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WORKING STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

Table showing circulation statistics for various dates from Sunday, Dec. 21 to Saturday, Dec. 27, 1890.

From to before me and subscribed in my presence this 24th day of December, A. D. 1890.

Notary Public.

George B. Tzschuck, Notary Public.

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 December, 1890, was 3,043 copies.

For the month of January, 1891, 3,043 copies; for the month of February, 1891, 3,043 copies; for the month of March, 1891, 3,043 copies; for the month of April, 1891, 3,043 copies; for the month of May, 1891, 3,043 copies; for the month of June, 1891, 3,043 copies; for the month of July, 1891, 3,043 copies; for the month of August, 1891, 3,043 copies; for the month of September, 1891, 3,043 copies; for the month of October, 1891, 3,043 copies; for the month of November, 1891, 3,043 copies.

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The state "contest" ends today from sheer exhaustion.

Now is the accepted time to plant good resolutions, out of sight.

GENERAL MILLS inquired, "Where is Big Foot?" Has he looked in Chicago?

The refusal of the Union Pacific to take Milwaukee straight or on the side is a significant reminder of the swearing-off season.

The painful lack of unity among the French tariff revisers suggests a splendid opening for Mr. McKinley's talents after March 4.

A NEW HAMPSHIRE court has sentenced a man to be hanged in 1892. As time appears to be no object why not extend it to 1893 and give him a chance to see the world's fair?

IF THE Tories fail to take advantage of their opportunities to secure a seven year lease of official life, they possess a larger stock of political hindst than they are usually credited with.

JUSTICE BROWN'S enemies are trying to make capital out of the fact that he once shot a burglar. Well, what of it? He will have to face some bigger robbers than that when he begins business on the supreme bench.

ATTORNEY GENERAL LEASE'S vigorous report attracts considerable attention throughout the country, but singularly enough, it does not appear to have excited the interest of the Nebraska press. Why this silence in a matter of such vital interest to the state?

The colored troops are leading the charge against the hostiles in the bad lands. This is the cruelest cut of all. It is the last straw on the overburdened backs of the redskins, and if they do not avenge this last insult to their pride by straightening a few kinks in the difficulty, we mistake the temper of the ghost dancers.

The board of education appears in a cheery mood over its financial condition. There is a certainty of a small surplus in the treasury at the close of the year. The misappropriated Paul street school fund will be restored. This is very gratifying to members of the board, but it does not reflect any credit on its management or of the school finances.

The tide of social reform in Germany is still rising. The leaders of the new party, who have already obtained so much from the young emperor, now demand the same concessions for farm hands that he has granted to mechanics. Meanwhile, the opposition appears to be rallying about Bismarck. Germany is likely to maintain the interest which she has aroused in all mankind since the old emperor died.

MASSACHUSETTS and Connecticut newspapers demand that the railroads shall no longer give passes to the governors and legislatures of those states. This will strike western people as a very mild reform. In this state the demand is that railroads shall not only discontinue their passes to state officers, but that they shall also cease to buy with passes the conventions that nominate state officers. Western railroads would not be greatly alarmed at the belligerent reformers who ask only that the legislators shall pay their fare.

STATISTICS of railroad building in the United States during the year show a marked improvement over the record of 1889. The total new mileage amounted to 6,080 against 5,300 miles in 1889, 6,070 in 1888, and 12,667 in 1887. The high water mark of railroad building during the decade was reached in 1887. In the following two years the decline was sharp and rapid, but the record for the present year indicates a firm rebound. The greatest increase in mileage was in the south Atlantic states, where 1,275 miles of road were constructed. Add to this the mileage of the gulf and Mississippi states and the south western states, the aggregate construction in the southern states amounts to 3,043, or nearly one-half the total of the year. This brings the total mileage of the United States up to 167,000, one-fifth of which was constructed in the last five years.

SUPERVISION OF STATE BANKS.

The success of private banks is measured by the confidence of the public in their managers and backers. This confidence in turn is accurately gauged by the number of depositors. The savings of hundreds and frequently thousands of persons are entrusted to the keeping of private banks mainly on the known integrity of the stockholders. It is of the greatest importance, not only for the safety of banks but for the security of depositors, that their solvency should be above suspicion.

