

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

SWORN STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, I,

County of Douglas, I,

George B. Tschack, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, solemnly swear that the actual circulation of THE DAILY BEE for the week ending December 23, 1893, was as follows:

Monday, December 18..... 23,140

Tuesday, December 19..... 23,025

Wednesday, December 20..... 23,030

Thursday, December 21..... 23,019

Friday, December 22..... 23,087

Saturday, December 23..... 23,087

GEORGE B. TSCHACK,

Sworn before me and subscribed to me,

I, SEAL MY PRESENCE THIS DAY OF NOVEMBER,

1893.

N. P. FEL, Notary Public.

Average Circulation for November, 24,210.

THE members of the ways and means committee promise not to talk about the tariff before January 1. Let the president issue a proclamation for another day of general thanksgiving.

The price of hogs in the Omaha market has risen to 5 cents, with an upward tendency. The Nebraska farmer who keeps his pens full of the young American shoat is wise in his generation.

WE PRINT elsewhere a column of state political history, revived for the special delectation of the Dodge county contingent. The subject is recalled by the unprovoked attempt to organize a boycott against this paper.

WORLD'S fair concessionaires succeeded in securing over \$200,000 from the exposition management as balm for infringements upon their exclusive privileges. The experience of the concessionaires in "doing" the public evidently availed them in "doing" the World's fair managers.

GOVERNOR WAITE has been induced to reluctantly withhold his proposed call for an extra session of the Colorado legislature until more people have an opportunity to protest against his contemplated action. The governor fears that he will not have another chance to call a legislative session after the expiration of his present term of office.

Some of the expert testimony in the Prendragast murder trial was intended to show that the prisoner was insane because the shape of his lower jaw is not quite normal. Whereupon the Chicago Herald pertinently asks whether the experts imagine that the brain is located in the jaw. Long experience inclines us to believe that the jaw is the seat of some mysterious power, but whether it is the brain or not is still an open question.

The asylum boodlers down at Lincoln will sleep much more soundly hereafter, having made sure that a nole prosequi has been formally entered against the indictments pending against them in the courts of Lancaster county. They ought to demand reparation for their injured reputations. A verdict for damages in a suit for malicious prosecution in their cases would be nothing surprising from a Lancaster county jury, but they probably will prefer to present claims for damages to the next legislature.

The new wing of the county hospital building has been accepted. It is said to be far better than the tumble-down structure it has supplanted. It only serves to emphasize the wretched condition of the south wing, the walls of which have bulged and are braced by heavy timbers. This hospital building ought to be sound and in ship shape, but it already presents a dilapidated appearance. It is a crying shame that the contractors who built it cannot be held to an accountability for their misdeeds.

AGITATION that was so rife just after Thanksgiving, demanding radical changes in the rules under which the intercollegiate foot ball games are played, is bearing fruit sooner than many of the agitators had dared to hope. The men most intimately connected with the management of college athletics have taken the matter up and are proceeding with a revision of the rules in a manner calculated to eliminate the mass plays against which the charge of brutality was most frequently made. Foot ball is bound to stay for some years to come, and foot ball under revised rules gives promise of overtopping the immense popularity which the game has already attained.

THE voters of Douglas county who authorized the issue and sale of bonds in the sum of \$150,000 for road improvements will endorse the proposition to provide work for the unemployed. Contractors who bid upon the work, conditioned that the county shall furnish the crushed stone needed at market prices, will strike a popular chord. Idle men who want work will reap a positive benefit if permitted by the county to break the stone. They can earn a living and thus relieve the taxpayers of Douglas county from the cost of keeping them. The plan, if carried out, will furnish a ready means of determining how many able-bodied men now out of employment really want work. Those who decline the invitation to work could be at once run out of the county and kept out, which would be another relief to the taxpayers. We suggest that the unemployed men of this county got up a petition to the county commissioners, signing their names thereto and asserting their willingness to accept the work when offered by the county. Such a petition could be used by the commissioners as a means of preventing newcomers from benefiting by the measures for public relief. Omaha has enough pauperized people and does not want to throw out a bait for more.

CHRISTMAS.

