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E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

THE DAILY BEE.
Sworn Statement of Circulation.

Sworn before me this 4th day of Sept., 1896.
GEO. B. TSCHECH, Notary Public.

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Mr. H. H. Shedd is up again asking a renomination at the hands of the republican party of Nebraska for the office of lieutenant governor. Now we have no personal fight with Mr. Shedd, but before he secures the endorsement which he seeks, the people of Nebraska would like to know what he proposes to do with the senate committee in case he should be called upon to preside over that body. At the last session of the legislature Mr. Shedd, in violation of precedent and universal custom, insisted upon naming the senate committee, and permitted the House to dictate several of the most important laws. As a natural consequence none of the remedial legislation demanded by the people of Nebraska was gained. The railroad succeeded in foisting upon us a useless and expensive commission, and laws which the members of the legislature had pledged themselves to secure never saw the light of day.

The right of the senate to choose its own committees was made an issue some years ago in this state and a president elect which Mr. Shedd was the first to violate. It is the usual custom in other states and is the method of the national senate at Washington. It is important that Mr. Shedd should define himself on this question before the convention meets. If railroad lobbyists and political tricksters under the control of the monopolies are to be again given a chance to block legislation through the lieutenant governor, the people would like to know it. If the senate is to be permitted in accordance with a proper precedent to select its own committees, that fact should be distinctly stated.

A Blundering Department.

The statement that the navy department has blundered again is not surprising. It has been doing that at every opportunity under its present administration, and there is no reason to suppose that it will not blunder hereafter while Mr. Whitney remains at the head of it. A Washington correspondent has found the cause of the long delay in issuing calls for proposals for the construction of the four new war vessels authorized to be built by congress. Two of them were to be protected cruisers of about 4,000 tons, and the other two were to be gunboats of about 1,700 tons and 870 tons respectively, all to be constructed of steel. Work upon the designs for these vessels was entered upon by the bureau of construction of the navy department as soon as the appropriation became available. The board to supervise the plans approved those for the gunboats about the end of last May, and those for the cruisers were approved about two months ago.

In the meantime Secretary Whitney had obtained knowledge that a cruiser built in Great Britain for the Japanese government had attained great speed, and he determined to have one of the 4,000 ton American cruisers built after the plans of the Japanese vessel. Then came a revision of the plans, and with it the discovery that the bureau of construction had made a botch of the designs which the supervising board had allowed to pass. It was necessary to design and draw a new set of lines, and this was done to a certain extent by patching up the defective plans. This having been done, the advertisement for proposals was prepared, but before it received the signature of the secretary another blunder was discovered. The board on additional vessels, probably in ignorance of the law which required that all of these boats should be built of steel, had approved designs for the construction of one of the gunboats of composite material—that is, of wood and iron. More than \$25,000 had been expended in payment of draughtsmen, and the result was one design condemned, one found defective and patched up, and a third that may be found wanting. The draughtsmen of course simply obeyed orders, and are not to blame. The fault is due to the inefficiency of the construction bureau, for which Mr. Whitney is measurably responsible, and to the apparent stupidity or carelessness of the supervising board. But wherever the blame ought justly to be laid, and we can see no reason why the secretary should escape his share of it, the unavoidable conclusion from such facts must be that the navy department is still very far from being a model establishment, and its boasted reform might undergo considerable reformation with advantage to the service and profit to the government.

Recounting the Indians.

The discovery that the Indians at Pine Ridge are drawing too many rations has led Commissioner Atkins to order a recount of all the Sioux on all the agencies on September 23d. This method of counting the Indians will accurately decide how many of the lazy red men have been drawing double rations from Uncle Sam's storehouses. It has been a favorite pastime of the wily savage to have himself registered at several agencies and attend issue days at all. The yearly census has shown nothing because of the roving character of the tribes. Indians from Rosebud always managed to be at Pine Ridge at census time, and the Ogallala Sioux returned the favor by swelling the census at Rosebud. By counting all the Indians on the same day at the various agencies this swapping of families is obviated.