No other branch of business involves to an equal extent the well being of a thrifty people. Savings banks are the financial strong box of the toilers. They contain the wealth of a greater number of people than the national banks, yet their condition in various states is treated with a degree of indifference that is nothing less than criminal.

The collapse of two private banks in rapid succession in Chicago emphasizes the fact that states cannot be too strict in protecting the public from reckless financiers. Had Illinois exercised supervision over private banks, the insolvency of these two concerns would have been known months before their collapse, and their managers would have been prevented from robbing depositors by accepting deposits up to the moment of suspension.

The disastrous experience of several Nebraska cities with wildcat banks a few years ago aroused public sentiment, which crystallized in the enactment of a state banking law. It provides every reasonable safeguard for the protection of depositors, requires not less than three sworn reports annually from every private bank, their examination at least once a year by the state bank examiner, and the publication of a summary of their condition in local newspapers.

The last report of the state board shows the private banks to be in sound financial condition, a fact that goes far toward strengthening public confidence during the present monetary stringency. But the state board should go farther than the mere compilation of the collective reports. It should rigidly enforce every provision of the law, without fear or favor. It should display greater zeal in examining the securities of the banks, and should insist on the publication of the report of their condition, as is now required from national banks.

No reliable banking institution will object to frequent examinations. It is to their interest to invite them and publish the fact. It is the unreliable concerns that endeavor to evade the law, and for that reason the law should be more vigorously enforced. By that means, the disastrous consequences of state bank failures will be averted in Nebraska.

THE FUTURE OF CATTLE PRICES.

The outlook for stock raisers and shippers in all the great cattle markets of the west is more encouraging than it has been in a long time. This is a development for which the producers of Nebraska and other states have waited long and patiently and which will be especially welcome to them now.

The opinions of the best judges agree on this proposition. They are based on obvious and reasonable grounds. Everything indicates that cattle receipts will not increase during the first half of 1891 in the same ratio as in the past. The great ranges of the west and southwest have been depleted by hard winters and by unusual shipments to market during the last few months. Meanwhile, the purchase of feeders in the South Omaha market in the same period has fallen off largely, owing to the dearth and scarcity of corn in the country. The same cause has necessitated the shipment of cattle to market that in other years would have been fed through the winter. The result is that the over-supply of cattle which has formerly existed in the country and some crowding into the spring market to depress prices does not exist today. The best judges agree that we are soon to see the supply no more than equal to the demand, which must inevitably result in higher prices.

Through the whole long era of low prices, which have discouraged stock raisers and shippers, one fact has stood out prominently for their enlightenment. This is the fact that the better grades of cattle have always commanded a ready sale and the top of the market. Men who have raised fine beef cattle testify that it is the surest and cheapest way to conduct the business. Scrub cattle, like scrub horses, are unprofitable, and scarcely less so in good times than in bad.

If Nebraska producers have learned this lesson they may yet have a profit to credit to the era of low prices.

TEXT BOOKS IN NEBRASKA.

Among the resolutions adopted at the recent session of the State Alliance which THE BEE heartily endorses is the following: That it is the desire of the farmers here represented that our coming legislature should adopt and promulgate a uniform system of school books to be furnished at cost to the school boards throughout the state.

One of the most ardent of all the monopolies that now oppress the people is the school book trust. It puts a copyright on the three R's and all other departments of "knowledge learned of books" and by virtue of its close combination among publishers, charges the public what it pleases, regardless of the cost of production and of a fair profit on the investment. The result is the annual waste of an enormous sum, taken from the pockets of parents and credited to the bank accounts of great publishing houses. There is neither reason nor justice in the present system. The coming legislature can confer immense benefits on the people and lead in a reform that, sooner or later, is bound to come in every state, by taking decisive steps to correct this evil.