The one day of the year that is observed by the entire Christian world, regardless of denominational differences—the relatively insignificant body of dissenters excepted—is again at hand, bringing with it the usual store of hope, of expectation, of desire—unfortunately not to be realized by all, for this day brings also its disappointments and regrets, and these seem harder to bear at this time than at any other. And on this Christmas there will be more disappointment and regret in this rich and favored land than has been experienced for many years. In tens of thousands of homes, where a year ago the voices of happy children made glad and cheerful the whole Christmas day, and the hearts of parents were light and joyful as they contemplated the happiness which their affectionate solicitude had wrought, there will this year be gloom and sadness and despondency. A host of people who on last Christmas were fully employed at remunerative wages are now idle, some of them at the point of destitution; others seeing their little store being steadily depleted, and all facing an outlook that seems almost hopeless. Another host are working on short time and at reduced pay, with the possibility that they may have to join the army of idlers any day. In the homes of these people there will be little merry making at this Christmas time. Their solicitude is how to get bread and fuel rather than dolls and toys. For most of them the Christmas dinner will at best be scanty, while for many there will be no dinner at all unless it is supplied by the hand of charity. In these homes the little ones will look in vain for the tokens of parental affection which, in past years, brought them unspeakable happiness and taught them to look to this time for the highest realization of gladness and gratification. Want and privation stalk through this land of almost boundless wealth and inexhaustible resources as never before.

This is the dark side of the Christmas picture. It is well not to lose sight of it, because it conveys at once a lesson and a call to duty. Our unfortunate fellow citizens must be cared for, and those who are in a position to contribute to their welfare will find no better way of putting themselves in harmony with the spirit of the Christmas time than by giving something for the relief of those who are in need. But Christmas has its bright side, on which imagination may picture the realization of hope and desire, see the glad frolic of children, and note the happiness of those who give and those who receive remembrances of affection and of friendship. If we must count by thousands those who will find no cheer in the recurrence of Christmas, but rather a keener sense of their unfortunate condition, we must count by millions those who are able to fulfill all the reasonable requirements of this season and to derive from it the usual fund of pleasure and gratification. What at first was a comparatively inexpensive way of showing a fellow interest in our friends has been transformed into a competition to see which can make the other feel under the greater obligation. The circle within which the exchanges of gifts take place has grown gradually wider and wider until now, instead of including members of the family only, the gift mania extends to friends, associates and sometimes even to business patrons. The expensiveness of the indulgence threatens to swamp the original beauty of the custom, which lies in its very simplicity and innocence.

The highest duty imposed by Christmas is to make others happy. In the performance of that duty each one will find his or her highest happiness. THE BEE hopes there is no one among its thousands of readers who will not be able to realize all that is meant by the wish of "A Merry Christmas."

BUILDING AND LOAN ASSOCIATIONS.

The banking department of Nebraska has ordered an examination of the constitutions and by-laws of all building and loan associations authorized to do business in the state. The object in view, it is announced, is to enforce an exact compliance with the law and eliminate such features as are in conflict with the act of 1891.

The action of the board is timely and gives promise of a much-needed reform. It is a notorious fact that the law governing building and loan associations has been indifferently enforced. Immediately after the approval of the act of 1891 the banking department issued a circular of instruction explaining the law, defining the manner of organization, and the lines within which the business of associations should be conducted. This was supplemented with reports of examiners and decisions by the board, all of which were in accord with the spirit of the law and just to all concerned. But the vigilance of the authorities relaxed. The pressure of speculative associations overcame rules and decisions and the state was soon overrun with adventurers of the get-rich-quick order. When the present board took charge a year ago few of the speculative concerns approved by the preceding board could comply with the law and were excluded. Some, however, rather than give up a promising field of operation, reorganized in the state and secured approval of business methods of the jug-handle variety.

The purpose of the law governing building and loan associations is to provide a system of state examination and supervision which will protect the savings of members and preserve the mutuality of interest which is the basis of co-operation. The rights and privileges of all members must be on an equality, all sharing, in proportion to payments, in the profits and expenses.

Favoring one class of stockholders at the expense of others should not be permitted. The growth and permanency of these associations depends on confining them strictly to the limitations of the law and rooting out every feature tending to speculation and dis-

The state board is well aware of the dangerous tendency of many associations. It has the complaints of numerous victims, sufficient in themselves to justify a denunciation almost as strong as that directed at bogus bond investment companies last summer. But first of all the board should promulgate spe-

cific rules for the guidance of associations and then enforce compliance with out fear or favor. This is all honest associations ask; it is the least the board can grant.

That much good will result from a general overhauling is not to be doubted. The fact that Bank Examiner McGraw has been chosen for the task insures an intelligent and unbiased examination. Mr. McGraw is especially qualified for the duty. He has examined the books of every association in the state, is familiar with their methods as well as the law and knows by experience where safety ends and danger begins.

USE AND ABUSE OF CHRISTMAS GIFTS.

