THE DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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THE BEE ON THE TRAINS.

There is no excuse for a failure to get THE BEE on the trains. All newsdealers have been notified to carry a full supply. Travelers who want THE BEE and can't get it on trains where other Omaha papers are carried are requested to notify THE BEE.

Please be particular to give in all cases full information as to date, railway and number of train.

THE DAILY BEE.

Sworn Statement of Circulation.

State of Nebraska, } ss.
County of Douglas. }

George B. Tzschuck, secretary of THE BEE Publishing Company, does solemnly swear that the actual circulation of THE DAILY BEE for the week ending February 22, 1890, was as follows:

Sunday, Feb. 16	21,900
Monday, Feb. 17	19,326
Tuesday, Feb. 18	19,313
Wednesday, Feb. 19	19,159
Thursday, Feb. 20	19,519
Friday, Feb. 21	19,641
Saturday, Feb. 22	19,805
Average	19,809

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Sworn to before me and subscribed to in my presence this 23d day of February, A. D. 1890.
(Seal.) N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

State of Nebraska, } ss.
County of Douglas. }

George B. Tzschuck, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he is secretary of THE BEE Publishing Company, that the actual average daily circulation of THE DAILY BEE for the month of February, 1889, was 18,668 copies; for March 1889, 18,854 copies; for April, 1889, 18,589 copies; for May, 1889, 18,699 copies; for June, 1889, 18,858 copies; for July, 1889, 18,738 copies; for August, 1889, 18,651 copies; for September, 1889, 18,719 copies; for October, 1889, 18,987 copies; for November, 1889, 19,310 copies; for December, 1889, 19,048 copies; for January, 1890, 19,555 copies.

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 14th day of February, A. D. 1890.
(Seal.) N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

HAS the Omaha & Dakota railroad been hopelessly buried in the drifts?

IT LOOKS as if Mayor Cushing was following after Grover, a long way, in the matter of vetoes.

THE Burlington road refuses to longer father the reckless methods of the Burlington & Northern. This action knocks the main prop from under a concern built to prey upon legitimate corporations.

IT IS painfully evident that the crevice in the local democratic camp has grown to an impassable chasm. Harmony has fled, and war to the knife and knife to the bone is the motto of the contending factions.

IT IS becoming more apparent every day that the firm of We, Us & Co., is the power behind the mayor's throne. Those seeking favors from his honor must produce a certificate of character from the former combine.

THE regular weekly assurance is received that rapid transit will be extended to all leading thoroughfares next spring. Meanwhile the melancholy mule "plods his weary way" on Farnam street as if he had come to stay.

THE attempt of the senate to plug the leaks in the secret session serves to increase public contempt for a custom that is more honored in the breach than in the observance. The best thing the senate can do is to transact all public business in open session.

IN THE opinion of councilmen who ought to know, Mayor Cushing can make as many pledges and keep as few as his "wise and vigilant predecessor." Perhaps one of the modern requirements of the office is an intimate knowledge and practice of prevarication.

THE ratification by congress of the treaty made with the Indians on the Fort Berthold reservation will add one million acres to the public domain in North Dakota. The land is located in the western part of the state, adjoining the boundary of Montana, and is chiefly valuable for grazing purposes. The rapid contraction of range territory in the west makes this addition to the public domain timely and acceptable.

Now that the question of the site has been settled, there should be no time lost in passing the world's fair bill and making its provision conform to the wishes of the representatives of Chicago. Local and personal pique must not interfere with a great national undertaking. The enterprise and generalship displayed by Chicago, and her masterly ability in meeting all emergencies, affords sufficient proof that Chicago is equal to the emergency.

PETITIONS are being circulated in various parts of the country praying the czar of Russia to stop the whipping of helpless women and the massacre of men in the Siberian prisons. The intentions of the petitioners are commendable, but they will have only their labor for their pains. A government which insults mankind with a denial of notorious shocking cruelties, permits brutal officials to outrage every human sentiment and refuses to heed the despairing cries that rend the solitudes of Siberia, will turn a deaf ear to the appeals of outsiders.

As a measure of justice to the families who suffered by reason of the government's breach of faith, the bill to compensate the evicted settlers of Crow Creek reservation deserves the approval of congress. The people who entered the reservation on the strength of President Arthur's proclamation, made many valuable improvements and invested their labor and means in securing homes, of which they were ruthlessly deprived by Cleveland, are entitled to damages for building and crops destroyed, and the hardships brought on by official perversity.

THE NEW SILVER BILL.

