THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

George B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of the Daily Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of November, 1894, was as follows:

1	20,669	16	20,511
2	21,357	17	21,360
3	21,265	18	22,175
4	21,527	19	21,484
5	21,537	20	20,512
6	21,173	21	20,520
7	24,260	22	20,434
8	28,958	23	20,254
9	24,536	24	20,398
10	21,408	25	21,793
11	22,480	26	20,123
12	20,897	27	20,976
13	21,001	28	19,968
14	20,562	29	20,029
15	20,570	30	19,982
Total			659,654
Less deductions for unsold and returned copies			11,282
Total sold			648,372
Daily average net circulation			21,612

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 3d day of December, 1894.
(Seal.) N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

Never fear! Senator Hill will get to Washington in time to unburden himself before the present congress.

Adlai is on deck, ready and anxious to cast the deciding vote the first time the senate roll call discloses a tie.

Of course Yale resents the imputation that its foot ball team is afraid to meet the kickers from the University of Pennsylvania.

The transcontinental lines do not seem to be crowding over one another in their haste to organize a new passenger association.

The Exposition building was a hoodoo to everybody connected with the project excepting the owner of the ground. It served a very excellent purpose in its day.

The Sugar trust is actually becoming uneasy. Perhaps it fears that a repetition of the sugar lobby of last session might not effect the same results in this session.

The fireproof market house and auditorium project which has been slumbering for the past six months should now be revived and made a live issue in the campaign for the revival of progress and prosperity.

It is to be feared that the Board of Education, like most of the other public bodies having control of the taxpayers' money, will see the necessity of retrenchment only after the funds have been exhausted.

Congress usually devotes a day to eulogies of each deceased member of either house. If it were to follow this custom now with reference to the politically dead it would have to have its session extended for several months.

The rain falls upon the good and the bad alike, and fire will consume a church just as readily as it will a theater. In such instances the Lord does not take care of His own, but lets the fire insurance adjusters settle the damage.

The people of Omaha are sending at least $300,000 annually out of this state to pay for flour consumed by them. There are mills enough in Nebraska to supply all the flour consumed by the people of this state. Eat Nebraska made flour.

Omaha will now afford an excellent opening for another theater of the modern class, which means a fireproof structure with iron curtains and all the appurtenances that make life and limb secure for the public as well as the players and stage hands.

The coal operators have promptly ratified the agreement of their agents to limit the coal output and the price of anthracite may be expected to show a tendency to rise as the supply gradually diminishes. But then the profits of the coal combine will not be injuriously affected.

The general passenger agents of the Elkhorn and Burlington roads are negotiating an agreement to exchange passenger traffic at points of intersection, which if consummated will, they say, mean much for both roads. The transfer switch law enacted by the last legislature is substantially a similar arrangement with respect to freight traffic. It requires railroads operating within Nebraska to maintain transfer switches at intersecting points, in order that freight may be transported by the shortest route from the place of shipment to the place of destination. This law ought by analogy also to mean much to all roads. Yet it is hung up in the courts unenforced. Is not the position of the railroad managers a trifle inconsistent with that of the railroad passenger agents?

There may be merit in the suggestion of Major Furay that the contractors on public work be compelled to pay the wages of the city inspectors employed on the same. A stipulation in the contract to this effect would doubtless be an incentive for expeditious work, and would do away with the abuse that now prevails whenever the city finds itself required to maintain an inspector for months to look after the work of some four or five laborers. It is unlikely, however, that such a course would really throw the burden of the cost of inspectors upon the contractors because the latter would make their bids upon the basis of a computation that would include this addition of expense. In so far as the cost of inspection would be decreased, the city and the taxpayers would be the gainers, but it would not take long for the contractors to readjust their bids to the altered conditions.

AUDITOR MOORE'S SEARCHLIGHT.