The way for Nebraska to relieve itself of the burdens placed upon it by the school book trust is to prepare and publish its own text books and sell them to its parents at actual cost. Since 1875 the state has pursued this policy with the supreme court reports, which in most other states are monopolized by law book publishers, and the results have been satisfactory. There is no reason why the same plan would not bring

the same benefits in the case of text books. There is no copyright on the multiplication table, and no patent rights conferring individual ownership in the English grammar, American history, nor even the dead languages. The state can command talent to prepare text books on these and all other branches taught in our schools. It can let the mechanical part of the work in open competition to the lowest bidder, retain the ownership of the plates and sell the books to the public at actual cost. Whether the state shall undertake to furnish text books free, allowing the people to pay for them by taxation rather than directly, as is done in Massachusetts, Kansas and elsewhere, is another question. But in either case the reform will be equally effective.

A fair estimate of the cost of text books to each pupil in the Nebraska schools would be \$5 a year. To say that under the proposed reform they could be sold for \$2 is certainly not putting it too low. When this saving of \$3 upon each pupil is multiplied by the total membership of our schools the result is seen to be an enormous saving to the people. With our present population it would run from \$250,000 to \$500,000 annually in the next five years, and would be larger with every year of growth.

Doubtless much labor and ability would be required to establish a complete system of state text books. The work would have to be under the supervision of our ablest educators, and, possibly, a board of education would be required. But when the work is accomplished we shall have a uniform system, organized without regard to the interests of school book agents, or the differing whims of county superintendents, and we shall no longer pay an outrageous tribute to a close corporation of school book publishers.

NEBRASKA can lead the text book

reform. If the next legislature does its duty.

THE BRITISH NEWSPAPER NEWS.

The Brunswick News has suspended publication, but it hopes to resume in the spring. The Thayer County Mail is a new publication at Hebron. Edwin B. Young is the editor.

Henry E. Phelps of the Howells Journal announces that he "does not have to go into any new movement to be independent."

C. W. Beal of Broken Bow, who was elected a member of the state executive committee by the alliance, is the editor of the Custer County Beacon.

Another paper has been started at Papillion and christened the Sargy Republic. It is under the management of A. S. Weibel and Mrs. F. A. Harrison.

W. N. Watson, editor of the Fairbury Democrat, has tried of the bourgeois name of his paper and will change its cognomen this week and call it the Liberator.

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W. H. McGuffin, editor of the Bellwood Gazette, is having a tilt with the local Catholic priest as the result of the report of a sermon in which the newspaper man printed recently.

Ira Hamilton, who combats the business of editing a paper with acting as city marshal of Plainville, has killed eighteen dogs since May 1st, and but few unlicensed curs are left.

John C. Sprecher of the Schuyler Quill, a convert to the alliance, faith, advocates the passage of a law by the coming legislature that will require every lawyer and doctor to give a heavy bond before they are allowed to practice.

The Nebraska Press association will hold its annual meeting at Beatrice January 29 and 30. George P. Marvin, editor of the Beatrice Democrat, is president of the association and F. G. Summers of the Seward Reporter is secretary.

Charles H. Challis, whose paper, the Ulysses Dispatch, supports the alliance party, refers to Jay Burrows as a "vengeful, selfish, ambitious, vindictive, would-be leader," and in the same sentences designates Van Wyck as "one of the best friends of the toiling masses who has lived since the days of Burke."

George M. Plumb, who has been editing the Red Cloud Republican, ostensibly a republican paper, has deserted the party and his newspaper at the same time and will join George H. Gibson in the publishing of the New Republic, a prohibition organ at Lincoln. What will become of the Red Cloud paper is not known.

HAVE A SMILE.

Washington Star: Speaking of Indians as hair raisers, the real hair razor, after all, is a pair of scissors. Pittsburg Post: Called to a count—A few American brides annually. Binghamton Republican: Can the man who strikes you for a loan be charged with assault? Chicago Times: Cigar dealers announce that they will put the price of cigars after January 1. But who cares? We are all going to swear off on January 1, anyway. St. Joseph News: The foreman of the composing room is one of those people who believe in a personal devil. Munsey's Weekly: See—I learned how to cook when I was in boarding school. He (sipping her cake): And when did you forget? St. Joseph News: "Under ordinary circumstances," said St. Agredora, musingly; "I like to see a girl have some get-up about her. Except when one is sitting on my lap." Drake's Magazine: So it is—"Well, its all ova."

