

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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Cockey was no sooner pushed upon the grass than he was pulled on to the carpet. Thursday was Nebraska day in congress.

Omaha receives another compliment from the American Ticket Brokers association in the election of its delegate, Mr. J. J. Philbin.

If our school grounds are to be made attractive this year the work of beautifying them must begin very soon.

We presume the knowing lawyers of the city council will see that Minnesota decision is conveniently reversed.

A clarification of the atmosphere in the center of the city from the roof which is poured into it from the chimneys of buildings.

Minnesota Republicans intend to begin their campaign early this fall, their state convention having been summoned for July 11.

It was not so very many days ago that the railroad company in this city that refuses to obey the law in regard to the repairing of the Sixteenth street viaduct.

The visiting Hibernalians complain not of a lack of hospitality, but of a too lavish hospitality that has interfered with the transaction of the business of the order.

Blow the trumpets! Beat the drum! Omar Madison Kem, representative of the Sixth congressional district of Nebraska.

The managers of the Midwinter fair at San Francisco are recognizing the demand for cheap admission on Sundays and holidays.

Federal officials have not yet announced having run across any of the 1,000 or 2,000 Chinamen who forgot to take out registration papers before the time limit expired.

Although denied the privilege of riding free on stolen trains, the Sanders Industrial have secured the privilege of riding free on the regular train that has been chartered by the government to take them to Topeka.

Wyoming populists have finally come to the conclusion that they had all the democratic fusion they wanted at the last presidential and state election.

The workmen of the United States voted for a change and good times in 1892. Since that time, according to the press dispatches, the average wages of the men employed at the great Pullman car shops have decreased from \$2.90 to \$1.85 per day.

REDUCING THE STATE DEBT.

In accordance with the suggestion offered by the supreme court in the opinion which it handed down denying the application of Governor Crouse for a writ of mandamus to compel the state treasurer to invest the idle school money in state warrants, the State Board of Educational Lands and Funds has passed resolutions setting aside certain sums for the purchase of state warrants and empowering the state treasurer to act for it in executing the warrants that may be presented and in acquiring them for the school fund.

The resolutions of the board provide that \$200,000 be appropriated for the purchase of outstanding registered general fund warrants, with accrued interest, that are to be called in, while \$250,000 is appropriated for the purchase of current unregistered warrants already drawn, as well as those that may hereafter be drawn against the general fund. As soon as the registered warrants are secured for the school fund they are to cease bearing interest and thus save the sum that would otherwise be expended for interest to the people of the state.

By this operation, should it be carried through without further obstruction or delay, the state debt will shortly be reduced by \$450,000. The state will cease to pay interest upon \$200,000 of this at the rate of 7 per cent, which the warrants have been drawing. The school fund will not be in any way augmented, but instead of being deposited in favored banks for the benefit of private individuals it will be applied to the uses of the state in paying warrants drawn upon the exhausted general fund, to be repaid to the school fund so soon as the general fund shall again have a surplus at its command.

It will leave a comparatively small portion of the school fund uninvested, although even then the warrant indebtedness of the state must remain for the time at considerably more than \$250,000.

The warrant indebtedness of the state has of recent years assumed alarming proportions and imposed upon the state a huge and unnecessary burden of interest. Since August, 1891, the interest charged has amounted to nearly \$150,000. All this time vast sums in the school fund have been lying idle, which, if applied to the extinguishment of the state debt under the law, would have saved almost this entire amount. Every obstacle which ingenuity could devise has been pushed forward to prevent the state authorities from making this application of the school money to the reduction of the state debt. It is but natural to expect that the same policy of delay and of interfering legal technicalities will be continued despite the order of the board.

Already rumors are being spread that the holders of registered warrants will refuse to heed the call which is issued and will claim the legal right to hold their interest-bearing certificates until the general fund shall be replenished from the usual sources of taxation. Their object would be, of course, to draw the 7 per cent interest from the treasury and at the same time to keep the money in the school fund deposited in banks, where the benefits arising from its use accrue to some one not the public treasurer. Should such an effort be made the people will expect the proper officials to carry the issue to an immediate determination. They have had enough specious delay already. If the state debt is not speedily reduced by the amount of idle money in the school fund the people will want to know the reason.

