

THE DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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SWORN STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. I, George B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, do hereby swear that the circulation of The Daily Bee for the week ending August 2, 1896, is as follows:

Average, 20,137. Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 24th day of August, A. D. 1896.

The independent candidates have filed all themselves. By the time the votes are counted they will discover their political hopes have been talked to death.

The efforts of the democratic press to read Secretary Blaine out of his party with the aid of imaginary republicans is the saddest specimen of midsummer humor since.

The price of silver continues to advance and swell the fortunes of the bullionists. But the promised enrichment of the man who toll in the mines has not yet materialized.

CROP reports from South Dakota convey the cheering assurance that the harvest will lift the farmers out of the slough of despond, and place them on the high road to prosperity.

SENATORS PLUMB and Paddock have taken command of the republican forces here for tariff reduction. Unless they can enlist a few more recruits their efforts will be barren of results.

The census of Arizona shows a white population of fifty-one thousand, or twenty-five thousand less than the claims of the territorial boomers. The count sends the prospects of statehood a-glimmering.

The council must re-establish its regular Saturday committee meetings. Citizens cannot be expected to hunt through private offices after councilmen with whom they are obliged to confer about municipal matters.

An epidemic of sickness, mainly political, prevents a large number of congressmen from discharging their public duties. The perversity of voters and conventions is a serious menace to congressional health these days.

The confidence expressed by democrats of securing a majority of the members of the next house has a little foundation as their claims of a deficit in the national treasury. Both are the offspring of political brain fever.

DAKOTA never does things by halves. While less favored sections of the country are content with half as large as walnuts or eggs, South Dakota steps briskly to the head with balloons eight inches in circumference. The local ice trust was rudely shattered.

The Tennessee democrats have issued their state ticket, and also printed the republican ticket. The former is called "white man's ticket," the latter "the con ticket." Such unnecessary and uncalled-for insults only fan the flames of discontent and hatred. The Tennessee democrats could be forgiven for their politics if they would only act like gentlemen.

It seems from returns so far in that the census statistics relative to mortgage indebtedness will not prove of any scientific value. The figures have been imperfectly arrived at and actual indebtedness is not shown. The supervisors who have the matter in charge are managing to draw their pay, and that is about all the good that is coming from the bill signed by Mr. Cleveland authorizing it.

KANSAS CITY makes a large draft on public credence by pointing to the financial failure of an alderman. The assertion that a full grown alderman, possessed of modern business sense, squandered in a year a private fortune of one hundred thousand dollars in addition to his salary and emoluments, should be liberally salted before swallowing. If true, the incident serves to prove that the town by the Kaw is blessed with a rare assortment of material to start a political museum.

The prohibitionists of Kansas are determined to ride the republican party to death in that state. Resubmission delegates elected to various county conventions have been denied admission and virtually read out of the party. Whom the gods wish to destroy they first make mad. The action of the Kansas intolerant will prove a boomerang as injurious to the party as that which smote the republicans of Iowa last November. The brigadiers in the saddle in Kansas are rushing to their own destruction.

THEY DO NOT WANT IT.

The evidence is ample and conclusive that a majority of the better class of republicans in the south do not want any new legislation for regulating federal elections. It is true that most of the republican representatives from that section voted for the bill which passed the house, and the recent republican convention in Tennessee declared that it was the right and the duty of congress to enact such legislation as may be necessary to secure a free vote and a fair count in federal elections, but the expressions that are being elicited from republicans in all parts of the south, particularly those engaged in business, show that the very general sentiment is against the proposed legislation.

