratio that two-thirds of the real property in Omaha has been assessed.

It becomes self-evident that this system of undervaluation is very injurious in keeping foreign capital out of Omaha which could otherwise be secured at low rates on real estate security. The want of money at a low rate of interest retards the growth of the city by preventing the erection of many

buildings that would otherwise be put up, and it also keeps up high rents, because men who borrow at ten per cent must exact higher rents from their tenants than when money is abundant at 6 or 7 per cent. Quite apart from these drawbacks Omaha suffers serious loss from undervaluation and necessary high rate of taxes by frightening away foreign capital that would invest with us. Non residents who do not understand our system of assessments refuse to invest because they consider 5 1/2 per cent enormous and fear that they will be eaten up by taxes.

"THE BEE" believes in the manifest destiny of Omaha to become one of the great cities of this country, but it does not believe in a policy that seeks to build up a great city on wind and gas. The articles that have recently been printed in "The Republican" concerning the alleged marvellous growth of Omaha will do this city a deal more harm than good. If these articles written by that wind-bag statistician, ex-Quartermaster General Test, had been published over his own name we should have taken no notice of them, but when they appear as editorials in a paper claiming to represent the solid business community, we object. A man can never pull himself up by his boot straps, and you cannot build up a city by downright lying concerning facts which are within the reach of the public.

It is announced with a grand flourish of trumpets that Omaha now has a population of over 47,000 and "The Republican" goes so far as to quote the exact figures for each ward, as follows:

POPULATION, APRIL, 1882. First Ward..... 8,231 Second Ward..... 8,428 Third Ward..... 5,122 Fourth Ward..... 5,312 Fifth Ward..... 11,829 Sixth Ward..... 8,186 Total..... 47,106

Now where did this blatherskite get these figures? There has been no census taken of Omaha since 1880. It took thirty enumerators a whole month to take the census of Omaha two years ago; but Mr. Test tells us that, he sitting in the U. P. headquarters, procured the exact figures within three days. How did he procure them, and what basis had he for such a brazen falsehood? We know that the census taken in June, 1880, which gave Omaha a population of 30,652 was expanded to the farthest limit.

No person having respect for veracity will pretend that Omaha has increased 17,000 in population in twenty-two months. It is not only stupid to publish such a bogus census, but it is injurious in the utmost, because it will compel us to keep on lying from now to everlasting. St. Louis tried that thing in inflating her census of 1870, and ten years later they discovered they had not grown very much, because the census of 1880, which was honestly taken, did not show a material increase over the census of 1870, which was bogus.

To claim 47,000 people now for Omaha would compel us to inflate the returns from year to year and keep inflating and lying until the town would grow ashamed of it. The fact is, Omaha is doing as well, and perhaps better, than any other city west of the Mississippi, not excepting Kansas City. We have grown from eight to ten thousand since the last census was taken, and may now have about 40,000 population.

The annual illustrated review of THE BEE, which we seek to make as accurate in regard to statistics as they can be got, gives Omaha at the close of 1881 38,000 population. We may have gained 2,000 in the last four months, and if we have, it is certainly a good enough showing, but for God's sake stop lying and inflating when there is no sense in it, and when people will refuse to believe you even if some day you should tell the truth. Let us have no more of these bogus statistics which go out abroad and make us a set of brazen braggarts. The truth is good enough, and will serve a better purpose than all this flatism. You cannot build up a city on wind puffing, Mr. Test.

THE NEW YORK Times thinks that the day for hoisting the bloody shirt in congress is past. The war has been over for seventeen years and red handed rebels like Mosby, Mahone and Longstreet have become shining lights within the republican party.

MAYOR BOYD could do the city a good service by placing Mr. Angell and his deputy on the retired list. If the mayor will take the pains to inquire into the conduct of these officers he will find that they have been negligent and inefficient in every particular. The discipline in the police force is abominable. Our police go about like stray sheep. They have no orders. They do not know what their duty is, and when they do their duty sometimes the marshal finds fault with them.

As to the deputy, the less said the better. As a guard over prisoners he needs a good deal more guarding than they do, and there is danger that some

might be carried away and turn up missing. We are paying \$70 a month for the police, and we are entitled to an active, energetic and vigorous set of young men, who keep sober at all times, and who manifest a disposition to enforce good order.

The president has issued a proclamation against the Arizona cow-boys. That will scatter them like a broad side from a battery of Gatling guns.

STATE SCHOOL NOTES.

Supt. Hunt will hold an institute in Norfolk in August.

The State Asylum for the blind at Nebraska City has twenty-eight pupils.

The Harlan county teachers' institute will be held at Alma on the 12th and 13th.

Wm. Sharp has been reelected to teach the young Stanton Idea for the summer term.

"Uncle" Samuel W. Hayes has been elected director of the Norfolk school board.

A correspondent says the Junia school is called a high school because the house cost so much.

The Dawson county teachers will hold an association meeting at Plum Creek on the 12th and 13th.

The Fallston university grounds will be ornamented by three thousand trees, to be set out immediately.

Prof. Kendall, of Williams college, has been engaged to fill the chair of modern language at Doane college.

Miss Josie Leane, our friend from the Badger state, came here on a visit and got caught as a school ma'am.—Harvard Journal.

Prof. Rich, of Falls City, has been appointed by the state examining committee, to examine applicants for a life certificate to teach school in Nebraska.

Subscriptions for the proposed Nebraska college, to be located at Hastings, are coming in steadily. The committee hope to secure the required \$10,000 in a few days.

The ceremony of laying the corner stone of the seminary, on 1st Thursday, was the most important epoch in Oakdale's history.—Oakdale Pen and Pencil.

The New Chinese Bill.