No doubt the result of the count will show a heavy decrease in the number of Sioux entitled to rations. What then? Shall the surplus food supply be cut off? Experienced observers like Dr. McGillivuddy declare that a decrease in rations will certainly cause trouble. The present Indian ration is too small. It was fixed when game was plenty and buffalo meat abundant. Now there is little game and no buffalo. The Indian has made up for what he considers an insufficient ration by drawing more rations than he is entitled to. If the rations are cut down in number dissatisfaction is sure to ensue. A hungry Indian is a bad Indian. Commissioner Atkins should look over the ground carefully before he decreases the food supply of the Sioux. Nebraska is vitally interested that peace should be preserved on her northern border. A single month of Indian outbreak would cost the government and the state more lives and money than could be balanced by a dozen yearly ration issues of the present amount.

The Mayflower bloomed in the fog and left her English competitor out of sight in the second race. The trial must

be made over again, however, because the course was not covered within the seven hour* time stipulated. No one after seeing the sailing of the Yankee skimmer doubts what the outcome of the next heat will be. Britannia does not rule the waves, so far as yachting is concerned.

Crowds at the Exposition.

The managers of the exposition are justly congratulating themselves upon the success of their enterprise. The merry click of the turnstiles through which great throngs have passed this week is music to their ears. Last night hundreds were turned away. Every aisle and available inch of space was crowded with sightseers. A fine display has drawn a fine attendance and every dollar invested by exhibitors is likely to be returned with fourfold interest. The first interstate exhibition held at Omaha is a success. It is a success because it has had an able, brainy and efficient management. Six weeks of the hardest kind of work have paved the way for a week of ample returns. Public patronage has followed public appreciation, as a matter of course.

The Bee would suggest that thousands of our people and visitors would receive better satisfaction in sight seeing if they would select the day instead of the evening for making their tour of the exhibit. The immense crowds at night would be avoided and more time and opportunity would be afforded for a careful and interested study of the displays.

The Knights of Labor endorse Senator Van Wyck's senatorial record. The political Knights of Leisure under the railroad employ think it shockingly bad.

Prince Alexander has returned to Germany after having returned his crown to Russia. Alexander is to be congratulated that he brings his head back with him.

Other Lands Than Ours.

Bulgaria is once more under Russian control. The intrigues of Muscovy have succeeded. Alexander has signed his formal abdication and left the country, and the election of a new ruler in full sympathy with Russia's ambition will be the next move on the diplomatic chess board. The consent of the great powers to the downfall of Alexander is now apparent. England alone was unconvinced in the negotiations by which Europe agreed to support the Russian position, and England betrays no indication of an intention to resist the prosecution of Russian designs in the Balkans. This fact is one of the most puzzling in connection with the many and grave complications of the situation, for while it was easy to understand that England could not for a moment contemplate going to war solely in behalf of Prince Alexander, whatever his fate, it becomes difficult to comprehend how the British government can maintain an attitude of apparently listless indifference to circumstances which plainly point to Russian power to dominate Bulgaria. So grave a menace to her power a few years ago would have aroused England to prompt and energetic action. What tremulous influence is it that now restrains her? Alexander personified the struggle between the independence of Bulgaria and its Russianization. So long as he should remain in power there would be a guarantee of the checkmating of Russian designs in the Balkans, such as could be hoped for in no other way short of war. With his departure that guarantee is removed. May we not expect to see renewed in some form the struggle of England and Russia at Constantinople for paramount influence over the ports, and when that struggle begins may it not be the signal for the greatest conflict modern Europe has known?

The salient fact of the political situation in England is the failure of the efforts to effect a compromise between the Salisbury government and Mr. Parnell. The ministry declines to support Mr. Parnell's measure for the conditional suspension of ejections in certain cases, and is fully determined that there shall be no Irish legislation of any kind until next year. The decision of the government to this effect is principally due to the attitude of Lord Harrington, who resolutely opposes any concession to the nationalists and pledges Lord Salisbury the undivided support of the unionists in resistance to Mr. Parnell's bill. The coalition remains in absolute control of the situation, and the opposition is powerless to accomplish anything so long as Salisbury, Harrington and Chamberlain remain in control. The Gladstone leaders have announced that they will not countenance a policy of obstruction, and Mr. Parnell has pledged himself publicly not to resort to such tactics. There seems no reason, therefore, to doubt that the ministerial programme, which contemplates an immediate passage of the supply bills and an adjournment as early as the 25th instant, will be carried out to the letter.

