

The Omaha Bee.

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The BEE PUBLISHING CO., Props. E. ROSEWATER Editor

JOE MILLARD has got a new bank, but it isn't large enough to hold the money which will be necessary to capture that seat in the United States senate.

"Will you walk into my parlor" is the seductive song of the railroad spider to the anti-monopoly flies. The invitation will not be accepted this season of the legislature.

RAIN has damaged the coffee crop of Brazil. The corn crop of Nebraska is safe, and the price of bug juice will not be affected by the scarcity of coffee.

VALENTINE'S own at West Point hoists the name of that eminent warrior as its candidate for U. S. senator. That would be a safe way of getting into congress without taking chances on having his seat contested.

THE death of Tariff Commissioner McMahon takes away from the commission the only member who was practically acquainted with the workings of the present tariff, and the ways and means committee has given up expecting anything tangible from the report for a month to come.

ONCE in a great while a democrat tells a political truth. "The people did not vote the democratic ticket because they loved the party," said Abram S. Hewitt, "but to punish the men who had been faithless to them." This remark is respectfully commended to those editorial roosters which have been giving vent to spasmoid crows ever since the late political cyclone.

THE reports come from Washington that Secretary Folger has handed in his resignation, and that the treasury portfolio will be offered to Richard Crowley, of New York. Probably no one regrets more than Mr. Folger that he resigned a year ago his honorable and lucrative position as judge of the New York court of appeals, with its thirteen-year tenure of office.

OUR Val will run for the senate about as well as his bosom friend, Loran Clark, did for the state treasury, but there is no danger from that quarter. Republicans are not quite ready yet to bury what there is left of the party in Nebraska. A man who has been in congress two terms and cannot even carry the precinct he lives in can hardly commend himself for a senatorial race.

TWO thirds of the defeated members of congress are politically dead, and they know it. Several of the senators will also retire to private life with the close of the present session. A veteran lobbyist mentions these facts, and predicts that the coming session will be one of riot and revelry for the lobby. He prophesies that these retiring statesmen will pay less attention to the business of the country than to their own private affairs, and that money will flow freely into their pockets as they advocate bogus claims and assist in rushing through various highly flavored raids on the treasury. There is probably more truth than fiction in the prediction. The coming winter will be a busy one for the Washington lobby. Hippo Mitchell will put in his retiring socks for the Northern Pacific. Robeson will make another energetic attempt, backed by John Roach, to secure the expenditure of a few more millions on the rotting hulks in the League Island navy yard. A score of politically dead congressmen will frantically attempt to push forward business on the private calendar and Saline and swamp land schemes will bob serenely on the surface like Ohio apples in a tub of water. The consciences of the retiring statesmen will not be sensitive to means and methods, but their pockets will be keenly sensitive to the seductive touch of the lobbyist. They have faced defeat at the polls and many of them will face dishonor in the congressional corridors before they leave the capital to make room for their successors. It will be a good session for the people to watch the votes of these senators and representatives. Expedited legislation of a suspicious nature will bear the dissection of a candid criticism and so will the votes of the men who are paid \$5,000 a year to protect the interests of the people.

THE RAILWAY WAR AND POOLING.

The fight between the railroads in the northwest is drawing to a close. It has been a short and bitter one.

Both passenger and freight rates have been liberally cut from St. Paul, Minneapolis and Chicago, and the war has even extended to several minor points on the Missouri river. The whole difficulty is a good example of one of the certain results of the pooling policy now practiced so generally by the railroads at competing points. The fight across from the demand of the Rock Island's new road, to be admitted on equal terms to a pool with the two other roads which, until recently, had a monopoly of the business. The concessions of the Milwaukee and the Northwestern to the Rock Island were not satisfactory to that company, and upon their demand of a full third share in the business being refused, it at once put prices at a point where all three must be ruined if they are continued, with the object of forcing the other roads to terms. The fight has continued for over two weeks, and the managers are ready to cry a halt and arbitrate differences. In a few days a truce will, in all likelihood, be patched up on a new basis of friendship concocted, and the Rock Island will be admitted to a larger share in the northwestern business than the two roads were at first disposed to concede it. Rates will again be restored, perhaps increased, and the public will of course pay in the long run for the losses of the belligerent corporations.