The prospect for silver legislation at the present session of congress appears favorable. Several measures have already been presented for public discussion, the latest the silver bill framed by the senate finance committee, to which reference was made several days ago. The introduction of this measure may be taken as a declaration on the part of the senate committee that it is unfavorable to the plan of the secretary of the treasury, and in this view it is to be assumed as probable that the Windom silver bill will not again receive serious consideration in the senate, even though it should be favorably regarded in the house. Secretary Windom appeared before a committee of the house a few days ago and explained and advocated his plan, but the prospect for it can not be regarded as at all hopeful in view of the attitude of the senate finance committee. The Windom scheme may doubtless, therefore, be safely dismissed from further consideration as not likely to be accepted in either branch of congress.

The senate silver bill provides that the secretary of the treasury shall purchase silver bullion to the amount of four and one-half million dollars' worth each month, and gold bullion to an unlimited amount, paying therefor treasury notes. These notes are to be redeemable on demand in lawful money of the United States, and when so redeemed shall be cancelled. They are made receivable for customs, taxes and all public dues, and when so received may be reissued. National banks may count them as a part of their lawful reserve. The secretary of the treasury is authorized to coin so much of the gold and silver bullion purchased under the act as shall be necessary to provide for the redemption of the notes, the grain or seignorage from such coinage to be paid into the treasury. The bill provides for the repeal of the coinage act of 1878.

This is in some respects a more conservative scheme than that of Mr. Windom, and was intended as a compromise between his plan and the views of the free coinage advocates. It is reported to be acceptable to the latter, although it provides that the treasury shall have the benefit of the profit arising from coining the bullion, which in case of free coinage would be a very considerable amount to the advantage of the silver producers. The advocates of free coinage, however, must have become convinced that they cannot carry their policy, and they cannot reasonably ask anything more favorable as a compromise than the bill proposed by the senate committee. Under that more than double the amount of silver annually would be represented in the currency than has been employed under the existing law, and allowing for the probable increase in production from the stimulus of an enlarged demand, the government purchases of silver to the amount of fifty-four million dollars' worth annually would leave only a very small surplus of the American product. This should certainly be sufficient to satisfy the most extreme silver men. The addition to the currency annually under this bill, so far as silver is concerned, would be about thirty million dollars, which ought to be enough to provide for the increasing demands of the country. The only object in providing for the coinage of any part of the bullion purchased is probably to avoid the objection made to the Windom bill that it would degrade silver to the position of a mere commodity. The senate bill also gives no discretion to the secretary of the treasury in the matter of purchasing bullion. As a compromise measure the bill ought to encounter very little opposition from the friends of silver, but it will doubtless be vigorously opposed by those who are hostile to any increase of the use of silver in the currency. This opposition, however, is certain to prove futile if the silver advocates can be united. Washington advices indicate that the new bill has been very well received.

THE SENATE'S DIGNITY.

The United States senate has recently been the scene of heated and acrimonious debate. The cause of it was the resolution calling upon the attorney general for information regarding the killing of a deputy United States marshal in Florida. The public has been made familiar with the circumstance. A number of persons had been indicted for election frauds, and the official was in pursuit of them. He was a fearless and determined man and had numerous enemies. While in the discharge of his duties he was entrapped and shot to death. It was the duty of the senate to obtain official information regarding the murder of a federal officer, and Senator Chandler introduced a resolution for this purpose, which was adopted.

In the debate on the resolution the Florida senators sought to palliate the crime by assailing the character of the federal court officials in Florida, including the one who was killed. One of them, Mr. Call, went farther than this and employed most offensive and unparliamentary language regarding Senator Chandler. Not satisfied with what he had said on the floor of the senate, the Florida senator inserted still more offensive language in his speech as printed in the *Congressional Record*. When called to account for this in the senate he defended his course and charged Senator Chandler with having made an untrue statement, also characterizing the New Hampshire senator as a coward. Referring to this, Senator Sherman of Ohio said that when the United States senate came to such a condition that the charge of cowardice could be applied to a senator and that a senator could be charged with stating a thing falsely, it seemed to him the senate was receding from its dignity.