FAVOR A POOLING LAW. The bills pending in congress to authorize railroads under certain conditions to enter into pooling arrangements were given an impetus by the action a few days ago of a committee appointed by various state railroad officials favorable to the proposed legislation. The railroad commissioners of various states, at their annual convention last year, appointed a committee to consider the subject of pooling, and last Tuesday the committee made a report to the sixth annual convention of the state railroad commission, held in Washington. This report, signed by all but one member of the committee, recommends the repeal of the anti-pooling clause of the interstate commerce act. It is argued by the committee that if the railroads were allowed to pool or rates would be more stable, which would greatly benefit the business community, and that discrimination and unfair arrangements with large shippers would cease. It was also urged that if the anti-pooling clause were repealed the labor of the interstate commerce commissioners and the railroad commissioners of the various states would be lightened and the public better respected, because it would be in the interest of the railroad companies to see that the law was maintained.

The report favors unconditional repeal. It also favors legislation to give immunity to the contracting agent of the railway and the shippers who testify in regard to discrimination. It is expected that this report, taken in connection with the fact that the interstate commerce commission has practically recommended the repeal of the anti-pooling clause, will have much effect in congress when it comes to consider this subject. The indications are that the sentiment in congress favorable to allowing railroads to enter into pooling arrangements under certain restrictions and subject to the supervision of the interstate commerce commission, is gaining strength, so that the prospect for the adoption of the proposed legislation is regarded by the advocates as very good. The railroad presidents throughout the country are unanimously of the opinion that the remedy for rate wars and the consequent decreased earnings of the roads will be found in the repeal of the anti-pooling clause of the interstate commerce act. In a recent interview Mr. Depew said that the slow improvement in railroad business is due mainly to the difficulty of maintaining rates, for, in spite of the most carefully drawn agreements, the cutting of rates still goes on, the weaker roads, in the absence of pooling arrangements, having to "scramble" to get their share of the traffic. Mr. Depew expressed the opinion that the amendment of the interstate commerce law as proposed would have a salutary effect, and that with the privilege of pooling their earnings, under proper restrictions of law, the railroads would be able to do business on a paying basis. It may be said that the rate cutting is in the interest of shippers generally, but this is probably a mistake. It is doubtless only the large shippers that obtain any advantage from it. But at any rate it would seem to be better for all that there should be stability in rates, and it has been conclusively shown that this is not attainable under present conditions. It is perhaps not too much to say that every railroad in the country is violating the law by discriminating between shippers, and there is no way to prevent this every attempt to do so by the commission having failed because of the decisions of the courts rendering it powerless to secure the needed testimony. Discrimination can now be practiced with impunity, the law in this regard being entirely worthless.

With a carefully guarded pooling arrangement of the railroads, as is said in the report of the state commissioners, would find it to their interest to see that the law was maintained, and while rates would probably be somewhat higher than shippers could feel that they were being treated alike. A tentative application of pooling under judicious restrictions might prove highly satisfactory.

THE TARIFF BILL AND CANADA. The pending tariff bill proposes to give benefits of incalculable value to nearly every Canadian interest. It does not go quite as far in this respect as did the measure which came from the house, because in the latest revision duties are placed on several agricultural products that were made free in the Wilson bill. But in its present form the measure would be a great boon to our northern neighbors in stimulating the development of a number of their industries which for a long time have been at a standstill. Referring to this in his speech on the tariff bill Senator Hale said that the measure was made up after a fashion that could not have better satisfied the Canadians had a committee of their own taken the subject in charge and fixed their own schedules and duties. He pointed out, as anybody can see who will take the trouble to examine the bill, that it practically and substantially opens up the markets of the United States to the agriculturists of Canada and to all the producers of Canada, without any compensation to the people of the United States, and without any reciprocity whatever, and with no conditions of any kind asked in return for the trade without any outlet or any compensation, all that the Canadian people have asked for at any time within the last ten years. In 1890 our imports from Canada, chiefly of farm products, were to the value of over \$100,000,000. In 1892, under the operation of the McKinley tariff, they amounted to but little more than \$1,000,000. This difference of \$99,000,000 was made up by increased supply in the United States, to the advantage of our own producers, and this advantage the pending tariff bill would destroy.