It is a serious question whether pooling will not kill itself even if the people do not dispose of it before it dies a natural death. Every new and competing road weakens the strength of the pool. A pool cannot freeze out a reasonably strong competitor. It must either buy his property or admit him to partnership and then make enough money out of the people to support the arrangement. A point must be reached sooner or later when the pools will fall to pieces of their own weight. Freight charges cannot be placed unreasonably high for any considerable length of time. The people will interfere, and the moment that interference is put into effect the pools will die an unnatural death. The railroad confederacy will then be forced to depend entirely upon consolidation of rival lines to protect themselves from competition. Now, pooling and consolidation are their two shields against opposition. But the pooling outrage must be suppressed sooner or later, as new roads are built paralleling old lines and cutting into their business, and consolidation itself cannot be carried on much farther before the national government will be forced by an overpowering public demand to deal with the question of national railway regulation.

The census bureau has published an interesting table of statistics showing the capital invested in manufactures, the number of hands employed, the amount of wages paid, the value of materials used and the value of the products for all the establishments of manufacturing industry in each of the States and territories. New York leads the list of states with 42,739 establishments, followed by Pennsylvania with 31,225. Nebraska is credited with 1,403 manufacturing industries in which \$4,881,150 of capital is invested. These establishments give employment to 4,464 men, 120 women and 269 children and youths.

The total amount paid in wages for the year is stated to be \$1,742,311, or on average of \$1.13 a day. These figures are probably slightly below the mark. Over eight millions of dollars worth of material were consumed, and more than 12,500,000 of manufactured articles produced. This is an excellent showing for a state only fourteen years old. It surpasses that of three of the southern states, and scarcely falls behind several of more than double its population.

A RAID upon congress by the envelope manufacturers may be confidently expected at the next session. The postmaster-general has concluded a contract with Mr. Ehrlich, of St. Louis, for the use of his combination letter sheet, envelope and stamp. The device does away entirely with the ordinary envelope, and also with the necessity of stamp cancellation. The sheet is manufactured with gummed flap, which, when the sheet is folded lap over the open edges and secure the letter. The postage stamp is embossed on one of these flaps, thus bringing the stamp on the back of the letter, where the old wrapper and seal used to be. The entire package is licked, sealed and stamped with one motion. Both the public and government will profit by the invention. It will cost only a trifle more than the ordinary stamped envelope and will save about 50 per cent. in time and expense to the business man who writes his letters on one side of a sheet. The government gains in saving the time expended in stamp cancellation. The Ehrlich device, when adopted by the postoffice department, will materially cheapen postage by reducing the cost of the paper and envelopes on which letters are written. It will only be

available for short correspondence, but its use is likely to prove greater than either its inventor or the postmaster general anticipates.

THE annual banquet of the Omaha stenographers, draws attention to the increasing demand in all quarters for experienced short-hand reporters and clerks. Six years ago only two stenographers were located in our city, Mr. John T. Bell, the present reporter of the district court, and Mr. Homer Stull, recently reporter for the United States courts. There are now nearly thirty short-hand reporters in Omaha, of whom twenty are employed in the railroad offices of our city, and the demand always exceeds the supply. Ten years ago a stenographer outside of the attaches of the press was a rarity. Modern business activity has revolutionized the slow methods of the past. The increasing use of the mails and telegraph and the consolidation of smaller business concerns into large establishments have called into existence hundreds of clerks to whom a knowledge of shorthand has brought steady and well paid employment. Every great corporation now counts its scores of stenographers, who enable heads of departments to transact with ease in two or three hours ten times the amount of business which some years ago would have been considered a good day's work. A profession which a few years ago was looked upon as a species of legerdemain is to-day recognized as a calling open to all who have the energy and perseverance to prosecute its ceaseless practice to proficiency. The Nebraska stenographic association which was organized less than three years ago is one of the pioneer associations in the country. Its efforts were largely instrumental in securing the organization of the national association, and the influence and standing of its members is now recognized throughout the country. No profession so much as journalism appreciates the work of the stenographer, and no profession imposes such tasks upon the expert phonographer.