There can be but one opinion among fair minded men regarding the course of the Florida senator. It was a flagrant breach of privilege and in every sense reprehensible, deserving the unqualified censure of the senate. Such conduct should be visited with such summary and severe rebuke that only the most reckless would venture to commit it. But it may be observed that it is not alone such exceptional episodes as this which suggest that the senate is receding from its dignity. It would not be difficult to find much in the general course and conduct of that body to justify the opinion that it is far less solicitous now than formerly to observe the conditions essential to a true dignity, as well as to preserve a character for wisdom, statesmanship and patriotism. If that body has deteriorated in the respect and confidence of the people the fact is due more largely to the decline from its former character as an assembly of statesmen, devoted to great principles of government and earnestly desiring to subserve the general good, than to such personal violations of privilege and lapses from decency and decorum as have recently been witnessed. Bitter personal and political controversies occurred in the better days of the senate. Men whose names are eminent in our history have hurled invective and denunciation at opponents on the floor of the senate, indifferent alike to parliamentary privileges and personal responsibility. But if from such incidents the senate of an earlier time suffered an impairment of its dignity it maintained its claims on the public confidence. It had not then become identified in the popular mind as the refuge and bulwark of monopoly and corporate power, but was regarded despite the occasional irruptions of individual anger, as the great conservative power in our governmental system it was intended to be. It is well for the senate to preserve its dignity, but that alone will not restore it to the place it formerly held in popular confidence. That will come only when it has recovered its lost character, abandoned its star-chamber methods, relinquished its false so-called "senatorial courtesy," and put itself in full sympathy with the people.

WE WILL DO BETTER.

A reckless local contemporary has offered some tempting prizes to its patrons, with a view of raising the wind. Having definitely determined by a secret ballot of its own employes who will be the most successful and popular lawyer in Omaha ten years hence, it now generously opens its purse strings and tenders its columns to ingenious propounders of riddles and conundrums.

Now THE BEE is bound to keep up with the procession. It will not allow such of its patrons as are not otherwise occupied to remain without employment highly intellectual as well as lucrative. In other words we will do better, and give genius of whatever sex, age and previous condition a chance to blossom out and achieve renown. If we have any prodigies among us, clairvoyants who can divine the future and box the compass of destiny, so to speak, we want them to shine in sublime effulgence and glory.

Our irrepressible contemporary offers a prize of one hundred dollars to any man, woman or child who can foretell the exact number of people who shall inhabit the state during the first two weeks of June while the census is being taken. We will do better. THE BEE hereby offers one hundred thousand dollars to anybody within reach of its voice that will figure out the number of red-headed girls and white horses in the United States according to the official census returns which are to be distributed by the national census bureau on or about the year 1900.

Our public spirited contemporary offers a prize of five hundred dollars to any farmer who will harvest the largest crop of corn on any single acre of land in this or any adjacent state during the coming season. We will do better. THE BEE offers five hundred thousand dollars to the ranchman anywhere in the United States and adjacent countries, including Mexico, Central America, South America and Patagonia, for the largest flock of Rocky Mountain goats raised by them on a single acre. The contest to be decided and awards made by the Pan-American congress.

Our contemporary invites proposals from new subscribers, with prizes to be awarded on conditions that they will make the nearest guess of the number of beans in a quart jug. But we will do better. THE BEE will mail or deliver a brand'new metropolitan paper three hundred and sixty-five days in the year to every man woman and child that will forward or pay in the full subscription price. And any subscriber who will within the next thirty days make an exact guess as to the time when the new postoffice will be finished, will get a receipt for a paid-up subscription to THE DAILY BEE during his, her or its lifetime.

Remember that these generous offers will only hold good for a limited period.

CONGRESSMAN MCKINLEY is not alarmed over the gerrymandering schemes of the democratic legislature of Ohio. He is not in favor of congressional action, but prefers to let them run to the end of their rope, feeling confident that the reckless exercise of power by the democrats will bring their overthrow at the next election. Major McKinley's prominence and usefulness in congress cannot be impaired by legislating him into a democratic district. Twice within ten years attempts have been made to force him out of congress, but in each instance he turned a democratic majority into a republican triumph. Ohio voters are not backward in rebuking political trickery and chicanery.

ACTING MAYOR MORRISSEY has vetoed an ordinance because it was published in a newspaper of general circulation, which, of course, under the prevailing regime, is an offense against the taxpayers. Hereafter all proposals of the board of public works for paving, grading, sewers, etc., must be advertised only in the court organ. Heretofore, it was found profitable in such cases to advertise in such insignificant papers as the Chicago *Tribune*.

REPRESENTATIVE organizations of Omaha's trade and commerce should take an active part in the movement to secure the early construction of the proposed extension of the Rock Island road southwest. Lincoln and Beatrice people are already at work. With the active assistance of Omaha business men, there is little doubt that the construction of the line would be hastened materially, and secure for the city within a year an important highway to the trade of southern Nebraska, northern Kansas and Colorado. The importance of the road to the commerce of the city cannot be overestimated, and prompt steps should be taken to expedite the work.

THE pleadings of the railroads for exclusive right-of-way through the military annex to Henry Clarke's farm produced an opposite result in Washington. The authorities propose to settle the question by granting right-of-way for such tracks as may be necessary and allow their use by all roads on equal terms. The decision is a just one.