The amendment introduced by Senator Gallinger, providing that the tariff act shall only become operative so far as it concerns Canada upon proclamation by the president of the United States, to be made only in the event of the Canadian government declaring a desire to enter into commercial relations with this country which will reduce the duties on American products and the consummation of such an arrangement, is a proposition that will undoubtedly meet very general popular approval. There is not a valid reason why important American interests should be subjected to Canadian competition without requiring any sort of reciprocity on the part of Canada. The government of the Dominion has for years persistently discriminated against American products. Her whole commercial policy has been hostile to this country, as in every other way she has manifested an unfriendly disposition toward the United States. Even now the Canadian government is discriminating against American shippers through the Welland canal. Recently that government has revised its tariff, but not in a single instance was any change made that would benefit any American manufacturer or producer. There was no concession to better trade relations between the two countries and no intimation of a desire to promote such relations, but, on the contrary, the declaration of a purpose to firmly adhere to the existing policy. All talk of reciprocity has ceased in Canada since the democratic party came into power, and if our government were now to make any overtures looking to reciprocity they would undoubtedly be rejected by the Canadian government, such is the confidence of the ruling party there in the intention of the democrats to throw open the American market to the manufacturers and producers of Canada without asking anything in return.

The passage of the tariff bill as it stands would give a great impetus to every Canadian interest. It would inaugurate there an era of unprecedented progress and prosperity for that country. And to the extent that it produced this result American interests would suffer. It is not to be expected that Senator Gallinger's proposition will prevail. It is hostile to democratic policy. But it contemplates a just recognition of American interests and will be endorsed by intelligent and unprejudiced public opinion.

THE DUTY OF ASSESSORS. The city council at its last meeting determined to drop the resolution that had been introduced into that body instructing the city attorney to bring mandamus proceedings against the several assessors in order to compel them to list the property which they assess at a fair market value, instead of at the absurd fraction of the real value which they have been accustomed to enter on their books. The fact, however, that no mandamus proceedings will be instituted by the city council affords no license to the assessors to continue to violate the law which they are sworn to observe. Their duty in this matter is so plain, so clear to every one who will read the provisions of the statute, and has been explained and emphasized so frequently in the public press, that they will be unable to excuse their actions on the ground of ignorance.

It is probably just as well that the idea of instituting mandamus proceedings has been abandoned. The duty of the assessors is so distinctly defined that doubts have been expressed whether a writ of mandamus would be applied for. There is a certain discretionary power vested in the assessors which the courts would hesitate to direct, but that discretion must be exercised within the lines laid down by the law—that is to say, the assessors must attempt to report the true value of property listed by them. There is absolutely no warrant for them to divide the true value by 6 or 10, or by any other number. A writ of mandamus could not make their duty more plain than it now is. On the other hand, it might tend to create an impression that in the absence of such writ the assessors are at the mercy of the law as they may see fit. It is their duty to obey the spirit of the law, mandamus or no mandamus.

Omaha is suffering constantly from unfavorable comparisons with other cities, founded upon the grossly unjust figures that are taken to represent her tax valuation. The Pittsburg Financial News only a few days ago contained an article giving a resume of the census bulletin on municipal taxation, in which it held Chicago up to derision in the matter of its tax undervaluations. At the same time it says that of the twenty-eight cities enumerated, in not one is the assessed valuation half as low in proportion to the true valuation as in Chicago, "with the one exception of Omaha." In the kind of reputation which Omaha deserves? Does she want to be advertised as being possessed of taxable wealth insignificant in comparison with that of other cities, and as being burdened by a nominal tax rate that frightens the prospective investor at first glance? A fair tax valuation will remove these obstacles to Omaha's progress and prosperity. It will raise the limit of indebtedness and permit us to continue a policy of public improvement. It will reduce the tax rate to normal proportions. What we need is not new legislation. It is the enforcement of the legislation that we already have. The assessor who fails to do his duty should be held responsible for his failure.

