

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

Published every morning. Terms of subscription: Daily (without Sunday) One Year, \$1.00; Three Months, .35; One Month, .10; Single Copies, 5c.

PROTECTING INTERSTATE COMMERCE

Considerable discussion is being had in different parts of the country as to the necessity of readjusting the status of the regular army in order that it may be better prepared to facilitate the work of federal protection to interstate commerce.

The well informed Washington correspondent of the New York Commercial Bulletin, which is not friendly to the proposed legislation, says that the present action of President Cleveland in calling out United States troops in the first instance to prevent the interruption of railway traffic between the states constitutes an extension of the functions of the army.

In order to meet these new conditions several proposals have been advanced that have received the approval of different government authorities, both civil and military. One is that the existing troops be redistributed throughout the country, with the object of protecting the railways held specially in view.

All these plans, it will be noticed, proceed upon the hypothesis that the outbreaks of lawlessness which recently required the federal authority for suppression are to be constantly recurring, and that the United States army is repeatedly summoned to put down insurrectionary mobs who may be obstructing railway traffic.

The railway employees who went out on a sympathetic strike had to make a great many sacrifices, but how will they compare with the sacrifices which the German socialists are compelled to undergo in order to maintain their boycott on beer?

The House of Lords will never vote to abolish itself; neither is it to be expected that two-thirds of the members of the United States senate will vote to substitute popular elections of senators to election by the legislature or appointment by some governor.

New York, on the basis of its new city directory, only claims a population of 1,937,655. Chicago, with her 2,600,000 banner, may now arrogate to herself the proud distinction of being the most populous city in the land—until the next authoritative census.

Omaha has no right to complain of excessively hot weather. Up to this time the highest temperature registered within the month was 92 degrees, while the average has not been above 80 degrees.

THE COUNTY FINANCES

The semi-annual statement of County Treasurer Frey, which has just been made public, is of more than ordinary interest to the taxpayers of Douglas county.

Nothing is left now for Mr. Debs but to formally declare the whole strike off, persistence is a good thing, but there are limits beyond which it ceases to be a virtue. It is difficult to see the possibility of even the slightest gain to accrue from continuing the struggle longer at present.

It is natural to suppose that the private business which is demanding the presence of Vice President Stevenson at his home in Illinois is very much akin to the recreation which Secretary Morton was seeking on his recent trip to Nebraska. Politics has many alleys.

Now that the party of Mr. Attorney General Olney will have time once more to attend to the affairs of the Whisky trust and the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy roads. In times like these public officials are often called upon to make heroic sacrifices of their own interests.

No doubt arguments can be brought forward against compulsory arbitration. But even if they are, they are not more compelling than compulsory arbitration for the workman than compulsory starvation for the employer.

The disbursements of the county treasurer for the six months ending July 1 aggregated over \$500,000. This includes the school district funds and amounts disbursed through village treasurers as well as the redemption money paid for city taxes of Omaha.

The balances on hand on July 1 aggregated \$370,462.87. Of this amount \$55,054.44 is in the general fund and only \$698.30 outstanding in warrants against this fund. There were \$30,847.15 in the bridge fund and only \$21 outstanding against that fund.

Women played a conspicuous part in the mobs of the French revolution and in many other old world uprisings. During the recent strike in Chicago the women were in the van of the most riotous marching bodies.

THE HEAD TAX BILL

The Bee has no disposition to criticize Congressman Melklejohn on the score of his bill to check immigration, but it strikes us that its provisions are crude and impracticable.

The friends of the anti-option bill in the senate seem disposed to force the fighting for the measure. When the bill went to the senate it was laid on the table, Senator Hoar having expressed a desire to speak on it.

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STARVED INTO SUBMISSION

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SETTLED WITH WINCHESTERS

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REMARKS ABOUT A MINISTER LEAD TO A BLOODY FIGHT IN ARKANSAS

LITTLE ROCK, Ark., July 22.—A special train from El Dorado, Ark., to Little Rock, in the neighborhood of Ivers Ferry near the Arkansas and Louisiana line, some one started a report that Rev. Mr. Platt, the leading divine of the neighborhood, had been severely beaten by a young lady of his church. Platt claimed that Perdue was the author of the scandal. To settle the question the men, with their friends, gathered to the north of the ferry.

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