THE appointment of Tom Birmingham as sidewalk inspector is another striking illustration of "business principles appplied to city affairs." Birmingham is a hustling business patron of the senior member from the Fifth.

New York Knows It.

Chicago Herald.

Chicago is a dangerous town to fool with. For particulars inquire of New York.

Must Put Up or Quit.

New York Tribune.

The Louisiana lottery is in that desperate strait when it is forced to "raise its ante" and trust to luck on the draw.

A Painful Reminiscence.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

That portion of Mr. Cleveland's speech on Washington which relates to virtue and morality will cause a good many people to think of his celebrated letter to Mrs. Henry Ward Beecher.

Stripped of All Disguises.

Wheeling Intelligencer.

No matter who holds to the contrary, it is not true that the southern whites desire to get rid of the southern blacks. Colored labor is wanted in the south. The thing that is not wanted there is a colored voting population.

Making it Pleasant for Wilhelm.

Boston Journal.

Whatever else socialism aims at it is the implacable foe of the existing order of things. It will make German politics interesting and animated for a long time to come, and will give the young emperor a domestic problem difficult and portentious enough to discourage foreign entanglements.

Meaner than Highway Robbery.

Philadelphia Record.

When we consider that the distress in the Pennsylvania coal regions has been largely brought about by a systematic design on the part of the coal companies to so overstock the labor market as to provide for a year's consumption with six month's production, it is not difficult to fix the responsibility for the starving condition of the miners and their wives and children. They are the victims of deliberate greed.

THE AFTERNOON TEA.

Sir Edwin Arnold calls the Japanese women "semi angelic."

Cupid saw thee—drew forth a dart—
He tipped and feathered it,
But, maiden fair, he missed thy heart;
It was to small to hit.

Out of a population set down at 253,891,821 in British India there are no fewer than 20,093,626 widows, of whom Bombay claims 1,075,766, Madras 3,250,011, Northwest Provinces and Oudh 3,650,797, the Punjob 1,503,233 and Bengal 7,401,629.

"Mind, I don't want to be flattered," said a feminine voice confidentially, behind a photographer's screen, "but do try and idealize it all you can."

Miss Priscilla (aged forty)—No, Edith, I don't believe in these silly marriages. You'll have time enough to get sick of a man if you stay single for ten years longer! Edith—Time enough, auntie, but maybe no chance!

It was a dainty Boston maid
Who stood and looked at Towser.
She gazed a-while and then she said,
"How that poor dog does trouser!"

Ella—Ma, Cousin Bob kissed me this morning. Mother—He did! I hope you rebuked him, Ella. Ella—I did that very thing. I said, "Bob, you be careful not to do that when pa or ma are around, or you'll hear something drop."

A Burlington girl, in a fit of abstraction, picked up a copy of "Kismet," scratched out the 't," and handed the book to her lover. He caught on.

De la Creme—My dear D'Aubigny, you are too diffident. You are rich, talented, titled—you might shine in society. Count D'Aubigny—I detest society—that is, I detest—I hate women. De la Creme—You amaze me. An unfortunate affaire du cœur! Count D'Aubigny (fiercely)—Reginald, you will understand me when I tell you that before I came into my fortune and title I was a street car conductor.

While women's minds may be secure,
And not so fickle as is said,
A passing bonnet's almost sure
To turn a woman's head.
And let two pass upon the street,
Each wearing a bewitching gown,
They'll turn each other's heads complete,
They're sure to look around.

Gabrielle Hemprad is a singular creature. Since she gave herself up to the French police as accessory to the murder of Gouffe she has thought of nothing but her own notoriety. When she was confronted by a howling mob of 10,000 people, anxious to lynch her, at Lyons, the other day, she smiled and said she "had no idea there would have been so many people to meet her."

Oh, love, my love, has forgotten the hour,
My passion pervaded with a pulsating power!
How love rushed upon us with a quivering whoop,
And enswathed our sweet souls in a wild swirlful swoop!

Let me lusciously lift in luxuriant rhyme
Of the way that we kissed in the soft summer time,
Till all of the shrubbery curled up and died,
And the birds flew away to escape suicide.

But, alas! love is dead, and the summer has flown,
Yet I still live to maudlinly murmur my moan
In sibilant stanzas of clangorous crash
(Which I'll sell to some paper for cold, common cash.)

STATE AND TERRITORY.

Nebraska Jottings.

The Nance county commissioners have decided to bridge the Loup river at Fullerton.

Custer county's non-partisan prohibitory league will hold a meeting at Broken Bow March 8.

The second term of the United States court at Hastings will convene March 10 with a full docket.