THE CHICAGO TIMES GOES TO SOME TROUBLE TO CORRECT WHAT IT SAYS WAS AN ERRONEOUS REPORT INDIANTLY SENT OUT OF THIS CITY LAST FALL TO THE EFFECT THAT CONGRESSMAN BRYAN SPOKE HERE WITH SENATOR AILEY BEFORE A POPULIST MASS MEETING. "Bryan," it says further, "was advertised to speak, but it was done without his knowledge or consent. He refused to speak and was at Washington the night of the meeting." Perhaps Mr. Bryan considers himself too good to speak before a populist meeting. He does not, however, consider himself too good to fish for populist votes or even for a populist nomination for the office of governor. The Times suggests him as a possible candidate acceptable to both parties—democrats and populists. Would Mr. Bryan, after refusing to address a populist meeting, consent to secure an election to the senate by means of populist votes? The very idea of such inconsistency is abhorrent.

Judge Doane's pointed observation in reference to detectives that do not detect is a reflex of local sentiment. Municipal sleuths seem to have been blundered. If they detect anything it is a class of petty offenders having no political pull. One of the alleged detectives has recently made repeated visits to the house of a man suspected of robbery, now a fugitive from justice. It is claimed that the ladies of the house have entertained the detective sumptuously when he visited them late at night. If the mayor could engage a real detective to watch some of the alleged detectives of this city, many questionable escapades could be exposed. It should not be necessary, however, to scandalize the city in order that reform measures may be applied in that direction.

The death of Henry Grebe will be mourned by many citizens in this community. For thirty years he has resided here, winning and holding the esteem of his fellow-men. Many times he was called to responsible public positions, and in the performance of his duty his fidelity and industry were steadfast and marked. Mr. Grebe was one of the sturdy pioneers who helped to build the foundations of Omaha and lived to see the village of 1861 grow to be the metropolis of the Missouri valley. In later years he had not taken an active part in the affairs of the city, but he enjoyed the confidence and respect of his neighbors, to whom his death will be a personal bereavement. His integrity will stand as an example to the younger generation of men.

The man who is attempting to bolster up Congressman Bryan's senatorial boom through the editorial columns of the Chicago Times might do well to revise his information concerning Nebraska's representation in congress. If, as he says, Nebraska is represented in congress by four republicans, two populists and one democrat, Bryan must be posing as a democrat and as a republican at one and the same time. Such a course is not well calculated to win the much desired popularity with the populists.

THREE LIVES THAN OURS.

The vote on the registration bill in the commonwealth of Massachusetts has been a growing disposition among the members of the majority and the groups into which it is divided to magnify grievances and refuse to make concessions for the general good. Gladstone could induce or compel a subordination of these private and semi-private matters to his general program, as he obtained the assent of everybody to the monopoly of the issue of the Commonwealth which he home rule for Ireland and the employers' liability bill. Were he at the helm now it is doubtful if the registration majority on the registration bill would have voted down to fourteen, by indifference and worse on the part of the government supporters, a measure which would have secured for the government what it had, and the most alarming. The bill is supposedly one in which the whole party behind the government is interested, and the radicals and radicals because it practically does away with plural voting, enfranchises a very large number of workmen who have been deprived of the suffrage by the registration requirements, and the Irish because it promised to increase the home rule vote in the next commons. Primarily the bill was introduced to strengthen the liberal and radical vote in the constituencies, and all well-wishers of that party were counted upon to vote for it. It seems that eight or ten Irishmen, a group of radicals and a few well-to-do present when Saturday's division took place, but did not go into the government lobby, and that others absent themselves if a dozen more had followed the course of the Rosebery government would have fallen.

