

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSHWATER, Editor.

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ADVERTISEMENTS.
 All advertisements are published at the rate of one cent per line per day. For longer advertisements, special rates will be made. The publisher reserves the right to refuse to publish any advertisement that he may deem unprofitable or otherwise objectionable. All advertisements must be paid for in advance. Advertisements for a long term will be made on special terms.

SWORN STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.
 I, E. Rosewater, the publisher of the above entitled newspaper, do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct statement of the circulation of the same for the month of December, 1893.

Average Circulation for December, 23,335.

Neither of the Mitchells seems to have been in it.
 It is safe to say that it will take the ways and means committee longer to get its income tax bill out of the house than it did to get it in it.

A HETTERALIST of Boston sends us "A Solution of the Currency Question." He is too late. Allen Root solved this problem twenty years ago.

The income tax bill has finally passed out of the committee stage. But the remainder of its travels are likely to be over a rough and rocky road.

News from the seat of war in Florida may now be dispensed with. But Brazil, Hawaii and congress remain to furnish material for which the telegraph wires may be constantly employed.

The Ohio mine operators are preparing to join the revival of industry by asking the miners to accept 50 cents per ton for getting out the coal. This peculiar characteristic of the business revival is not likely to inspire the country with much confidence.

The fact that an impostor may possibly creep in with other and worthy applicants for assistance affords no excuse for refusing to contribute to the charitable movements that are attempting to relieve the prevailing distress among the poor.

CHAIRMAN WILSON is thinking seriously of prolonging the debate upon the tariff bill a few days. Pray, do. We are becoming so accustomed to tariff talk that it would be inflicting an unjustifiable hardship to cut it off too suddenly.

LET it be McShane, or Gallagher, or Jams—anything to allay this distracting suspense. Here it is, almost a year since Mr. Cleveland re-established himself on the governmental payroll, with only two democrats in the Omaha federal building! We submit, is this fair?

The rumor is gaining evidence that there will be no further fighting in Brazil unless the efforts making to adjust the existing difficulties miscarry. People are usually anxious to believe that what they prefer to be true. We trust that these latest rumors may be founded on fact.

The greater the amount paid for a market house site the smaller the sum that can be expended for work and materials in the construction of the building. Sinking a large part of the \$200,000 voted for the market house project in real estate will leave little to be applied toward the employment of local artisans.

ANOTHER new cabinet in Serbia marks another revolution of the political kaleidoscope in a country which changes cabinets with the facility with which ordinary mortals change their clothes. A little longer and people will be disappointed if each morning's paper fails to announce the construction of a new Serbian ministry.

IT is argued that the removal of the duty on bituminous coal will benefit the people of Nebraska to no appreciable extent. Perhaps not. The transportation companies still control the price of fuel in the west. If the Wilson bill could remove the duty on coal imposed by the railroad companies the price of the commodity could be cut in two and no one would be injured.

CONGRESSMAN BRYAN goes out of his way to be interviewed in order to announce that the proposed income tax bill contemplates the taxation of all incomes in excess of \$1,000 without discrimination, whether derived from congressional salaries or not. Mr. Bryan will have little fear of encountering a federal income tax collector after he has completed his term in congress.

THE county commissioners are now giving work to unemployed men. Up to date all applicants have been given a place on the grading force. The experiment will be watched with interest. Just what proportion of the number of men employed prove themselves worthy of such assistance will soon be known. The laggards, if any, can be run in as vagrants and introduced to a bread and water diet.

COLORADO has now had several weeks' experience with Governor Walte's special session of the state legislature, but finds itself no further advanced toward a complete restoration of industrial prosperity than it would have been had no legislature been convened. The governor also finds himself as far from the realization of his wild hopes of fiat currency as ever. The chief result thus far seems to have been the piling up of the daily legislative expenses, with several more days in sight.

WHY REQUIRE GOLD PAYMENTS?

The circular issued by Secretary Carlisle calling for proposals for 5 per cent bonds payable after ten years requires the bids to be made with the distinct stipulation that payment is to be made in gold coin of the United States. It is this apparent discrimination in favor of gold as against all other kinds of authorized currency which as much as anything else has aroused the indignation of the opponents of a bond issue, particularly the extreme advocates of free silver coinage. The issue of bonds in exchange for gold, it is claimed, will create an artificial demand for gold and must in a corresponding degree tend to depress the commercial standard of silver. Confining the call for bond proposals to offers of gold only is due, however, to the fact that the authority is to be exercised under a law which was enacted to meet an altogether different problem than that which now confronts the treasury. The law of 1875 was part and parcel with the resumption policy and was designed to bring the outstanding greenbacks up to par. To accomplish this object the law provided for the accumulation of a gold reserve of \$100,000,000 by means of the sale of bonds in the discretion of the secretary. National bank notes and greenbacks being equally depreciated at that time, it was manifest that gold bond purchases alone would meet the requirements of the emergency.