Arthur Paul, a section hand at Elmwood, dropped dead from heart disease Tuesday. He was sixty years of age.

Clay county baseball cranks propose to have a little league of their own and a meeting to arrange matters will probably be held shortly.

The public school at Hartwell is so "tough" that of the fifty pup is who attended the teacher has been obliged to expel all but half a dozen.

The Custer county Farmers' alliance will meet at Broken Bow March 4 and will be addressed by President Powers of the state organization.

The revival meetings at Clay Center, which have been in progress six weeks, have closed and over thirty persons have united with the church.

An imbecile named Wenke, who has been prowling around the vicinity of Hebron, burned a quantity of hay for J. Loverscheck. Mr. Loverscheck is a cripple using a crutch. He took his shotgun, mounted a horse and hunted up Wenke and marched him into Hebron, where he was locked up by the sheriff as a dangerous man.

The general store of Veak & Lash at Gresham has been closed by its creditors. The liabilities are $4,000, with nearly enough assets to cover them.

Footpads have infested Syracuse and vicinity much to the alarm of the residents. An attempt was made to hold up the Rev. Oates by two masked men, but he whipped up his horses and escaped. Grant Shull was knocked from his horse by a highwayman.

It is reported that two lodges of the Knights of Labor at Red Cloud, numbering 180 members, and three Farmers' alliances near Riverton, have united and purchased a building worth $1,000 and that their intention is to establish a co-operative store which all will be pledged to patronage.

Iowa Items.

The contract for building the new hotel at Eldora has been let.

Justice Peters of Davenport is proud of his record of 1,174 couples joined in wedlock by him.

Burglars got away with twenty-six gallons of whisky from the drug store of G. W. Care at Rolfe.

Rev. Father Carroll of Tama City nearly lost his life by escaping coal gas. He remained unconscious for twelve hours.

A seven-year-old colored girl was burned to death at Clayton the other day. Her clothing caught fire while she was playing with matches.

The Methodist missionary convention of Harrison county will convene in Missouri Valley Friday and a large attendance is anticipated.

A Kossuth county farmer claims that last season he raised 1,093 bushels of oats on seven acres of ground—an average of 156 bushels to the acre.

M. H. Miller, the Cherokee photographer who skipped with Miss Ellen Chase, has been indicted by the Emmet county grand jury for bigamy and Miss Chase has been held for adultery.

Wyoming.

The Sundance public schools have been closed on account of diphtheria.

Evanston is short about twenty houses for which tenants are already in the city.

An apparently unlimited deposit of brick clay has been discovered at Saratoga.

Nearly $12,000 was subscribed in one day for the new Methodist church at Cheyenne.

A prisoner with the kicking powers of a mule knocked off the iron doors of two cells in the Laramie jail, broke through a wall, and was finally released in order to preserve the building from complete destruction.

The Laramie Times is in receipt of a letter from Mr. John G. Jost, a well known sheep raiser of Carbon county. He started in the winter with 4,230 sheep, out of which number he has lost 350. One hundred and fifty of these were killed by coyotes. The remainder died from other causes.

There was raised in this county last year, says the Fremont Clipper, about 1,200,000 pounds of wheat. Of this the Lander Roller Milling company purchased something like 900,000 pounds. The remainder is in the hands of the farmers, and about 75,000 pounds of it will be required for seed, leaving 125,000 pounds yet to be disposed of.

On Tuesday of last week Rev. Hancock received a dispatch from Caspar stating that two young people were anxious to be made happy the following morning, says the Lusk Herald. Accordingly he took the morning train for Caspar, where he was met by the bridegroom, who drove him further into the country, where the bride and party were anxiously awaiting his arrival. The few words which made two hearts happy were soon said, and Mr. Hancock returned, having spent a very pleasant time.

There are snake stories, and again there are stories about snakes that are true, says the Sundance Gazette. Up near the O K ranch, on the head of the Belle Fourche, is a small rocky butte. In this vicinity upon any occasion when the weather is propitious, may be seen rattlesnakes, big, little, old and young; rattlesnakes in bunches and bundles as big as a barrel, twisting and squirming in all shapes. Round-up parties have learned to avoid this spot and the last time it passed that way, men were sent ahead to clear the trail for the horses, as upon a former occasion more than thirty of them were bitten.

KING OF ZIPILOTES.

The Huge Bird Which Occupies a Cage in the San Jose Public Park.

Where could be found anything of the sort prettier than the square before the great white cathedral of San Jose, Costa Rica? They call it Central park. It is enclosed by a high iron fence, with gates at each corner. Huge old trees afford sufficient shade at midday.