The real significance of Prince Bismarck's address to the societies of Danish war veterans is beginning to be appreciated in Berlin. These societies are absolutely nonpolitical, and consequently little weight was at first given to the congratulatory allusions made by the ex-chancellor to the disappearance of the Prussian-born subjects of the empire. Hitherto the Schleswig-Holstein officials have had considerable discretionary powers, and although they were instructed to use them with the utmost conservatism, they have often used them in a despotic and arbitrary manner. Citizens have been expelled upon the slightest pretext, and permits to hold meetings of any kind have been refused generally. The interdict was extended even to literary, artistic and educational reunions, and quite recently the Danish language was forbidden in the duchies to be permitted to preach twice a week in the Danish language was denied by Dr. Borse, Prussian minister of instruction, an ecclesiastical affair. It is an regime of repression, it is believed, will soon be replaced by a few administrative laws, leaving little or no discretion to the governing authorities.

The attack upon the Austrian government recently delivered in the Austrian Reichsrath by Dr. Gregor, the leader of the Young Czechs, was a vigorous political arraignment and has attracted a good deal of attention. In one place he said that to promise and not to perform was a characteristic feature of our time. The present period in Austria was marked by faithlessness and breach of promises given, at least so far as the Bohemians were concerned. The Prussian minister was one of those nobles who had inscribed the cause of Bohemian state rights upon their banner, and he still maintained an open opportunity for the Bohemians to program. Notwithstanding that fact, however, Prince Windischgratz recently declared that he did not know what the Bohemians meant, although he had energetically defended it in the Diet at Prague. That was evidence, said Dr. Gregor, that those nobles were simply watercocks and had attracted a good deal of attention. It was a piece of evidence that was easy to conceive that the Young Czechs could not place much trust in a cabinet formed of such personages. They must also refuse their confidence to the government on the ground of its program. In his criticism of the ministerial policy he insisted that it gave an indication of how the government proposed to deal with the social question. It has abolished the legally guaranteed liberties of the people and hindered the national and industrial development of whole races. In the effort to maintain an unjust preponderance it had allowed free scope in the greatest kingdom of the empire to a Statthalter who made use of the most despotic and every respectable person. Such a government could lay no claim to morality. It had spoken in its program of acting with frankness and honesty. The Young Czechs would, he said, keep the ministers to their word on an important point, and would ask why they maintained the state of affairs in Bohemia and why they were inclined to advise his majesty the king at last to carry out the solemn promise which he made to the Bohemian people in the rescript of 1872 and to appoint to the crown prince of Bohemia. The government had stated that they would not permit themselves to be intimidated by threats, and he replied that the Young Czechs would not be terrorized by the menaces of the ministry.

There are numerous signs that the process of Germanization in Alsace-Lorraine has made considerable advance. From divers quarters of Alsace it has been asserted by those who ought to know the temper of the people that there is no longer an Alsatian question. Even in Lorraine, where the French element is more numerous than in any other part of the province, although still friendly toward the French republic, have found something better to do than to pose as cry-babies or martyrs ready to please the Parisian boulevardiers. The interdiction by the authorities of Colmar, in Upper Alsace, forbidding an amateur dramatic society from performing the opera "Galathea" in the French language has aroused the indignation of the sensible Berliners. The action of the authorities is being criticized by the Berlin press as ready to do more to maintain French feeling in the Reichland than would the performance of 100 French plays. Public opinion in Germany would overwhelmingly sustain a policy of conciliation and equal rights in Alsace-Lorraine, and the government might find the curtailment of the arbitrary powers vested in the local officials of the Reichland quite as expedient and useful as the proposed abandonment of coercion in Schleswig-Holstein. The dictum of justice is a sound imperial policy both demand a reform in the direction indicated.

Great excitement, which threatens to be followed by serious international complications in the extreme Orient, has been caused by the assassination at Shanghai of Kim-ook-Kiun, the chief plotter in the Korean massacre of December, 1894, upon which occasion seven of the chief ministers and two princes of Korea were slain. Kim-ook-Kiun, after a brief period of authority, had been compelled to flee from Korea, and had found a refuge in Japan. For ten years incessant attempts had been made to entice the Korean refugees to Japan, and the Japanese government had been induced to make the trip to Shanghai, where he met his death, only after a promise of immunity from the Chinese minister at Tokyo. The duplicity of the Chinese authorities has naturally aroused the Japanese to a fever heat of indignation. The dictum of justice is a sound imperial policy both demand a reform in the direction indicated.