A correspondent of the Philadelphia Press is making a tour of the south for the purpose of ascertaining the views of prominent men of both parties on this subject, and his letters giving the opinions of republicans represent them, with rare exceptions, as unqualifiedly hostile to the bill now before the senate. One of these, prominent in the politics of Virginia, is quoted as saying that under the proposed law petitioners in congressional districts where democrats hold a large share of the power would be ostracized and boycotted socially and in business; that if negroes working for democratic employers they would be discharged. Great difficulty would be found in securing the right kind of men to enforce the law, both because they are not numerous, and few would be willing to accept the duty. An intelligent colored man who is a leader among his people, said the present law is a farce but it will be far better for his race to go on under it, though it is a dead letter, than to have a new one enacted which will become only partially operative after it has cost innocent lives and disturbed all the social conditions of the colored people. He said there were few white republicans who would care to have it known that they asked for the enforcement of the law as required by the pending bill, and if negroes should petition every man of them, as soon as they made the demand, might just as well pack up his little worldly all and leave the district, never to return. His employment would be taken from him and his personal safety menaced. He would be over after a marked man. Leading republicans of North Carolina were emphatic in the opinion that no good results could be expected from the proposed legislation. One of these, the postmaster at Raleigh, and for many years the existing supervisor of elections under the existing election law, said that such laws were injurious because they were inadequate to remedy the evil complained of and only served to increase and intensify the difficulties of the situation. The present law was not enforced, and he believed the proposed law would only make things worse. Judge Russell of North Carolina, who has been prominent in the republican politics of that state ever since the war, declared that the pending election law could not be enforced, generally in the south, and that most serious consequences would result from an attempt to enforce it. Similar opinion comes from Georgia, and from Alabama there is reported a general republican revolt against the proposed legislation.

This widespread and decided opposition among the better class of southern republicans to any change in the laws regulating federal elections, at least in the manner provided for in the bill which passed the house and is pending in the senate, should not fail to exert an influence upon republican senators who are susceptible to the opinions of trustworthy members of their party in the election of the country where the proposed legislation is confessedly intended to remedy evils justly complained of. If a majority of the intelligent and reputable republicans of the south do not want a new election law, because they can see in its promise of good to the party there, but rather injury and an increase of evils, and a majority of the republicans of the north either take no interest in the proposed legislation or are opposed to it, nothing more should be necessary to convince republican senators of the inexpediency of enacting new legislation on this subject at present. The pending election bill will not pass the senate if republican senators give heed to the prevailing sentiment in their party, both north and south.

THE QUESTION OF JURISDICTION.

The opinion of the interstate commerce commission on the protest of the railroads against the reduction of rates on food products, and on the motion to dismiss proceedings for want of jurisdiction is a very clear justification of the course of procedure and the action taken by the commission. Under the act to regulate commerce the interstate commerce commission has authority and is required to execute and enforce the provisions of the act. It can investigate, find facts, reach conclusions, and make orders on complaint made by others or upon inquiry instituted on its own motion. It can hear and determine, ascertain and declare the truth, and while its findings, conclusions and orders can only be enforced through the decisions and judgments of the courts, they are prima facie evidence and sufficient until in the opinion of the court overcome by other evidence. The commission may proceed to enforce the provisions of the act on complaint made by any person, corporation or association authorized to complain, but it is not necessary that it shall wait for a complaint in order to enforce the law. It is held, and the position is clearly sound, that in the absence of complaint the commission must, if it is to enforce the law, proceed on its own motion. To deny this right to the commission would obviously deprive it of one of its most important functions and leave the enforcement of the law to the uncertain contingency of a complaint from some person or corporation whose interests might be affected by the charges or practice of carriers. However probable it may be that no serious violation of the law will happen without complaint being made to the commission, it is still manifestly desirable, and undoubtedly such is the intention

of the act, that the commission shall, whenever it has knowledge that the law is being violated, proceed on its own motion to enforce the law. It is certainly the popular understanding that it has this authority, subject, of course, to judicial investigation and decision.

It was assumed by the roads, as one of the grounds for denying jurisdiction, that the proceeding was not commenced and conducted in accordance with the rules of practice established by the commission, and was therefore without authority of law. The sufficient reply to this is that the rules of practice made in accordance with the provisions of the act refer to proceedings commenced by parties authorized to complain and apply to the commission by petition, and have no application to proceedings instituted by the commission on its own motion, which are commenced and conducted under the statute. The absurdity of the contention of the railroads in this particular is very clearly pointed out. The commission shows that the railroads had notice of the proceedings sufficient for the purpose and sufficient in law, and that there is no ground of just complaint on this score. The assumption that the rates in question are no more than reasonable is answered by the presentation of facts which the railroads will find it very difficult to dispose of.