Near the center of the park stands a dainty kiosk, decorated artistically with the blue, white and red of the nation's colors. Here the government band plays twice a week of an afternoon, while all the world comes to parade in silk attire. The soldiers also drill every morning at 8, in the broad path at the eastern end. Here, too, they come for review at 6 of the afternoon, the officers passing down the line, while the band plays "La Oracion," a sweetly solemn hymn.

This little picture of vivid coloring is one which can never be forgotten. The scarlet of the band's uniform is like a flame against the emerald and deeper green of foliage. And on every side the rarest flowers, carefully tended and al ways in full bloom, are seen.

Birds of all kinds sing or chatter in the tree-tops. Seven gorgeous macaws—huge creatures of splendid scarlet plumage—wander, unhindered by cord or cage, about the park. Half a dozen wonderful green parrots, of similar freedom, carry on intelligent conversations with each other and with the people who approach them. A huge kind of zopilotes, an uncanny looking bird, occupies a spacious care not far from the central fountain.

Dr. Talmage Keeps the Golden Rule.

Rev. Dr. Talmage preached at the Brooklyn Academy of Music today a memorial sermon upon the late Henry W. Grady. Dr. Talmage believed that Mr. Grady embodied in his life the best answer to the question "Can an editor be a Christian," says a New York dispatch. About a year before his death, Mr. Grady in a conversation with Dr. Talmage in Atlanta expressed his profound faith in the gospel. He made it the guide of his professional as well as his private life. Dr. Talmage further discussed impersonally the subject of the newspaper press. Touching upon his own relations with newspapers and newspaper men, he said: "If I am asked why I speak so well of the press when I have sometimes been unfairly treated by it, I reply that the newspaper press of this and other countries by the opportunities it has given me to interpret the bible and preach the gospel to the nations has put me under so great obligations that I defy all the editors and reporters of the world to write anything that shall bring forth from me one word of bitter retort from now until the day of my death." The congregation applauded.

The Nicaraguan Canal.

The latest advices from Nicaragua bring satisfactory information of the progress made with the important preliminary work of the canal, says the Engineering and Mining Journal. The pier, which is the first essential to enable the dredgers to open to harbor, is making rapid progress, about two hundred and fifty feet being now completed. This work is progressing at about the rate of sixty feet per week, and its effect has been even greater than was calculated upon by Mr. A. G. Menocal, the chief engineer, the action of the waves in piling up sand having so far saved brushing and filling. The health of the staff continues excellent, and their time has been well occupied in working out certain modifications and improvements on the line of the canal, which will reduce the estimates by at least $2,000,000.

A RUMORED ELEVATOR TRUST

Harris & Co. of Lincoln Said to Be Securing a Monopoly.

A PARTIAL DENIAL BY THE FIRM.

The Knights of Labor Conference—State House Matters—Supreme Court—Lincoln in Brief.

A Big Deal.

LINCOLN, Neb., Feb. 26.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—A big deal is said to have been consummated in this city during the past few days. Its magnitude can be imagined when it is stated that it is nothing less than that Harris & Co., better known perhaps as Harris, Woodman & Co., have secured exclusive charge of fifty or more of the best elevators on the Burlington system of railroads in this state. It is further said that this company is to hold precisely the same relation to Lincoln and the Burlington that the Himebaugh-Merriam company holds to Omaha and the Union Pacific.

Since this seemingly well founded rumor began to circulate there has been more or less consternation in the ranks of the lesser grain dealers of the city and state operating on the Burlington system of roads. Some of them express the opinion that the deal is so perfectly made that it must react upon the producer. Notwithstanding the interstate law, it is stated that favors can be shown by the carrier that will make it absolutely impossible for grain dealers of limited capital to offer successful competition. Producers, therefore, can not hope for anything but minimum prices at points touched by this company. In this connection it is suggested that the members of Harris, Woodman & Co. are farseeing men and propose to take advantage of whatever action the state board of transportation may take in the matter of freight reductions. In the event of a wholesale slaughter of local rates it is argued that the roads will stand firm on the maximum through rate, and a corner on corn is therefore thought to be probable in a small way. In the other event, however, local rates remaining unchanged, it is thought that a radical reduction of the through rate on corn will be made to Chicago, without further pressure, and that producers will flood and glut the market, making it possible for this company and companies equally strong to purchase their own sales. This cannot prove other than disastrous to the great mass of farmers of the state. It is not improbable, it is urged, that the Burlington will do everything possible to advance the interests of a company that bids fair to be strong and shrewd enough to accomplish this end. It is well known that the Burlington, as well as all other roads operating in the state, is very sore in the matter of continued agitation of the reduction of freight tariffs, local or through, and will do anything possible to throttle further pressure. This fact gives color to the statement that the deal as stated has been made.