For the first time in many years Nebraska has an honest and fearless auditor, endowed with sufficient backbone to brave the displeasure of reckless associates and corrupt ringsters. It has been the custom at the state house to keep exhibits of the state's finances, and particularly the showing of receipts and expenditures, back until the middle of the legislative session, when members cannot find time to grasp the figures and the press cannot suggest necessary reforms or point out the holes that have to be plugged up. Auditor Moore has taken the bull by the horns this year by breaking away from the pernicious custom by which crooked deals and leaks have escaped detection. His report to Governor Crounse, which we print elsewhere, is a public document that cannot fail to attract the attention of taxpayers and legislators. The facts and figures presented should constitute the groundwork for legislative retrenchment and the purging of the capitol of taxeaters and bogus claimants.

The startling exhibit made by Auditor Moore relative to the extravagance and lawless expenditure of public funds by the Board of Purchase and Supplies under pretense of furnishing the legislature with the necessary stationery and incidentals affords convincing proof of gross neglect and manifest dishonesty on the part of officials and contractors. On this point The Bee proposes to be more explicit and pointed. It proposes to supplement the work of the last legislature and clear the track for the incoming legislature for effective work on behalf of the taxpayers by a revision of the revenue laws and the enforced adoption of business methods on the part of every officer, high or low.

Auditor Moore is entitled to the highest credit for his courageous exposure of the waste of public funds and overdrafts of appropriations by contracts that are illegal in their inception and contrary to the spirit and letter of the constitution and laws.

LOST, STRAYED OR STOLEN.

Every one who followed closely The Bee's analysis of the total vote of Nebraska at the election last month must have been struck with the remarkable discrepancy in the number of ballots cast for democratic candidates. In other states where there has been any noticeable falling off in the vote polled by the democratic party the natural and plausible explanation has been speedily forthcoming that the loss is to be traced to the stay-at-home voters. In Nebraska this explanation fails altogether to explain. Here there was no falling off in the total vote of the state. In spite of the notorious fact that thousands of inhabitants in the drouth-stricken area had left Nebraska during the summer and autumn months, the total vote on governor was 203,852, whereas the total vote for the same office two years previous had been only 197,474. Instead of decreasing in the ratio of the decrease of population in the two years just past the total vote actually increased by 6,378. To accomplish such a result every vote in the state must have been brought out and thousands of illegal votes added besides. The face of the returns precludes the very idea of any extraordinary number of stay-at-homes of any political party.

While it is well known that the democratic ranks in Nebraska have been repeatedly decimated it is safe to put the minimum strength of the democrats in this state at 40,000. In 1892 J. Sterling Morton as democratic candidate for governor secured 44,195 votes. In 1893, with a comparatively light vote, Frank Irvine, democratic nominee for justice of the supreme court, received 37,545 votes. But at the election this year, combining the vote of the democrats and so-called straight democrats on the two state offices upon which there was no fusion, we find the total democratic vote to be less than 30,000. On secretary of state it is 29,068 and on state treasurer 29,856, an average on the two of 29,462. The returns are therefore short 10,000 democratic votes. Where did those votes go to?

A large number of the lost 10,000 democrats were unquestionably men with corporation proclivities who voted the whole republican state ticket. We have shown that while the average number of votes cast for the so-called straight democratic candidates was 14,359 Sturdevant, at the head of the ticket, polled only 6,985 votes, 7,374 straight democrats having as it were scratched Sturdevant for Majors. If, as is quite reasonable to assume, for every democrat who scratched Sturdevant for Majors another cast his ballot for all the republican candidates, we have already accounted for over 7,000 of the missing voters. Of the remaining 3,000 a few hundred doubtless voted for governor, but not for secretary of state and treasurer, while the rest ranged themselves with the populist candidates all along the line. The question most important is, will these 10,000 lost democrats again be found? Nothing but the returns of the next general election will provide the complete answer.

AS TO FIRE PROTECTION.

The mixed commission of councilmen and Commercial club men who have had the question of better fire protection and insurance rates in hand have reached conclusions that are in the main based upon representations made by the underwriters. These conclusions may be eminently sound for all we know or they may be largely warped by the interest which the insurance companies have in keeping up rates and reducing risks. The policy of the underwriters, like that of the railroad managers, has been to get all the traffic will bear. To bring their patrons to time they have two clubs always in readiness. One is the threat of higher rates and the other the threat of absolute withdrawal from business. This has been very effective in Omaha during the past two years and is playing its part again with the commission.