Representative of the West. Lincoln News. Some of the editors in the local newspaper field appear to be offended because the News agrees in a number of instances with the views of the populists in their poor, weak way to use this as capital against this paper. It might be just as well to imagine the editor of the News as a man who has no real knowledge of the newspaper situation in Nebraska, the paper editors and their respective papers, know that The Bee never attacks a public officer, exposes a scandal or publishes the name of any politician without good grounds for it, and it has invariably proven the truth of its charges. They also know that The Bee stands today the representative paper of the west, with a larger and better staff of writers than any other paper in the country, and better in every department than any other paper in the great west. The News is a man who has no real knowledge of the newspaper situation in Nebraska, the paper editors and their respective papers, know that The Bee never attacks a public officer, exposes a scandal or publishes the name of any politician without good grounds for it, and it has invariably proven the truth of its charges. They also know that The Bee stands today the representative paper of the west, with a larger and better staff of writers than any other paper in the country, and better in every department than any other paper in the great west.

Small Business. The conviction of Cockey was small business, or rather his prosecution was, for the prosecution was primarily to blame. It would have been much better if the case had been tried by the jury of the District of Columbia, if they had let Cockey and his associates be tried by the jury, and no great harm would have been done if they had been allowed to walk on the grass.

The Senate "What is It." Chicago Post-Item. The "compromise" tariff bill in the senate has been prepared and published finally, and the effect of the "compromise" in numerous debts and protuberances and is as much worse than the "unconscionable" bill of the house as the "unconscionable" bill of the house is worse than the Wilson bill. In nearly every instance in which the change is made the direction is toward protectionism.

Tobacco Harvesting Fame. Milwaukee Sentinel. The Hon. Tobie Cantor, though not a democratic office holder himself, would like to see the Hon. James H. McMillan elected. He is urging Mr. Cleveland to appoint one Crawford person agent at Omaha. A man with courage to face his enemies and influence with the present administration.

Sanctifying Voorbees. Globe-Democrat. There has been a gain of 1,000 republican votes in the northeast town of Terre Haute during the last year, and it is what his neighbors think about the trusts in the tariff matter.

Illustrating a Business Maxim. Washington Star. The proposition to give the Union Pacific railway 100 years in which to pay its debts, considered in connection with the fact that just and unsatisfied claims against the government, recalls forcibly the business maxim that an ass's creditor is generally poor pay.

The Logic of Statistics. Globe Democrat. People who are fond of considering the logic of statistics are not to be envied. In serving that the returns of the Indiana municipal elections show that if the campaign had been fought by the democrats and republicans would have won by nearly 35,000 majority.

An Aggregation of Hunders. Philadelphia Inquirer. Secretary Carlisle is quoted by authority for the statement that there were 500 mistakes in the tariff bill as it came from the finance committee. The moral is that, however, is a small matter with the party power, as a tariff of some sort is all the democrats expect to gain.

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THE SUNDAY BEE.

Attention is called to the leading features of the Sunday Bee. Most noteworthy among them, perhaps, is M. Zola's latest success, "Lourdes," a continuation of which will be presented.

Another chapter of life on the Omaha bottom is given. It is interesting in that it portrays to the more fortunate manner of existence at the end of civilization within a stone's throw of the citadel.

The Soldiers and Sailors home at Grand Island is a state institution of which comparatively little is known. The Sunday Bee will contain a description of the home, telling how the disabled veterans are cared for.

Very few adults in Omaha know anything about the methods of practical instruction in vogue in the public schools. In a special article The Sunday Bee will tell of the work now being done to properly teach the young idea how to shoot. Many important facts will be brought out as the result of recent visits to some of the schools of the city.