Such dealers as Kendall & Smith, Gregg & Kyser and T. W. Lowrey express themselves as having very little faith in this wholesale deal. They are in a position, however, to feel none of the effects if the rumor, as stated and believed by many, proves to be true.

In looking this matter up THE BEE representative dropped into Harris, Woodman & Co.'s Lincoln office this morning. He found the principal of the firm, Mr. J. F. Harris, a young man twenty-eight or thirty years of age, sitting at his desk busily engaged in looking over reports and correspondence. But, however busy he may have been, he was not averse to talking, and to the initial question regarding the alleged deal, he said:

"There is nothing in it. There are over three hundred elevators on the Burlington system of roads in Nebraska and we are operating but very few of that number."

"How many, if you care to state?"

"Well, some thirty odd."

"Are you negotiating for any more of them?"

"I presume, sir, we will gather in a few more if we find them inactive or purchaseable."

"Are you buying corn at any points where you have no elevators?"

"Yes, sir."

"How many?"

"I cannot say without reference to memorandum. We are 'cribbing' here and there all over the state."

"At any points on other than Burlington lines of road?"

"No, sir."

"Are your relations with the Burlington folks similar to those of the Himebaugh-Merriam company of Omaha to the Union Pacific?"

"I can not say, for I do not know what the relations of the Himebaugh-Merriam elevator company to the Union Pacific are."

"Well, are they intimate?"

"I can not say that our relations to the Burlington folks are any more intimate than those of any other company operating on the company's lines."

"You intimate that you are storing corn. How many bushels do you expect to store?"

"Possibly 10,000,000. We confidently expect to buy and store 2,000,000 bushels. We are doing a legitimate grain business."

"Are you paying any attention to the probable action of the state board of transportation on freight reductions?"

"We are somewhat interested in what the board may do, but not half so much as we are in the number of bushels of corn our agents buy from place to place."

"What are you paying?"

"We are paying from 12½ to 15 cents per bushel."

"Farmers who hold their corn may confidently expect a better price by and by, may they not?"

"If not, we had better get to circulating our money in other channels."

KNIGHTS OF LABOR.

The Knights of Labor assembled here in state convention have a disagreeable duty to perform. It is known, perhaps, that charges of mismanagement have been preferred against Secretary Blake, and they are under investigation. Indeed, they have taken up a considerable portion of the time of the convention. Blake, however, is confident that he will come out all right. Still it is understood that a good many knights are not over-well pleased with his alleged interference with the state master workman's authority in calling the present meeting. This assembly, let it be remembered, is not the regular state convention, as has been stated. It was specially called to consider the eight hour movement and to discuss some of the leading features of the Australian ballot system. It has nothing to do with the proposition for consolidation with the Farmers' alliance for political fellowship. This question will be considered at the regular state convention, which convenes in May. The present session closes tomorrow. Prominent knights state that the attendance at the present meeting is not what it ought to have been.

STATE HOUSE MATTERS.

Auditor Benton refused to register the $215,000 Omaha school house bonds received yesterday for the reason that they did not contain a proposition providing for levying a tax. It is intimated on the outside that they did not receive a majority of the votes cast, but the auditor did not take this into consideration.

Copy of the complaint of the South Omaha stock exchange, recently reported, was mailed to various roads today, together with service for answer.

The Omaha and Council Bluffs railway and bridge company of Omaha filed amended articles of incorporation today increasing the capital stock from $75,000 to $1,500,00.

The Omaha & Southwestern railroad company also filed amended articles. They provide for branches from the main line near the Tenth street depot of the Burlington, in the city of Omaha, to run to the stock yards, and also one commencing at La Platte, in Sarpy county, running north to a point on the Union Pacific near Gilmore, and thence to South Omaha, connecting with the stock yards.

The Equitable Life Insurance company of New York filed its annual statement with the insurance auditor today, showing the amount of business transacted in the state during the past year. Risks, $2,600,000; policies issued during the year, 172, insuring, $613,753; losses, $18,000.

THE SUPREME COURT.

The following were the proceedings in the supreme court today: L. M. Shaw, esq., of Iowa was admitted to practice.

The following causes were argued and submitted: Bohn Manufacturing company vs Kountze, South Omaha vs Cunningham, McCartney vs Berlin, Omaha vs Ayer, Omaha vs Howell Lumber company, Omaha vs Cochran.

The Elmwood elevator case will be argued and submitted tomorrow or next day.

Vaclav Hruss et al vs Sandwich Manufacturing company. Error to district court, Saline county. Affirmed. Opinion by Cobb, Ch. J.