We hear a good deal about reckless extravagance in the conduct of city governments, but the city of Washington can beat any city on the globe in the matter of tax-eating. An estimate has just been published of the expenses of governing the city of Washington during the next fiscal year. Among the items we find the following: executive office, \$21,601.50; assessor's office, \$19,400; attorney's office, \$8,812; engineer's office, \$43,128; markets, \$7,000; park commission, \$2,100; institutions of charity, reformatories and prisons, grand total, \$238,214; street cleaning, repairing sewers, pavements and bridges, street sprinkling, street lighting and incidental surveying, \$769,935.61; metropolitan police force, officers, privates and detectives, rent, fuel, etc., \$307,020; fire department, \$103,040; telegraph and telephone, \$13,190; public schools, pay of teachers and officers, \$395,450; furniture, stationary, books and repair, \$75,000; school buildings and site, \$80,000; health department, \$36,000; water department, \$106,452; making a total exclusive of water department, \$3,443,847.08. 'One-half of this enormous sum is to be paid by Uncle Sam, the other half is taxed against private property. What do our Omaha grumblers think about these figures?

PROMINENT merchants and manufacturers in Germany have started a movement for the foundation of German colonies. The first meeting will be held at Frankfort-on-the-Rhine on the 6th of December. The main-spring of this scheme is a desire to build up foreign commerce through these colonies as England has done through hers. The Germans are disposed to found independent colonies of their own on the English plan, but where is not stated. Bismarck is said to be opposed to the colonial scheme, but the popular feeling in Germany is very much in favor of it, and is rapidly growing. Evidently the purpose is to found these colonies in some part of the world where they could become provinces of Germany. The problem will be to find a spot roomy enough for such a scheme that is not already under somebody's flag.

THE Council Bluffs board of trade has appointed a committee to confer with the Omaha board of trade on the proposed bridge across the Missouri. There seems to be a wide difference of opinion whether it is to be simply a wagon bridge or a bridge that will accommodate railway traffic and vehicles. Now what sense is there in quarreling about these details at this time? First get your charter from congress, and let it be broad enough to cover any future contingency. If a wagon bridge will satisfy present demands, and the outlay is warranted, build a wagon bridge. But by all means get the charter and talk up the plans after the bill has passed congress.

They are Fast Disappearing. Atlanta Constitution. "Have you noticed," said Gen. Hoke, of North Carolina, the other day, "the rapid disappearance of one-armed and one-legged men? At the

close of the war, in the south, as almost every southerner was in the army, men without an arm or leg were to be seen everywhere and on all occasions. Within the last few years they have been growing scarcer rapidly. In a few more years it will be a rare thing to see one."

"It is impossible for me to realize," said an old soldier sitting near by, "that it has been more than seventeen years since Lee surrendered. When I think of that day it seems to me that it was only yesterday. And yet nearly a generation has passed since the confederate flag was floated for the last time."

Where, O Where? By the way, what has become of Church Howe? Isn't it nearly time for him to be run away with and seriously injured again?

From Spent Land. Louisville Courier-Journal. The spirit of Zachariah Chandler was interviewed a few nights ago as to recent events in this country. Mr. Chandler said: "By the way, the one who is gone..."

The Railroad Building Mania. Over railroading and over capitalization are at the bottom of all these troubles. The country has been building of late at the rate of 1,000 miles per month. Taking the cost of every mile at \$50,000—and this is a low estimate, as there are roads capitalized at nearly twice that amount—some \$500,000,000 have thus been expended for no better purpose than enriching the promoters of the companies, for most of the newly built roads run through wild regions which not as yet warrant the existence of any railroad at all. That sum makes a per capita contribution of over \$11 for every man, woman and child living in this country. The British Crown owns the United Kingdom about four cents per capita a year. Now, what is cheaper for the people, to support a Queen Victoria or to support a blind pool of railroad schemers like Gould, Vanderbilt, Villard, Sidney Dillon, Palmer and one or two other patriotic and benevolent gentlemen?