The complaint of the underwriters about defective fire protection doubtless has some basis and the council and police commission should comply with such demands as are reasonable. But there is no reason why they should overtax the property owners because of the periodic threat of higher rates and withdrawals. The insurance companies, and particularly their agents, who live from commissions, are not likely to imitate the man who cut off his nose to spite his ugly face. They will not quit business at the old stand just because the municipal authorities do not carry out every whim that may suggest itself to them as a remedy against fire losses.

The council and the fire and police commission are limited in their scope, first, by existing conditions, and, second, by the tax levy and income. The hydrant rental and cost of maintenance of the department consumes the entire levy and there is no legal method of taking money out of other funds to supply the deficiency. The temper of the taxpayers will not permit an increase of the levy for police and fire protection. They are already bearing all the burdens that can be submitted to without absolute confiscation. What, then, can be done? There is no doubt that the enlargement of the water mains is one of the essentials for adequate fire protection, but the only way to secure this enlargement must be through application to the federal court, which controls the works. The recommendation to reorganize the fire-fighting force to make it more efficient commends itself as reasonable. How this is to be done must necessarily be left to the judgment of the fire and police commission. The demand for three additional fire steamers and 5,000 feet of hose cannot be complied with under existing state of finances.

If there was any assurance of the early enlargement of the water mains we would need no additional fire engines. In any event, we must cut our garment according to our cloth. Three additional fire engines means an immediate outlay of from $15,000 to $24,000, and an increased force of firemen that will involve an addition to the pay roll of $10,000 a year. The 5,000 feet of additional hose seems decidedly extravagant. If such a purchase is required by the present conditions there has been inexcusable neglect or poor care of the hose in use. If it is not required it would be improvident if not wasteful to lay in such a large supply at the present time.

The Bee will always encourage any effort to increase fire protection through the extension of the fire limit, the condemnation of firetraps and rigid enforcement of existing ordinances. But it will not countenance the imposition of needless burdens upon taxpayers or the diversion of funds contrary to law under cover of fire protection.

THE TREASURY REPORT.

As officially stated in the report of the secretary of the treasury, the revenues of the government for the last fiscal year were nearly $89,000,000 less than for the preceding fiscal year, and the excess of expenditures over receipts was nearly $61,000,000. If these facts had not been long familiar to the public they would, perhaps, be regarded as startling. But this statement does not cover the whole record of financial operations under the present administration. The last fiscal year closed June 30, and since that time the receipts have every month run behind expenditures, increasing by many millions the above deficit, and this condition of affairs continues. An addition of $100,000,000 to the public debt has been made during the past ten months, and as the situation now looks a further increase may be necessary before the end of the current fiscal year in order to maintain the credit of the government.

Secretary Carlisle estimates that for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1895, the total deficit will be $20,000,000, but the probability is that it will be a much larger amount. For the first five months of the year it has exceeded $21,000,000, and while it is to be expected that there will be improvement in the receipts of the treasury during the remaining months of the year there is no good reason to believe that for any part of that period they will considerably exceed the expenditures. There will be an increased revenue from sugar, unless congress puts that article on the free list, but it is by no means certain that this will be as large as the secretary of the treasury evidently expects, while it may be regarded as practically assured that the hoped-for returns from the income tax before July 1 next will not be realized. The indications are that a very vigorous fight will be made against an appropriation to put into operation the machinery for the collection of this tax, and while an appropriation may not be defeated it is quite possible that it will be so delayed that no returns will become available within the specified time. As to receipts from general customs duties they cannot be expected to materially improve until there is a restoration of prosperity, and this is hardly to be looked for within the next six months. Secretary Carlisle may be right in the opinion that there will be an ample revenue for the fiscal year 1896, but this possibility does not help the present situation, nor will it prevent another issue of bonds if within the current fiscal year the government credit should again be threatened.