The following is the text of the Chinese bill:

AN ACT to execute certain treaty stipulations relating to Chinese.

WHEREAS, In the opinion of the government of the United States, the coming of Chinese laborers to this country endangers the good order of certain localities within the territory thereof; therefore

Be it enacted, etc., That from and after the expiration of ninety days next after the passage of this act, and until the expiration of ten years after the passage of this act, the coming of Chinese laborers to the United States be and the same is hereby suspended; and during such suspension it shall not be lawful for any Chinese laborer to come, or having so come after the expiration of said ninety days, to remain within the United States.

Sec. 2. That the master of any vessel who shall knowingly bring within the United States on such vessel, and land or permit to be landed, any Chinese laborer from any foreign port or place, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be fined in a sum not exceeding \$1,000 and imprisoned in a penitentiary for a term of not more than five years.

Sec. 3. That any person who shall knowingly or falsely alter, or substitute any name for the name written in such certificate, or forge any such certificate, or knowingly utter any forged or fraudulent certificate, or falsely personate any person named in any such certificate, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be fined in a sum not exceeding \$1,000 and imprisoned in a penitentiary for a term of not more than five years.

Sec. 4. That the master of any vessel arriving in the United States from any foreign port or place shall at the same time he delivers a manifest of the cargo, and if there be no cargo then at the time of making a report of the entry of the vessel pursuant to law, in addition to the other matter required to be reported, and before landing or permitting to land any Chinese passengers, deliver and report to the collector of customs of the district in which such vessel shall have arrived, a separate list of all Chinese passengers taken on board his vessel at any foreign port or place and all such passengers on board the vessel at that time. Such list shall show the names of such passengers (and if accredited officers of the Chinese government, or their servants, with a note of such facts), and the names and other particulars as shown by their respective certificates, and such list shall be sworn to by the master in the manner required by law in relation to the manifest of his cargo. Any willful refusal or neglect of any such master to comply with the provisions of this section shall incur the same penalties and forfeitures as are provided for a refusal or neglect to report and deliver a manifest of the cargo.

Sec. 5. That before any Chinese passengers are landed from any such vessel the collector, or his deputy, specific certificate of such passengers, comparing the certificates with the list and with the passengers, and no passenger shall be allowed to land in the United States from such vessel in violation of law.

Sec. 6. That every vessel whose master shall knowingly violate any of the provisions of this act shall be deemed forfeited to the United States, and shall be liable to seizure and condemnation in any district of the United States in which such vessel may enter, or in which she may be found.

Sec. 7. That any person who shall knowingly bring into or cause to be brought into the United States by land, or who shall knowingly aid or abet the same, or aid or abet the landing in the United States, from any vessel, of any Chinese person not lawfully entitled to enter the United States, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall on conviction thereof be fined in a sum not exceeding \$1,000, and imprisoned for a term not exceeding one year.

Sec. 8. That no Chinese person shall be permitted to enter the United States by land without producing to the proper officer of customs the certificate in this act required of Chinese persons seeking to land from a vessel. And any Chinese person found unlawfully within the United States shall be deemed to be removed therefrom to the country from whence he came by the direction of the president of the United States, and at the cost of the United States, after being brought before some justice, judge, or commissioner of a court of the United States, and found to be one not lawfully entitled to be or remain in the United States.

Sec. 9. That this act shall not apply to diplomatic and other officers of the Chinese government, whose credentials shall be taken as equivalent to the certificate in this act mentioned, and shall exempt them and their body and household servants from the provisions of this act as to other Chinese persons.

Sec. 10. That hereafter no state court of the United States shall admit Chinese to citizenship, and all laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

Sec. 11. That the words "Chinese laborers," wherever used in this act, shall be construed to mean both skilled and unskilled laborers and Chinese employed in mining.

return to and re-enter the United States upon producing and delivering the same to the collector of customs of the district at which Chinese laborers shall seek to re-enter, and upon delivery of such certificate by such Chinese laborer to the collector of customs at the time of re-entry in the United States, said collector shall cause the same to be filed in the customs house and duly canceled.

Sec. 5. That any Chinese laborers mentioned in section 4 of this act, being in the United States and desiring to depart from the United States by land, shall have the right to demand and receive, free of charge or cost, a certificate of identification similar to that provided for in section 4 of this act to be issued to such Chinese laborers as may desire to leave the United States by water; and it is hereby made the duty of the collector of customs of the district next adjoining the foreign country to which the said Chinese laborer desires to go, to issue such certificate, free of charge or cost, upon application by such Chinese laborer, and to enter the same upon the registry books to be kept by him for the purpose, as provided for in section 4 of this act.

Sec. 6. That, in order to the faithful execution of articles 1 and 2 of the treaty in this act before mentioned, every Chinese person other than a laborer who may be entitled by said treaty and this act to come within the United States, and who shall be about to come to the United States, shall be identified as so entitled by the Chinese government in each case such identity to be evidenced by a certificate issued under the authority of said government, or, if not in the English language, accompanied by a translation into English stating such right to come, and which certificate shall state the name, title or official rank, if any, the age, height, and all physical peculiarities, former and present occupations, profession, and place of residence in China of the person to whom the certificate is issued, and that such person is entitled, conformably to the treaty in this act mentioned, to come within the United States. Such certificate shall be prima facie evidence of the facts set forth therein, and shall be produced to the collector of customs, or his deputy, of the port in the district in the United States at which the person named therein shall arrive.

Sec. 7. That any person who shall knowingly or falsely alter, or substitute any name for the name written in such certificate, or forge any such certificate, or knowingly utter any forged or fraudulent certificate, or falsely personate any person named in any such certificate, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof shall be fined in a sum not exceeding \$1,000 and imprisoned in a penitentiary for a term of not more than five years.

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