As the issue thus made is very likely to be carried into the courts, and as it involves a question of very great importance affecting the authority of the interstate commerce commission, it is a matter of general interest to know the grounds upon which the commission rests its action. They appear to be of a very strong and substantial character, and it is possible that the more conservative among the railroad managers may conclude that it will be the part of wisdom to submit to the order reducing rates without putting the question of jurisdiction to a judicial test.

OUR OFFICIAL ORGAN.

Under the law the paper that is willing to sell its columns for the lowest price is made the official paper. The most influential paper naturally cannot afford to compete under such conditions, and cheap johns concern enjoy the empty glory that attaches to official organ gridding. An honest newspaper can be an official organ without prostituting its columns to the defense of hoodlums, corrupt combines, defrauders and tax evaders. Our enterprising and constantly successful contemporary, the World-Health, is, however, conducted on different principles, or rather no principles. Whatever is done by city and county officials is always right, and whoever exposes any crookedness or rascality is treated as the common enemy.

Our official organ sneezes every time Mayor Cushing takes snuff, and goes into a spasm every time Mayor Wheeler has the cholera morbus. Not a word about the star-chamber combine and the jobs set up by We, Us & Co. On the contrary every scheme hatched by the combine and every attempt made to foist additional sinecures upon the city payroll is warmly endorsed.

REVOIL IN THE ALLIANCE.

Editor Press: As an independent voter, a friend of General Van Wyck, a farmer and a reader of the Press, I wish to work off a little of the distasteful feeling over the action of the so-called independent state convention held in Lincoln on Tuesday last. Like many of my fellow farmers, whose crops are being abandoned in transportation rates, whose purse is ruthlessly taxed and ravished by the high tariff on necessities, and completely emptied by high taxes, usurious interests, and the tribute to a gold standard and a contract currency, I have deemed money reform, tariff reform, railroad reform, the leading questions in which the farmers and laborers are interested, and have prayerfully and consistently labored for results, regardless of who should lead, or who should follow.

I left the republican party to get rid of bossism, and turned my eyes toward the great party movement in transportation rates, whose purpose is ruthlessly taxed and ravished by the high tariff on necessities, and completely emptied by high taxes, usurious interests, and the tribute to a gold standard and a contract currency, I have deemed money reform, tariff reform, railroad reform, the leading questions in which the farmers and laborers are interested, and have prayerfully and consistently labored for results, regardless of who should lead, or who should follow.

FOR A FREER TRADE.

Mr. Blaine's idea is diametrically opposed to the principle of non-intercourse on which the McKinley bill is based, and conforms to the fact that no nation has ever become great without commerce. That is the source of England's power, the cause of her vast wealth, and with our resources and ability the United States, under a liberal policy, would exceed her in all material respects within a quarter of a century. Mr. Blaine is statesman enough to recognize this and to act upon it.

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The nomination of ex-Senator Harlan for congress by the republicans of the Second district is the most commendable nomination that has been made by any party in Nebraska this year, and is the equivalent of a public notice that railroad control of that district has ceased to be. As matter of fact his nomination was not generally expected. Laws have been enacted, strong following for nomination, and Bosworth would have developed considerable strength, yet on the formal ballot the nomination of Harlan was unanimous. The party leaders and the party followers put their heads together to do what which was for the best interests of the party and they saw their way clear as stated. Some more of that kind of politics all along the line, and the nomination of many republicans like Harlan, will in a short time restore the party to its old-time strength in Nebraska.

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INVESTIGATE THE CHARGES.

The charges made by Mr. C. E. Squires before the board of public works demand prompt and searching investigation at the hands of the city council. Although revealed behind closed doors, they cannot and should not be treated as a confidential communication.

The Barber asphalt company, for which Mr. Squires is the local agent, is a contractor for paving in this city. Under its contract the company is obligated to use only such materials as are designated in the specifications. According to Mr. Squires a party whose name has not been divulged, and who claims to have a controlling influence over certain city officials, has made a proposal, to get an asphalt pavement of inferior quality laid and proposed to have it accepted providing sixty thousand dollars was divided between the company and hoodlums officials through himself. In other words, the proposition made to Mr. Squires was nothing more nor less than a scheme to rob the taxpayers by laying an inferior pavement and to divide the difference between the value of a first class pavement and an inferior pavement between the company and the parties who were to cover up this proposed swindle.