THE General Sentiment.

Portland Oregonian.

The world at large is getting very tired of Mr. Parnell and wishes he would quietly marry Mrs. O'Shea and drop into obscurity.

Politics and Matrimony.

Chicago Inter-Ocean.

Cleveland was smartenough to marry while president; Governor Hill should go him one

torics and shops, \$370,000; railroads,

\$210,000; steamships, \$190,000; total,

\$4,120,000.

Among the more notable of Lincoln's long list of improvements in the past year is the erection of three new hotels, including a seven-story structure, costing \$250,000; the entrance of the Rock Island; the construction of an electric street railway, and the gain of three new colleges. These alone would constitute a great year's work, though they are only features of what has actually been accomplished.

THE BEE heartily congratulates the people of Lincoln upon the splendid showing they make of their past, and adds its confidence to their faith in the great future which awaits them.

EXPERIENCED MEN NEEDED.

The Philadelphia Press believes that it is absolutely necessary to the solution of the Indian question that only men shall be appointed agents who have some knowledge of the work they have to do, and that men of experience, acquainted with Indians, and of proved capacity and integrity, should be kept in office during good behavior and freed from political pressure. It remarks that while throughout the existing disturbance the Standing Rock agency has been in much a pride in his own honor and credit, and its always humiliating to men who know their credit and means are just as good as their honor and credit, and who are not so much interested in the money as in the honor of securing an endorsement before they borrow money of a national bank under the laws of the United States. This part of the banking system is vicious and degrading, and is almost unanimously demanded for its speedy obliteration. Nearly every farmer and every business man in the nation has had his pride humbled and his finances greatly depleted by this unwise and unjust provision of the national banking law. In the very next issue he was forced to publish a letter from the president of the Des Moines National bank, which not only declared that "there is no such provision in the national banking law, nor is there anything in the theory or practice of national banking to warrant any such statement as the above," but that he "knew scores of farmers, and there are hundreds who can do better money at the national banks of Des Moines, on their own name alone, without security"—in proof of which he exhibited to the editor the last official statement of the Des Moines National bank, which gave, among other required details, the aggregate of "one name loans."

The editor's only excuse is that "twice during the last twenty years we have borrowed money from the same national bank, and each time two signatures were required to secure the loan." In other words, his own credit not being good enough to get money without securing indorsements, he jumped to the conclusion that this was a part of the national banking law, and accordingly demanded "its speedy obliteration."

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better and marry before trying to be president. There will be no yeast in his presidential cake if he does.

Only Speculators in the Soup.

St. Louis City Journal.

The legitimate trade of the country is all right. It is the illegitimate trade of the country that is causing all the trouble.

The Missing Ingredient.

Rehearse Democrat.

The trouble with Keely and his motor is a lack of "sympathetic vibration." There is the same painful void in the relations between Cleveland and Hill.

A Matter of Economy.

Chicago News.

At this season the economical young man pauses before giving his best girl a bouquet of roses and determines to offer a casket of solitaire diamonds instead.

The Biggest Share.

Philadelphia Times.

O woman's kindly heart! We'll bet if Eve had picked the apple there And bit it first, that Adam got The fullest, biggest share.

Clarkson's Ridiculous Position.

New York Evening Post.

An editor has seldom found himself in a more ridiculous position than that occupied by the Iowa State Register, Clarkson's newspaper. In last Sunday's issue he published a diatribe against the national bank law on this ground: "Every American citizen should have a pride in his own honor and credit, and it is always humiliating to men who know their credit and means are just as good as their honor and credit, and who are not so much interested in the money as in the honor of securing an endorsement before they borrow money of a national bank under the laws of the United States. This part of the banking system is vicious and degrading, and is almost unanimously demanded for its speedy obliteration. Nearly every farmer and every business man in the nation has had his pride humbled and his finances greatly depleted by this unwise and unjust provision of the national banking law. In the very next issue he was forced to publish a letter from the president of the Des Moines National bank, which not only declared that "there is no such provision in the national banking law, nor is there anything in the theory or practice of national banking to warrant any such statement as the above," but that he "knew scores of farmers, and there are hundreds who can do better money at the national banks of Des Moines, on their own name alone, without security"—in proof of which he exhibited to the editor the last official statement of the Des Moines National bank, which gave, among other required details, the aggregate of "one name loans."