It is not a matter of surprise that a sentiment of uneasiness should prevail throughout Europe as to the maintenance of peace. On the other hand, the wonder is that the treaty of Berlin should have survived so long. The principal business of the different governments has been for years the training of soldiers. It is estimated that there are now with the colors of Europe very nearly four millions of men, rather more than 5 per cent of the adult male population. This tremendous armament forbodes war. Recent estimates show that Russia is spending \$225,000,000 a year on her army and navy; France, \$200,000,000; Great Britain, \$150,000,000; Germany, \$100,000,000; Austria, \$80,000,000; Italy, \$50,000,000; Turkey, \$30,000,000; Spain, \$30,000,000. These powers spend together the enormous sum of \$845,000,000 annually in preparing for war. Can any one believe that a faith manifesting itself by such works as these can be mistaken? There are 800,000,000 arguments advanced each year in support of the thesis that a great European struggle is imminent. Who can doubt it in the face of such reasoning? This is the logic that gives such signal significance to the closing of the port of Batoum, to the intrigues in Bulgaria and to the differences about the Afghan frontier. The Old World is simply awaiting the touch of the torch to burst into a conflagration the like of which has not been seen since the era of Bonaparte. The nations have been making ready the materials for the bonfire long enough; the

time impends when the blaze will roar and roll over the continents.

It is claimed that the present house of commons will establish woman suffrage. Of its 654 members, 330 are said to be pledged to support the measure, while of the remainder only 115 are its avowed opponents. The conservatives are more in favor of the change than the liberals, more than half their number being on that side. There is very good reason to believe that the extension of the suffrage in this direction would strengthen the hands of the Tories. The natural tendency to conservatism is stronger in women than in men, and the average of education and intelligence is lower. The church influence is more general, and the attachment to social inequalities and privileges more decided. It would be a conservative reform.

A very bitter feeling exists at present in Denmark between the government and house of representatives. The prime minister, it is claimed, rides rough-shod over both parliament and constitution, and has been sustained by King Christian. When parliament meets next month, there will most likely be considerable agitation of questions which have been treated in a manner contrary to the will of the people; and as the socialistic element is quietly spreading its doctrines in northern Europe, there may before long be developed in Scandinavian countries a fierce resistance to everything that is anti-constitutional or unparliamentary.

There has been no stronger illustration afforded lately for the variability of the election of popularity than the sudden downfall of General Boulanger, French minister of war. From having been the object of public favor he has become the butt of ridicule, and will, it is said, be removed from the cabinet by M. De Freycinet. Like some other well known men in this country, he was guilty of writing too many compromising letters and neglecting to see that they were afterwards burned.

The Korean peninsula threatens again to be a disturbing factor in Oriental politics. The Chinese government asserting that it is an integral part of its country. Russia has lately been casting a covetous eye on Corea, and the occupation of Port Lazaroff by that power is a menace the outcome of which China is evidently determined to be prepared for.

Prominent Persons.

Senator Evans sleeps well, eats light food, suffers little pain from his injured ankle, and it is hoped, will soon have entirely recovered from the effects of the accident.

Cornelius and William K. Vanderbilt get as many as one hundred begging letters every week.

William K. Vanderbilt has removed the limit of \$500,000 originally placed upon the cost of his yacht, and is sailing in with a determination to have the largest and most gorgeous craft of the kind afloat. Then he will have little difficulty in working off his surplus income.

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Prince Alexander appears to be fond of abdicating. One abdication would have answered the purpose as well as a dozen, but after abdicating once he returns to Sofia to go through the same performances again.

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If we were to judge of Van Wyck's popularity throughout the state by what the farmers of Cass county in general think of him, we should say he would be elected by a tremendous majority.

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Mr. Grover Cleveland in the words says: "I have great respect for the colored people. Again and again I have told the delegations which have visited me that they must have convictions of their own and act on them."

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"What's that?" asked Van Wyck in surprise. "Really, replied Van Wyck, 'I can't say what it is, but I think it is a typographical error.'"

Waiting.

