

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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STATE SCHOOL FUND FINANCES.

The article which we print today concerning some of the methods of state school financing will be interesting reading for all who have the preservation of the heritage given to our public schools at heart.

The permanent school fund of the state derived from the grant by congress at the time of the organization of the commonwealth of 5 per cent of the proceeds of the sales of public lands within its jurisdiction to the state has by the constitution been made a trust fund not to be diminished, the income therefrom only to be applied to the support of the public schools.

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fully realize this. The violence in the coke regions, where contract labor has been largely employed, has demonstrated, and not now for the first time, what mischief these people are capable of doing when exasperated.

Another diversion in the electric lighting contest has been attempted. The Western Electric company of Chicago, which, we are informed, is a member of the electrical octopus that includes also the Thomson-Houston company, has submitted, in substance, the following proposition:

This would strike the uninitiated as a very generous offer. It is almost as tempting as was the late J. M. Patton's noble charity gift enterprise, by which the city secured 5,000 volumes of second-hand books for a public library on condition of granting the noble benefactor the privilege to run a lottery in Omaha under the auspices of the city government.

A liberal estimate of the proposed cost of the donation of an electric lighting plant would include the following items: Cost of lot, \$3,000; Cost of building, 15,000; Engines and fixtures, 12,000; Boilers, 5,000.

This would be the first cost of ground, building and plant. At the end of five years the wear and tear on the building and machinery, and the shrinkage in price by reason of expired patents, could not be less than one-third of the total, or \$20,000 in round figures.

Now, computing the cost of lighting with nominal 2,000-candle power lamps at the Pardee bid, \$112 per lamp, which is 25 more than the lowest bid recently received, and we would find on the opposite side of the ledger the following: 300 lamps at \$38 excess for 5 years, \$57,000; Interest at 6 per cent, 6,840.

In this computation simple interest is figured only for four years on each annual payment. At compound interest the interest charge would be considerably more.

Summary: By paying \$150 a year per lamp for 300 lamps the city would pay in principal and interest \$63,840 for a plant worth \$40,000. Computed on the basis of \$90 per lamp the city would be paying \$90,000 in excess, which, at 6 per cent, in five years, computed after the first year, would amount to \$130,800, or an aggregate of \$190,800.

It strikes us that the proposed investment of the electric company would be a very profitable scheme for the company. Interestingly the fact also strikes us like a sledge hammer that the city of Omaha, by paying Wiley's company \$175 and \$140 per lamp has paid for a very respectable plant within the last three years.

The subcommittee of the house immigration committee, to whom was referred the resolution asking for information from the Treasury department in relation to rules and regulations adopted by the immigration bureau for the enforcement of the contract labor law, submitted a favorable report on the resolution.

It is not to be doubted that in enforcing this law there have been numerous instances of persons returned to Europe who were not violating the law.

Itself for the expense incurred in regulating the particular business licensed. The court in the case licensed said that a \$100 license was imposed for purposes of raising revenue and of yielding more than the cost of the business.

One of the contracts for electric lighting is about to expire and the city council has accomplished practically nothing in the direction of making a new agreement.

This is what The Bee predicted all along. Mr. Wiley is quite as well fitted to exact extortions for electric lighting without a contract as was the late J. M. Patton.

Washington Post: Bryan has announced that he will not be a candidate for congress in 1904.

Lincoln Courier: Mr. Bryan's letter was the first move toward the formation of the projected new party in this state.

Plain Dealer: Farmer—Why don't you fellows do something? Commonwealth General Leckor a workin' maw.

Washington Star: It is announced that in the June graduation exercises Miss Polly Syllable will play a conspicuous part.

Detrol Free Press: Bix—Why did you name that horse "Pepper Sauce"?

Philadelphia Record: A Kensington woman who suffers from kleptomania says she has taken about everything for it.

Somerville Journal: Considering how low the price of collar buttons is, it is astonishingly high a man seems to set on one at times.

Philadelphia Ledger: A squad of police in San Francisco will try bicycles as an antidote for the late war.

BYRAN AND HIS SILVER BOOSTERS.

Arora Sun: Bryan, as a candidate for governor, would rally all the bimetallic voters in the state, democratic, republican, populist and prohibition.

Hastings Nebraska: For a man who is extremely anxious to retire to private life Mr. Bryan is stirring up quite a fuss among the democrats and populists.

Platte County Argus: The formal dissolution of Congressman Bryan from the democratic party is tantamount to declaring himself a populist, so far as openly advocating the principles of the new party.

Albion Argus: Hon. W. J. Bryan has announced that he will not be a candidate for congress in 1904.

Crete Democrat: Bryan has declined to be a candidate for re-election to congress in his district.

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STATE POLITICAL POINTS.

It is evident that Hon. Sam Wolcott of Grand Island has determined to withdraw from politics. He is learning to ride a bicycle.

The latest candidate in the field for the nomination of superintendent of public instruction by the republicans is Prof. Charles S. Conroy of Stanton.

Dawes county will again present the name of F. M. Dorrington to the Sixth district congressional convention.

Lincoln News: Hon. W. E. Andrews appears to have already started his campaign in the Fifth. Mr. Andrews made matters very uncomfortable for McKelhan two years ago, and his friends have every confidence of his ability to defeat him this year.

Two Shelburn county men want to go to congress in place of Keen and will make an effort to leave the republicans place there on the track.

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CEREMONIES AT THE CAPITAL.

Principal Exercises Held at the National Cemetery at Arlington.

CLEVELAND AND HIS CABINET PRESENT. Coxyettes Take Advantage of the Location of a Monument on the Capital Grounds to Gain an Entrance to the Forbidden Section.

WASHINGTON, May 30.—Elaborate preparations had been made here for the celebration of Memorial day, and in spite of adverse weather the observance of the day was general.

At Arlington, the great national cemetery, at the various private cemeteries, and wherever in one of the parks stands a marble or bronze representative of one of the heroes of our civil war, there were beautiful floral decorations and displays of the national colors.

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Advertisement for Browning, King & Co., featuring a special sale of suits for \$10. The ad includes the text 'Down to \$10' and 'SPECIAL SALE of suits for \$10—all wool, elegant suits that sold at \$12.50 to \$18 and \$20—sale begins Friday—No fake—but genuine, first-class suits such as we only can make, accompanied by our guarantee that means you get your money back or satisfaction, if you don't get more than your money's worth. See the show window—everything in the window—except the policemen's presents—is \$10 Sale begins Friday, mind.' The address is 'S. W. Corner 15th and Douglas.'