The duty of the council in the premises is very clear. The charges made by Mr. Squires should be sifted to the bottom. If any city official has entered into a conspiracy to defraud the city, or has agreed with any outsider to assist in paving contractors in foisting inferior material or work upon the city he should be dismissed from the service and prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

FOR GOD'S SAKE.

"For God's sake," fervently exclaims the Topeka Republic, "let the people stop running up into Nebraska and telling people there how prosperous Kansas and Kansas people are under prohibition. It is hard enough to have ploughed Kansas into such a terrible condition without attempting, by lying and misrepresentation, to bring upon another great state the same curse that over-

hangs ours." The sentiments of the Republic are approved by a great majority of the conservative business men and property owners in Kansas. They serve as a warning to the people of Nebraska to guard against the attempt of imported agitators to check the prosperity of the state.

THERE is too much horse play in the county board with reference to the hospital. If there is a question as to the acceptance of the building, the record should be corrected. The affairs of the county should be conducted on business principles.

THE plumbing inspector should be admonished that he has no right to act as agent for any paving company.

A PAINFUL suspicion is abroad that Mayor Cushing's midnight callers made away with his gubernatorial boom.

EVERY encouragement should be offered South Omaha candidates to go into court for a vindication.

WHAT THE PUBLIC WANTS.

The public wants, and intends to have, fairly honest and capable public servants, and proposes to have them through the agency of an honest ballot.

THE CASE IN A NUTSHELL.

There is just one principle involved in the election bill before the senate, and that is: Shall American citizens who are entitled to vote be protected in the exercise of that privilege?

Grand Island an Important Guest.

The most extensive suite of apartments anywhere in Chicago during the World's fair will be that of the sugar palace from Grand Island, Neb.

"We must insist on the reader giving this word its French pronunciation.

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POLITICAL CHOW-CHOW.

EX-Senator Van Wyck will in Omaha yesterday and will be in Omaha again today. He has not yet relieved the mind of the curious and inquisitive by answering the questions concerning his conflict in the First district. The question is pertinent and Dictator Jay Burrows owes it to the people to appoint a committee and inquire into the matter. If the senator is running it is but right that people should be apprised of it before they commit themselves.

J. S. Dew of Johnson county was an Omaha visitor yesterday and called on Mr. Dew. Mr. Dew did not aspire to any state office to-day—his putting in his best legs office for senator from the counties of Nemaha and Johnson. But as the convention is to be held yet, he may reconsider.

Hughes Kincaid expects a large following when he comes before the congressional convention in the Third district which must be checked in his wild career. At Valentine last Thursday he sentenced two men to the penitentiary. Such summary proceedings should be stopped until after the campaign is over.

There is an attempt at a cheap sensation in Dodge county just now. The rumor prevails in some circles that Dorsej Younger, who shot at front Richards. And now come Dorsej's friends and offer a reward of \$1,000 for proof that he ever made such an offer. It is plainly evident that Mayor Shorsya or Dorsej Jensen or both have served Dorsej a mean trick. All is fair in war—but.

The Kearney Enterprise poses a long way ahead. It is already booming Robert Green, president of the state board of agriculture, for state treasurer in 1897. The question then arises, what will the convention do with Green? E. B. Jensen and Andy Graham? The latter named gentleman filed his claim last year.

The St. Louis Globe-Democrat very sensibly does not say anything about prohibition in this way: "The Nebraska prohibition in their platform since experience has proved that states can best be saved without it."

M. Antony Lettowich, who presides over the destinies of the Dawson county democracy, figuring on the fact that J. MacColl was left in the republican convention, demands that Dawson county in general, and Lexington in particular, root out a candidate for some state office. We are gratified to announce that the valiant Russian colonel does not change anything for this advice.

The generally accepted fact that Nebraska under the new census will have seven congressmen instead of three, brought both Coffey and Church to the state convention. The further fact, however, that these two dogmatic warriors were set upon leaves a vacuum in the contingent shortage that nothing is in sight to fill.

W. E. Peebles of Pender, Thurston county, has announced himself as a candidate for congress in the Big Third. This makes five full-fledged candidates, not counting the present incumbent.