But at the present day, when every dollar issued by the United States government is equal in value to every other dollar, it would be difficult to see the necessity for exacting gold payments were the operation to be conducted under a specially enacted law. We have seen how easy it is for parties wishing to export gold to secure that gold from the United States treasury, which dare not refuse to pay out gold in exchange for greenbacks for fear the latter might thereby be discarded. It would be equally easy for parties wishing to purchase the new bonds to secure gold coin by the same method, so that to the extent that the gold might be drawn from the treasury to be returned to it in payment for bonds the gold reserve would be in no way increased. While all this is possible it is not at all necessary, nor even probable, because the eastern banks have sufficient gold in their vaults to advance all that may be required to take the proposed \$50,000,000 bond issue of the secretary's hands. If, moreover, the secretary intends to use the proceeds to defray the current expenditures of the government it becomes quite immaterial whether the bonds are sold for gold or for other currency, so long as all the component parts of our currency are of equal value. To the ordinary government employe or contractor it makes absolutely no difference whether his warrant is cashed with gold, silver or paper.

It is then only the peculiarity of the law to which the secretary of the treasury has been compelled to resort that requires him to confine the proposals for bonds to those who have gold to offer for them. After the gold has been secured by the government there will be no assurance that it will remain in the treasury for any considerable length of time. Should further bond issues be authorized by a new law this point will deserve the careful consideration of congress.

ATTACKING THE CIVIL SERVICE LAW.

A resolution offered by a democratic senator from Florida was adopted by the senate a few days ago instructing the committee on civil service to examine into the condition of the civil service law and the expediency of its retention, amendment or increase; also the number of persons employed in the classified service from each state and territory and the dates of appointment. In discussing the resolution Senator Perry of Arkansas characterized the law as a regular party machine which was used to keep republicans in office. He said it was alleged that five out of every six persons employed in the classified service belong to the republican party and that, he declared, is unfair and unjust. He did not know whether the law could be repealed or not, but he believed that it should be modified and its operation restricted. He said he knew that the civil service law and rules were not carried out in a nonpartisan way, and that some of the most extreme republicans were holding office under a democratic administration. He believed that a democratic president ought to be surrounded by political friends and not by those who were continually doing what, they could to make his administration a failure.

The civil service law takes no account of the politics or the religion of the persons who seek employment in the government service under it. The only qualification required is the knowledge necessary to pass the prescribed examination, and if more republicans than democrats have found employment in the classified service the explanation is obvious. The statement of the Arkansas senator that such is the case is undoubtedly well founded, but his assumption that the republicans in the service are doing what they can to make the administration a failure is manifestly absurd. The people who get positions through the civil service law are powerless to do anything against the administration. They hold subordinate places under the control of officials appointed without reference to the civil service law and subject to it only so far as they are compelled to fill a specific class of vacancies from the eligible list of those who have passed a civil service examination. There is not a republican clerk in the departments at Washington or in the public service anywhere who could do anything to make the administration a failure if he had a disposition to. Those only who are in a position to do this are the democrats who are at the heads of departments and bureaus, exercising executive functions, and it is doubtless a fact as to some of these that they are not doing anything to make the administration a success.

It is creditable to the administration that it has incurred the displeasure of the extreme spokesmen of its party, and yet it was possible for these people to be reasonable and fair they would admit that it has done very well in replacing

republicans with democrats. It is memorable with what extraordinary zeal Mr. Maxwell, fourth assistant postmaster general, performed the work of heading forth class republican postmasters, while the remarkable vigor with which Mr. Quincy made democratic consultants must long remain a notable example of activity in dealing out the rewards of partisan service. Perhaps the spoils seekers would have less cause of complaint now if they had not been so exasperatingly urgent at the outset as to compel Mr. Cleveland in sheer self-defense to summarily shut them off. That there is a very large element in the democratic party that would like to repeal the civil service law and restore the old spoils system will not be questioned, but this party will not be able to do, though it is quite possible it may make the attempt.