The society page will contain a faithful chronicle of doings in the smart world; the sporting department will be full of timely topics and recent events, while the secret societies and musical societies will find adequate representation in the columns of The Sunday Bee.

No paper west of Chicago can boast of a market page equal to that of The Sunday Bee. Special efforts are made to lift this feature of The Sunday Bee above and beyond competitors.

With unrivaled facilities for gathering the news of the world, and especially that of its own territory, readers of The Sunday Bee are assured of its excellence in that important regard. All newsmen tell The Sunday Bee.

RIPPLING MIRTH.

Philadelphia Record: Hoax—Do you think the English tongue will ever become a dead language? Joak-Well, judging from the way some people persist in murdering it, it ought to be dead now.

Chicago Tribune: "Ay, there's their hub!" soliloquized the tragedian, as he stood on an eminence and took his first view of Boston.

Buffalo Courier: Jilison says the owner of a menagerie may occasionally lose track of some of the other animals, but he invariably has all his leopards spotted.

Milwaukee Journal: This is the time of year when young married men waste a great deal of nervous energy and high aspirations in making a garden.

Washington Star: "What makes them call that particular style of verse 'blank'?" "Because," replied the young man, "that's the condition in which it leaves your mind."

Plain Dealer: There is much tenderness in this seemingly cruel world—but the butcher rarely finds it.

Philadelphia Record: Muggins—So you made your debut as an actor last night, eh? How did you get on? Footlights, I got on all right, but I could not get off quick.

Chicago Tribune: "Well, how's things?" asked the New York Press. "All right, as far as I kin see," answered the old man. "Travel, what are you kicking about? He added, turning to the legless man, who had begun to stumble about something.

OUT OF THE DEPTHS. She loved to chat and to gossip, And scanda made her glad, But she hadn't made any acquaintances, And often her heart was sad.

And she joined the sewing circle, And the saddest left her brow; She knows the affairs of each family in town, And a happy woman she's now.

A LYRIC OF COXEY.

Chicago Record. To Washington went Coxeey, To found a new regime— The people's self-made proxy With his altruistic dream.

And with his draggled minions, All marshaled by one Browne, Who shared his vast opinions, For consideration he pressed.

He sought the people's forum On capitoline hill, To make the languid quorum Regard his wish and will.

And as he thither hied him, He had through law to pass, And bold policemen spied him A-walking on the grass.

Where to he stands convicted— Our Coxeey bold, alas!— He dreams all "gone to grass."

BLAME BELONGS ON CONGRESS.

Responsibility for the Disastrous Crash of the Old Ford Theater Building. PROSECUTOR LOOKING FOR A VICTIM

Forsyth of Colonel Fred Ainsworth Has About Ended and the Search is Still in Progress—White Base for Lake Manawa.

WASHINGTON BUREAU OF THE BEE, 1407 F Street, N. W., Washington, May 11. The district attorney and other legal lights have thus far been balled in their undertaking to find a victim upon whom to fasten the responsibility for the Ford's theater disaster of last June. The hunt for a victim has been diligent and painstaking, but unsuccessful, because all the time, they have assumed from the first that Colonel Fred Ainsworth, who happened to be the army officer in charge of the old building when it collapsed, ought to be made the scapegoat. But, as a matter of fact, the real party upon whom the blame should rest is the congress of the United States.

Colonel Fred Ainsworth has seen considerable frontier service, principally in Arizona and Texas. He was called here by the late Surgeon General Baxter, who knew his qualifications. He came here a captain, was promoted to the grade of major by regular process, and was made colonel by act of congress, as a recognition of his efficiency as an executive officer. Colonel Ainsworth made his clerks work as they never worked before. He brought his work up to date and systematized everything.

The correspondent of The Bee was a clerk in the old Ford's theater, eighteen years ago, for more than a year. They have a false sense of all the time. They have assumed from the first that Colonel Fred Ainsworth, who happened to be the army officer in charge of the old building when it collapsed, ought to be made the scapegoat. But, as a matter of fact, the real party upon whom the blame should rest is the congress of the United States.

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