The democrats of Platte county held their county convention August 11. This will give Mr. Guy C. Barrman, who was snouted under in the independent convention for governor, another chance to get to the front.

Mr. J. E. Boyd announces that he is willing to accept the nomination for governor on the democratic ticket. There have been those who were willing to search for the sack of gold at the end of the rainbow.

LOBSTER SALAD.

It was only a peppy drop of dew. But now that the dew has thickened to say, "This sea that a fortune melted away."

One hundred years ago last Thursday the first mechanical patent was issued by the government. This, it will be observed, was long before the patent bill was thought of.

Woman's glory is often times in the butter that she makes.

While the French people are discussing the abolition of the jury system, the Chicago hoodlums have found that the jury is more easily bribed than abolished. And yet some of them have gone to Joliet.

It is to be hoped that critics will not get Tostot's "Kreutzer Sonata" confounded with the poetical works of Mr. N. K. Griggs, the muse of the Big Blue. Mr. Griggs often writes pieces with his coat off, but this is as far as he ever goes.

The rise in the price of bullion has called out a corresponding advance of 15 percent in the price of silverware. Farmers who have been selling their silver plated spoons for 10 cents a dozen will be obliged to call a halt.

The governor of Minnesota, Mr. Merriam, who is to be elected, has, according to the Minneapolis Tribune, had the moral courage to banish murderers within two years. The governor should have allowed the sheriff to hang the nine scoundrels and he should have personally supervised the denning of the stalling census supervisor.

At a meeting of the gubernatorial council of Concord, N. H., a vote was passed asking John Greenleaf Whittier to write a poem to be read at the unveiling of the General John Stark monument. I. M. Whittier is too old and indifferent to respond, the services of Captain G. M. Humphrey of Pawnee City, are secured. The gallant captain would rather write an original poem than die, and those who know him would rather die than hear him read it.

The latest returns of England's war department show that 96,000 out of 170,000 men in the English home army are under twenty-one years of age. Since Colonel Harry Hotchkiss achieved his majority there are no boys in the Nebraska state militia. This shows where and how Nebraska has the edge on England.

NEWS OF THE NORTHWEST.

Nebraska. The young ladies of Claris have organized a brass band. A Methodist church at Hailer will be dedicated August 17.

The Stanton county fair will be held at Stanton September 30 to October 3. Julius Lehman of Norfolk shot off two of his eyes by carelessly handling a gun.

The Western Lutheran, now published at Bloomington, will be removed to Lincoln. The Methodists of Washburn have just concluded a four days' meeting at Boating park. Prof. Cooper of Stanton will be the principal speaker at the coming year.

A number of Peonias fact destroyers have been taken to Beatrice to be trained for speed. E. G. Bryner of Beatrice, Ia., has been engaged as principal of the Goldenbush schools.

W. C. Trumble of Panhandle has been declared insane and has been sent to the Lincoln asylum. The Saturday Budget, the new Nebraska City independent paper, made its first appearance last week.

Quinn's cooper shop at Lincoln will remove his business to manufacture barrels for the distillery. Three residents of St. Paul have started for Europe and will bring back with them a herd of Siamese ponies.

The annual meeting of the Oshans and Alma district of the Free Methodist church will be held at Alma August 12 to 18. A youthful tramp stole a watch at Chadron and carried it in a box car at Hay Springs and the tramp was arrested.

Chris Jensen, living near Blair, lost his left arm above the elbow by having it caught in the cylinder of a harvesting machine. The claimant of the Oshans and Alma district of the Free Methodist church will be held at Alma August 12 to 18.

An Eagle man named Richardson was found lying on the Missouri Pacific track near Lincoln, head and neck broken and recited just in time to save his life. Peter McLaughry, a railroad grader at Paxton, was stabbed and perhaps fatally wounded by a fellow workman named Alexander Cullen has been arrested, charged with the crime.

The editor of the Colorado Sentinel regrets that his trip be lost a 75-cent hat and was given a lead dollar in change for good United States money. The editor of the Colorado Sentinel regrets that his trip be lost a 75-cent hat and was given a lead dollar in change for good United States money.

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