Holla W. Field in Detroit Free Press. They have gone through life together. They have braved stormy weather. Many a year.

Time has thinned from beauty's treasures. But Love's scars the horde he measures.

With a leer.

"Mid the world's turmoil and fretting, They'd not rest and vainly regretting.

For the past; And their troubles arily breathing. They have found the time for resting.

Sweet, at last.

There are graves upon the meadow—Baby forms that lie in shadow.

Dark and still; Ah! they felt life's lonely dying When they looked on baby, dying.

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Now, with pulses throbbing steady, Hand in hand, they're waiting, ready;

Not a stir; For the time that's swiftly fleeing.

There will be a joyous meeting—By and by.

Politics in Boone County.

AUBURN, Neb., Sept. 4.—To the Editor of the Bee: The heated term has not been over favorable to the scheming of the would be party leaders about the capital of Boone County. Time was, and not very remote either, when two or three men residing at the county seat controlled the entire political machine for the county. But the power of these men has been steadily on the wane ever since the cyclone struck the aspirations of Lorain Clark for the treasurership, four years ago. However, along in the cool of evening, notwithstanding the heat, there has been a good deal of slate-making by the old party hacks, which I fear will be badly rubbed out when the farmers get done thrashing and have a little time to look after their political wants. It is given out very quietly that Clark is fighting for Hon. Geo. Dorsey's place in the Third district, or the shoes of his excellency, Governor Dawes. Not that he expects to have the ghost of a show for either, but impress the delegates from other parts of the state, and especially the railway managers, that he is still the great republican leader of the county. What the real truth is, he could not be elected to any office in the county, even should he wish it. One J. C. Mann has been chairman of the county central committee, but his leadership has been treated in a manner contrary to the will of the people; and as the socialistic element is quietly spreading its doctrines in northern Europe, there may before long be developed in Scandinavian countries a fierce resistance to everything that is anti-constitutional or unparliamentary.

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batter of the rain upon the houses, trees and walks always attends the storm, while, although the drops were large, they could not be heard falling upon the balcony or its belongings. Silence reigned supreme. The quiet spoken of by Dr. Kane and other arctic explorers as existing in the northern regions was a hush beside this place. More tissue paper was thrown out; seeing that it seemed to ascend, I know that the apparatus was slowly descending, being brought down by the weight of rain upon it. Soon the earth was in view. How peaceful and quiet it looked! Immediately the whistling of railroad trains could be heard.

New noises could be distinguished from valleys, and the cawing of frightened crows and the shouting of men could be heard. I passed immediately over Taitout mountain, lower where there were some 300 people enjoying the day. I could plainly hear one of them blowing a horn. As the balloon slowly descended men could be seen running from all sides toward the place of landing. Now the hum of insects could be heard, and the grapple with 100 feet of rope attached, was thrown out; it soon struck the ground, and dragged heavily along, without getting a secure hold. I approached a man weighing 300 pounds, who was sitting on a stone wall all out of breath from running. Without the formality of a salute, I asked him to "catch on to that anchor and stop the business." With a wee-hee-look upon his honest face, and an ominous shake of the head, he replied: "It's no use, young fellow. I can't work my bellows. The rope twirled along near him, he fell upon it, and my journey was ended.

Note and Comment.

About two weeks ago Mrs. Ferry, a daughter of J. V. Farwell, Chicago's great dry goods merchant, left her husband and took her children to New York. He followed and attempted to have her served with a summons in habeas corpus proceedings, but she and the children disappeared, and it was believed they had gone to Europe. Among the passengers who were transferred on Friday to Queenstown by a steamboat from the steamship Britannia, which had arrived from New York, were Mrs. Ferry, her four children and a maid. She was also accompanied by Mr. George Westover, a Chicago lawyer. Mr. Ferry, who was on board the tender, caught the lawyer by the throat and threw him to the floor. A struggle ensued, in which the lawyer succeeded in overcoming his adversary. Mr. Ferry had been in Queenstown several days awaiting the Britannia. The lawyer said that he had come with the lady to consult with her father, who is at present in London. Mrs. Ferry declined to say anything to her husband. The lawyer proposes to have the case submitted to the American consul in London.

The Croft Property.

In the law office of Estab