HOW TO DISPENSE CHARITY.

No community in America is more generous and whole-hearted in the dispensation of charity than Omaha. All that is needed to raise the necessary means is a systematic effort by parties that enjoy the confidence of the business community. The business of relieving distress and providing employment for men and women who are disposed to pay their way by work requires concert of action and methodical collection and distribution. The first step that we must take is an enrollment of all who are in want of fuel and subsistence. The next step is their classification into groups comprising those who have shelter, but want subsistence; those who have shelter and need provisions and clothing, and lastly the homeless poor, otherwise known as vagrants, who require shelter, food and clothing.

When the enrollment has been completed the names of all who are being cared for by the county should be struck off. When we know just exactly how many people in Omaha are dependent upon public charity we shall know how much money it will take to shelter, feed and clothe them from now until the 1st of April. And when we know exactly how much must be raised to afford this relief the men and women who have assumed the task of raising the relief funds can go about their work intelligently.

For our part we have confidence in the capacity of the managers of the Associated Charities to do this work, and we have unbounded faith in their integrity. But since it has been deemed proper to enlist in this service a committee composed of fifteen of our wealthiest business men we hope that they will expedite the work on hand and co-operate with the Associated Charities. It is said that councils of war never fight. The danger now is that precious time will be wasted and contention will be promoted by rival managers of charity dispensation. This is to be deprecated, and if possible avoided.

If the condition of our poor is as desperate as has been represented by Dr. Duryea and others associated with him, it is imperative that several hundred tons of coal and a quantity of provisions shall at once be distributed to families that are exposed to freezing and starvation. There is every possibility that a three-day blizzard may cut off hundreds of homes from the coal yard and the bakery. Such a condition calls for immediate action, and the proper parties to act are the county and city authorities. To quibble about law in such an emergency is criminal. When the state was devastated by grasshoppers in 1875, and thousands were exposed to famine, forty or fifty of our business men joined together and raised over \$50,000 by signing notes with the governor on which money was advanced by the banks. There was no law for this, but the governor and business men took their chances of their act being legalized and being reimbursed by the next legislature. The outcome was that immediate relief was afforded, and the legislature voted \$100,000 of grasshopper relief bonds, from the proceeds of which the notes were paid.

The local emergency may require heroic action, and law or no law we must act promptly to save the lives of people who are shelterless or without means to buy food and fuel.

The Corbett-Mitchell fight at Jacksonville was a distinct triumph of brutality and every right-thinking man will regret that the governor of Florida was unable to prevent it. That he did all in his power to carry out the wishes of the decent and orderly people of the state will stand to his credit, but, unfortunately, Florida, as it appears, has no law against prize fighting, and so the governor was helpless. Undoubtedly the better element of the people will insist upon the enactment of a law to meet a case of this kind at the next session of the legislature, but meanwhile it is probable that Jacksonville will be the scene of other pugilistic contests in which the element of brutality may be even more marked than in the quickly-ended one of yesterday. The arrest of the principals in this fight begets the hope that a way will be found to punish them so severely that others may be deterred from seeking this free ground for such contests, and it will be fortunate if others than the fighters can be punished. Otherwise the club under whose auspices this battle took place, doubtless with large gains to its treasury, may be expected to continue the "sport" for which it was organized until there is law to stop it. The demoralizing effect of these pugilistic encounters is admitted by everybody whose instincts are not brutalized and those should be everywhere a strong and earnest arousal of public opinion for their suppression. Florida has had its first experience in this sort of brutality and it is to be hoped the respectable citizens of that state will demand legislation as soon as it can be enacted that will rigidly prohibit prize fighting.

Up to this time the work of irrigation in Nebraska has been confined largely to the arid region on our western border. This is due to the fact that no other portion of the state has stood in great need of irrigating ditches more than one year in five. Up along the

northern border, however, citizens are moving for an extensive system of irrigation to provide against the dry season of July and August. In that part of the state there has rarely been a total failure of crops. The idea seems to be that with irrigation in the northwest counties more diversified and bountiful crops can be made certain every year. The convention at O'Neill on the 20th inst. will attract widespread attention, marking, as it does, the initial step in that portion of the state looking to the reclamation or the improvement of a vast area of land.