Grand Island gas company vs John W. West, treasurer, et al. Appeal from district court, Hall county. Judgment modified. Opinion by Norval, J.

1. All officers of a city are prohibited from being directly or indirectly interested in any contract or agreement in which the city or anyone for its benefit is a party, and such contract may be avoided by the city.

2. The Grand Island light and fuel company, a corporation, contracted with the city of Grand Island to light its streets with electricity for a definite period at a fixed price per month; at the time of the making of said contract, one W. was a member of the city council of Grand Island and also a stockholder in, and the secretary and treasurer of said corporation. Held that the contract is illegal and that a taxpayer can maintain an action to cancel the same.

3. Held that inasmuch as the city has accepted the benefits of the contract, it must do equity, and to do equity the city must pay to the light and fuel company not exceeding the contract price, the reasonable value of the light received by it prior to the commencement of the action, with 7 per cent interest thereon.

William W. Davis vs board of county commissioners of Boone county. Error to district court, Boone county. Affirmed. Opinion by Maxwell, J.

Springfield fire and marine insurance company vs McLimans & Coyle. Error to district court, Madison county. Affirmed. Opinion by Maxwell, J.

William C. Braithwaite vs State. Error to district court, Boone county. Affirmed. Opinion by Maxwell, J.

Joseph Burns vs City of Fairmont. Error to district court, Fillmore county. Affirmed. Opinion by Norval, J.

Lewis Ley vs Hans H. Miller. Error to district court, Madison county. Affirmed. Opinion by Cobb, Ch. J.

Cassie Annie Small vs Joseph Small. Appeal from district court, Douglas county. Judgment modified. Opinion by Maxwell, J.

1. On the evidence contained in the records, held, that the charge of adultery against the defendant was fully proved, while a like charge against the plaintiff was not sustained.

2. In allowing alimony the court will consider the ability of the husband, the estate, if any, of the wife, and the situation of the parties and will render such a decree as under the circumstances will be just and equitable.

3. Decree for $30 per month alimony in addition to the homestead, held, to be excessive.

4. Custody of child was on the proof properly given to the mother.

Thomas L. Cornelt vs William H. Barnum. Error to district court, Nuckolls county. Affirmed. Opinion by Norval, J.

CITY NEWS AND NOTES.

Lee O'Brien, superintendent of the public schools of Johnson county, is in the city.

Christian F. Loewell, aged eighty-three years and twenty nine days, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. C. H. Doeddcher, 1414 V street, this morning.

Alton R. Beard was given permission to lead Miss Alice Martin of Cherokee, Ia., to the marriage altar this morning.

Governor Thayer attended the reunion of the First Nebraska at Plattsmouth today and tomorrow he goes to Juniata to attend a military ball.

Hon. Tom Cook has received his commission as commissioner of census and has commenced active work. He entertained a party of politicians from Saunders county last night who are anxious to have enumerators appointed who will give general satisfaction in that county. He has made no appointments as yet, however, but will issue his first grist in a day or two.

Judge Stewart was engaged this morning in hearing the suit of Funke & Ogden vs F. B. Floyd and Halter & Irick. At the last Chautauqua assembly at Crete, Floyd secured the loan of a lot of dishes from the plaintiffs, who claim that part were never returned and a portion of those brought back were nicked and otherwise damaged. Halter & Irick were sureties on Lloyd's undertaking to safely return the goods. Plaintiffs claim damages in the sum of $101.48.

THE MODERN BABYLON.

A Canons' Remarks on the London Marriage Market.

Conon Lidden yesterday made some strong observations from the pulpit of St. Paul's on the marriage market of modern Babylon, says the Pall Mall Gazette. He had, no doubt, ample room for a pituresque satire in the familiar phenomenon of London society; "Eager mothers, like generals setting out on a compaign, prepared to undergo any amount of fatigue if only they could marry their daughters—not necessarily to a high souled man, but in any case to a fortune. They could see, too, a group of young men, after, perhaps, a career of dissipation, thinking that the time had arrived for settling respectably in life, and looking out—not for a girl whose graces and character would make her husband and children happy, but for somebody with a sufficient dowry to enable them to keep up a large establishment. They could not wonder, when the most sacred of human relations was thus placed on the brutal level of cash, that such transactions were quickly followed by months or years of misery—misery which, after seething in private, was at last paraded before the eyes of a wondering world amid the unspeakable shame and degradation of the divorce court." "The brutal level of an affair of cash" is the level at which French marriages are arranged without shame and without pretense. But are marriages arranged by parents on the whole more prone to end in the divorce court than when young people are left free to arrange their marriages themselves?

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