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clothes of Tommy's to the poor. On the second thought, hadn't we better send them over to the preacher's children?

Bingo—Capital. But in that case I guess you had better let Tommy wear them a few weeks longer.

Louisville Courier-Journal: The Chinaman who lighted his pipe while repairing a powder mill has given up smoking. It takes a long time for some men to learn that tobacco is injurious.

Chicago Tribune: "Are you disappointed in your Christmas gifts, Willie?" asked his mother.

"No—no," he answered, looking them over again, "I'm not 'xactly disappointed, but I don't see anything here I can make a noise with."

Drake's Magazine: "You seem to be in poor spirits," said the fly to the toad in alcohol.

"Yes, I'm in du-rance vial."

Chicago Tribune: "Hello, Binley. Just back from the west? Did you hear the Indians war-whoop?"

"No, I heard they didn't."

"Didn't what?"

"War whoops."

NEWS OF THE NORTHWEST.

Nebraska.

A subsidy has been raised to secure a beet sugar factory for Gethenburg.

Mason City has all the arrangements completed for a system of waterworks.

Mrs. O. A. Gilman of Superior was severely injured Christmas day by being thrown from a horse.

A Republican City genius has invented a scissors sharpener from which he expects to realize a fortune.

Schick & Meints, general merchants of Filley, have been forced to assign. The liabilities amount to \$2,800, with assets about the same.

Wahoo has expended \$50,000 in public improvements the past year, including the opera house, city hall, Union Pacific depot, and the city waterworks.

The village board of Waco has voted to license saloons at \$200 each. This will make the first town in York county where prohibition is enforced.

A strong petition has been secured in Washington county praying the board of supervisors to submit to a vote the question of retaining from township organization to the commissioner system.

They bored a well 300 feet deep out in Chase county and the water spouted up several feet above the surface. But the sand got in the hole and the water ceased to flow. They have solved the water problem out there.

The Stanton county old settlers organized an association at Elmer by electing the following officers: President, J. R. Lowry; vice president, G. M. Matheson; secretary, G. Sonnenstein; treasurer, Ferdinand Miller; trustees, Robert Humes, John C. Wimer and Ernest Jack.

George M. Baugh, who is an elder in the Anselby church and an occupant of a front porch in the same town, soaked down to the mill pond at that place early in the morning, one Sunday recently, to have a quiet slake before church so know one would know it says a broken bow. Looked on as a miser before, and he broke through the ice and was ill for a week in consequence, not yet fully recovered. The leader hopes the next time he will be a little more careful and the next time to look for thicker ice.

A young man at Anselby took a notion that he wanted to get married last week, but he was a little short of cash, says the Norma Record. The boys around town passed around the hat and soon made a donation sufficient to defray the expenses of a cheap ceremony. The mother of the would-be groom soon appeared on the scene and forbid the justice to proceed, as the kid was not of age. Then the game was effectually blocked by the young lady stating that she had no intention of getting married. The money collected was used to send the girl to her home in Wood River.

A mammoth boulder has been discovered near Hartington on which are imprinted or carved a number of curious designs. Its upper face is covered with inscriptions in the form of a triangle. Some of these are so worn by time and the elements that they might easily be mistaken for the track of a bear. But the design is pronounced to be that of a bear. The boulder is about a cone which is polished in a manner that would do credit to any marble cutter in the world. The entire length of the boulder is just six inches from the extremity of the heel to the end of the big toe. The three largest toes are exactly the same length. The foot is four inches long, and the original, or only its carved likeness that of a primitive man. The toes spread out as though they had never felt the confinement of shoe or moccasin. The interior of the foot figure has suffered from the action of water and the atmosphere and its ragged surface has blackened and overgrown with lichens, until it leaves a field for speculation as to whether it is a track made in the mud of the tertiary formation, the work of the