A CORRESPONDENT OF THE BEE asks:

"If a youth aged 17 or over leaves Germany and resides long enough in this country to take out first and second papers, then returns to Germany, fortified by passports to provide identity, can German authorities hold him for service in the army?" As we understand it, final naturalization papers are requisite to a passport, the possession of which ought to protect any citizen of the United States in any European country. If the lad, being a minor, cannot secure naturalization papers, his father must have naturalized in legal form to enable the son to secure a passport. If the father was never a full-fledged citizen of the United States we would advise the boy to defer his visit to the fatherland if he desires to avoid service in the imperial army.

It is impossible without definite information to make a reliable estimate of the number of people in actual need of relief who are not already receiving aid from the county poor fund. At the widest guess the number does not exceed 3,000 men, women and children. At \$3 per week per capita, which should be ample, it would take about \$70,000 to keep these people from now until the 1st of April. That amount can be raised by voluntary contributions either in money or its equivalent in fuel and provisions, providing that the men of large means make a generous start.

IT is to be hoped that the widow of the late Senator Stanford will manage to exist on the trifling allowance of \$10,000 a month granted her by the court pending the settlement of the estate. If she finds it difficult to live within her income there are plenty of individuals waiting for an opportunity to demonstrate by experiment the fact that it is possible under a strict regime of economy. After the estate shall have been settled she may be enabled to indulge in a few trifling luxuries, but until then she will have to live within the limits of her allowance.

WHEN Nebraska was found to be suffering from a disordered prohibition liver our people set to work and purged the body politic of the dread disease. Then followed peace and contentment. Iowa, a much older state, could not shake it off, and has been in charge of the political physicians for twelve years. The legislature at Des Moines is now making a heroic effort to consign the hated dogma to the oblivion it so richly merits. The people of that state are learning the difference between temperance and statutory prohibition (alleged).

ALTHOUGH the mercury was getting down pretty close to the bulb, the enthusiasm of local sports over the second triumph of James John Corbett was not cooled. To them it was a bigger event than a presidential election. They will discuss it in all their hearings as glibly as the trained politician discusses the issues of a great campaign. Prize fighting may be brutal, tending to demoralize and corrupt the minds of American youth, but it certainly draws the crowd and creates an extraordinary demand for newspapers.

Makes Them Squirm.

An old, out-of-date republican law, in the eyes of Secretary Carlisle, will do more to save the nation from disaster and bankruptcy than all the money democratic machine need in congress. It is the biggest object lesson in sight of the American people today. We wonder if it makes democratic statesmen squirm.

A significant sign.
 New York Times.
 A decided improvement in railway traffic is indicated by the reports of carmen for the second week of this season. With scarcely an exception, the roads make a better showing than they did in the previous week, and both gross and net earnings for the first week of January were in excess of the earnings reported for the last week in December.

Business on the Mend.
 New York Advertiser.
 No person with eyes in his head can fall to notice that there is a revival in our national industries. It is faint, and in some localities scarcely developed yet, but the tendency is there and only slight encouragement need to develop it. Since a few fledged return of prosperity. The fact is that manufacturers who at one time were starved to see that there is really no danger ahead.

The Great Reform Show.
 New York Sun.
 Positively the last few days of America's Superior and Unparalleled Mathematical Marvel was the Wilson subtracting Machine, makes a Deficiency Which You Value. Visitors are invited to inspect Prof. Wilson's rich collection of irrefragable democratic bonds of the issue of 1892 without extra charge. A beautiful souvenir in the form of a Wooden Cuckoo given to each visitor, matinee and evenings.

Getting Back at Hill.
 Denver Republican.
 President Cleveland vetoed the bill for a bridge across the Hudson river, between New York and the Jersey shore, on Saturday, presumably to get even with Senators Hill and Murphy for defeating the appointment of a committee to investigate the subject. Now if Hill and Murphy will retaliate by defeating the infamous Wilson bill, the country will be a great gainer by this means. The democratic quarrel over patronage and power.

Industrial Revival.
 Philadelphia Ledger.
 The industrial history of the country since the first of the year shows a general improvement. It is true that wages have been reduced as compared with the wages paid before the stoppage two, three or four months ago, but mills, factories and work-shops are busy. The idleness of the first of the year, paying no wages, have since resumed, and even as the reduction are doing something to relieve the distress that existed at the close of 1893. Another and most favorable sign is that there have been few stoppages since January 1st of mills and factories. The wages have been reduced, but the idleness of the first of the year, paying no wages, have since resumed, and even as the reduction are doing something to relieve the distress that existed at the close of 1893. Another and most favorable sign is that there have been few stoppages since January 1st of mills and factories. 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