Christmas gifts—tokens of remembrance and good will—have become an established feature of Christmas celebration and have come to form one of the most potent factors that have contributed toward making its observance general among all classes. History does not disclose just how the beautiful custom arose from small beginnings and grew to its present magnitude, but as an evidence of unselfishness and thoughtful generosity it has commanded itself to all charitable people. More particularly by the children is the Christmas time looked forward to as a time when simple toys and other little indulgences are to gladden childish hearts. The sentiment that prompts true Christmas giving includes only that which is noble and self-sacrificing and is one whose cultivation no one would wish to hinder or discourage.

"We never shall conquer at the ballot box until we have conquered the voters by arguments and persuasion. We never can stop the sale of intoxicants until more check is put to drinking them. God never means that a great moral warfare against a colossal sin shall be shirked by His people and turned over to the tender mercies of political strategists."

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Five years old a year ago, but the last ten years show a considerable falling off in membership. It is so with the Good Templars and the Temple of Honor.

From these facts Dr. Cuyler passes to the reason and in the clearest manner shows that it is because of the diminution of the moral effort against the drink habit. The rising generation is not educated to total abstinence. Temperance meetings in these days are devoted to discussions of the relative merits and demerits of prohibition, low license, high license and local option. The prohibitionists, calls everybody who does not believe with him a "rammy," and the effort of public speakers is directed to the legal method of closing up the saloons and forbidding the sale and manufacture of alcoholic liquors. On this line his words are worth quoting, and he says: "While the demand is unchecked the supply will continue, and all the prohibitory laws will be like a dam of rashes before Niagara."

"The fact is that temperance, if it is held to be synonymous with prohibition, is leading nowhere. The sanguine promises of the prohibition party have not been realized. After twenty years of effort that party has not quite reached 300,000 votes out of a total of 12,000,000."

The doctor thinks it is time for the advocates of temperance to quit politicks, go back to first principles and try persuasion again. The following ringing sentiments are commendable to the candid consideration of the prohibition crusaders:

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THE COUNTRY'S FOREIGN SERVICE.

The appointment of Mr. Wayne MacVeagh as ambassador to Italy is unquestionably a distinct gain for the diplomatic service of the country abroad. It has received the commendation of newspapers of all shades of political opinion and its prompt confirmation by the senate attests the high standing of Mr. MacVeagh in the respect of public men. He is a distinguished lawyer, a scholar of varied attainments, and will shine equally in diplomatic and social functions. With such men representing the United States at the principal courts of Europe as Mr. Bayard, Mr. Eastis, Mr. Raney and Mr. MacVeagh, the interests of this country in the world should be most apt to fulfill these requirements, but if we cannot have that we can at least have a census completed essentially in conformance with a pre-arranged plan. Additional appropriations, widened scopes of inquiry, extensions of time limits, changes in the position of superintendents, are all subservient of good census results.

IN THE PROTEST AGAINST THE ORDER OF THE STATE BOARD OF TRANSPORTATION.

The iron trade, which has long been called the backbone of the nation, is plotting and scheming, and the demands for iron by factories are such that accumulated stocks are being encroached upon, the furnaces being unable to supply the call.

PLUCKING UP.

Kansas City Star.

The iron trade, which has long been called the backbone of the nation, is plotting and scheming, and the demands for iron by factories are such that accumulated stocks are being encroached upon, the furnaces being unable to supply the call.

REMEMBER THE POOR.

Boston Globe.

No child who was born into this world dumb ever yet turned out to be a noted

prodigy.

LIVING UP TO RELIGIOUS TEACHINGS.

New York Herald.

If brotherhood is a virtue, if our religion were a matter of living instead of believing, there are a thousand evils which could be removed. We may always have the poor with us, but it is not necessary that they should starve, and when we become more Christian we shall see to it that they do not

than ever before.

HUMANIZING INFLUENCE OF HARD TIMES.

Louisville Courier Journal.

Hard times are softening the hard shell over many a crusty heart and letting out that brings in its wake pitiful want and widespread suffering affords some compensation in the revelation it makes of the genuine goodness of the human heart, and its ready responsiveness to the appeals of sweet charity.

A STRIKING PARALLELISM.

Boston Advertiser.

The unemployed laborer who was involved in the political excitement by the specious arguments of why democratic election was in November, 1892, might quote very appropriately at this time that famous simile of Lord Byron:

"The duties of our country are like a lion's mane, which is very bad to be gorged with, but which is good to be torn off."

It is considered a very bad omen for any one to leave the table on Christmas eve until all are through, and there should be an even number of guests if all would make friends during the year. Never refuse to take or give food and shelter at Christmas eve to see the old year out and the new in.

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