Presidential Probabilities. The New York Sun, by way of encouraging the democrats upon the probability of the election of their candidate for president in 1884, prints a table showing how the electoral votes will stand, if all the states vote in that year as they have voted in the recent election. The table has historic value, and we therefore publish it:

DEMOCRATIC ELECTORAL VOTES. Alabama... 10 Arkansas... 7 Florida... 9 Georgia... 9 Louisiana... 8 Mississippi... 9 Missouri... 9 Nevada... 3 New Jersey... 3 New York... 36 North Carolina... 12 North Dakota... 3 Ohio... 15 Pennsylvania... 23 Rhode Island... 4 South Carolina... 7 Tennessee... 11 Texas... 13 Vermont... 3 Virginia... 13 West Virginia... 6 Total... 298

REPUBLICAN ELECTORAL VOTE. Colorado... 8 Illinois... 22 Iowa... 13 Kansas... 13 Maine... 4 Massachusetts... 7 Michigan... 5 Minnesota... 11 Nebraska... 5 Wisconsin... 11 Total... 103

Under like circumstances, the republicans will have, at least, an even chance in the states of Indiana, Connecticut, and, as the late election there shows, North Carolina. Subtracting the thirty-three votes of these three states from the column in which they appear above and adding them to the other, we find the positions of the two political parties reversed, the republicans having 216 votes and the democrats 185, 201 being a majority of the college. Notice further, that the republicans can lose either of these three states, gaining the other two, and still have a majority in the college. This is giving New York, Nevada, California and New Jersey to the democrats—in every one of which states the republicans can win a victory in 1884, if they previously prove that they deserve to win it. On the whole, the outlook is not so discouraging as some of the good people who thought before the election that everything depended on the success of Judge Tolger would have us believe. The reappointment has made it possible to elect a republican president without the aid of New York's thirty-six votes. On the other hand, the defeat of Judge Folger, accomplished as it was, has made it possible to control these thirty-six New York votes for the right kind of republican presidential candidate.

PERSONALITIES.

"Longity" is the way Mrs. Langtry pronounced the name of the man who was called "Tom" by her friends. She had a Providence tailor to have his inauguration suit made.

On December 13 Gladstone will have been fifty years in parliament. Gladstone must have Ohio blood in his veins.

Gov. Stephens wants to be called "Mistress" Thomas Jefferson. He wanted to be called when he had three acres.

Herbert Spencer considers the wearing of pointed-toe shoes and skin-tight trousers a well defined mark of mental imbecility. Herbert evidently has a Tilden leg.

Sullivan, the prize fighter, says that in training he relies much on the salt bath. He also eats three or four bunches of celery a day for the benefit of his nerves and respiration.

When Mrs. McElroy, the president's sister, was asked why she did not become mistress of the white house, she replied that she owed her time, first of all, to her husband and five children.

A correspondent describes M. De Brazas, the French explorer of Africa, as "a tall, angular man, with intensely black hair and whiskers. His features are Jewish, and the exaggerated emphasis of his gestures is Italian. He is skillful and alert."

Charles Ulrich, of Newark, N. J., has been sentenced to six months of hard labor in the penitentiary for tickling the soles of two young ladies' feet. He was a lodger in the house where the young ladies lived, and chose that way of amusing himself at night when the others of the household were wrapped in sleep.

Proctor Knott is said to be one of the most covetous men in Kentucky, and is described as a florid, portly Southern man, with a stubble, gray mustache, a hat pushed knowingly over his left eye, with a comical look, mingled with such absurdness as tells the poorest reader of character that he is a born wit.

It is said that the first announcement that ex-Gov. Hendricks would recover was made by a rough old shell-bark doctor from the country who called to pay his illustrious friend a farewell visit. When permitted to see the "senile gangrene" which the great surgeon had pronounced fatal, he stared at it a moment, and then with a decisive grunt and an indignant thumping oath, roared out: "Nothing but a hell!"

Col. Forequet, who at the age of 88 years is the sprightliest citizen of Summit, Miss., was a personal friend of Alexander Hamilton and knew Aaron Burr intimately. Col. Forequet saw Bonaparte at the head of 30,000 men in Paris in 1811, and four years later was with Gen. Jackson at New Orleans.

The following story is told of a Georgia legislator. "Senator Pike left the joint session the other day pending the roll on the election of Judge Lawson, to see the circuit prosecutor in his office. He was impressed with 'Bollivar' the big elephant, that when he rushed back into the hall he cried out: 'I change my vote from Bollivar to Lawson!'"

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AMUSEMENTS. BOYD'S OPERA HOUSE, Monday, Nov. 27th. KELCOCC-BRIGNOLI (Grand Combination in Oper and Concert TROVATOREI

LEGAL NOTICE. In the District Court in and for Douglas county, Nebraska. Elicea Brady vs. Benjamin F. Brady.

MCCARTHY & BURKE, Undertakers, 218 14th St., bet. Farnam and Douglas.

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