With regard to the currency Secretary Carlisle discusses elaborately the present system, claiming that its defects and the evils threatened by them have done more than anything else to impair the credit of the government and the people of the United States at home and abroad and to check industrial and commercial progress. He points out these defects, having done which he presents the scheme of currency reform the outlines of which, as given in the president's message, have already been commented on in these columns. There is one feature of the plan, however, which the president seems to have overlooked, and that is a provision for the redemption and retirement of United States legal tender notes to an amount not exceeding 70 per cent of the original circulation taken out by banks. This is a very important and essential part of the plan, the purpose of which it at once to provide a sound and elastic currency and to relieve the gold reserve of the treasury from the menace involved in the existence as part of the currency of a vast volume of paper.

In connection with this subject Secretary Carlisle presents arguments for a sound and stable currency which can be heartily commended. Those who advocate an independent financial policy for the United States will get no encouragement from the views of the secretary of the treasury. He urges that in order to preserve our trade relations with the best customers for our surplus products we must maintain a monetary system substantially in accord with theirs, and "until they manifest a disposition to co-operate with us in effecting a change upon terms just and fair to all our interests we ought to continue our adhesion to the gold standard of value, with as large a use of silver as is consistent with the strict maintenance of that policy." It is thus apparent that the financial views of Mr. Carlisle have undergone a somewhat radical change for the better since he came to his present position and acquired a practical knowledge of financial operations. He may expect to be sharply criticised for this and to have some of his utterances in the past brought forward by way of rebuke, but he can feel satisfied in having the approval of the most intelligent and conservative financial sentiment of the country. The secretary's discussion of the propesd plan for a new currency system is clear and forcible, and especially his arguments in favor of relieving the government of everything in the nature of a banking business are certain to make a strong impression. Everybody who appreciates the paramount importance of the currency question at this time should carefully read the presentation of it made by Secretary Carlisle.

As to what the treasury report says regarding revenue reform no extended comment is called for. It simply shows that in respect to this subject Mr. Carlisle stands where he has always stood and there is nothing in his present utterance to indicate that he has acquired wisdom with experience. He urges steadfast adherence to the revenue policy inaugurated by the present congress, although the treasury figures show that policy to have proved thus far a disastrous failure and the people have overwhelmingly repudiated it. Read in connection with treasury deficits growing from month to month and with bond issues to meet the obligations of the government, the revenue reform arguments of Secretary Carlisle will have no weight or influence with those whose judgment is influenced by facts rather than theories.

A Council Bluffs judge has granted a temporay injunction against the sale by the city of a parcel of ground whose owner declines to pay special paving assessment tax. The latter alleges that the improvement was railroaded through the council without respect to wishes of property owners, who had no voice in the choice of material used. And now that the pavement has decayed and is practically worthless, the property owner in question declines to pay the tax. There are men in Omaha who decline to pay special assessments for similar reasons under conditions a good deal like those of the Council Bluffs case. Chicago also is being agitated over grave abuses that have grown out of the special assessment system, which seems to stand in need of revision. The subject is one which must sooner or later claim serious consideration at the hands of our law makers. Protection against unscrupulous contractors on the one hand and sleepy mossbacks on the other is the line upon which the new order of things must sooner or later be adjusted.

The new Reichstag building is to be formally opened by the German emperor and the officials of the German Parliament with notable ceremonies today. The program, according to the dispatches, is to be a very attractive one, commencing with a reception to Emperor William at the entrance by the members of the federal council, the cabinet ministers and the president and vice president of the Reichstag and the presentation of the keys by the executive architect. There will be addresses and responses and the conclusion will consist in toast drinking in the banquet hall, where the emperor will himself propose the toast to the new building. In these quarters the German imperial legislators will find themselves as comfortably established as any similar body elsewhere. Up to this time their sessions have been held in a very commonplace structure. This has not affected the quality of the legislation enacted, but the improvements made by the change cannot but be an incentive to continued good work.

Can't Fool the People.

Silver Creek Times.

The B. & M. Journal would have the public believe that The Bee is losing all its subscribers and that the Journal is getting them—trying to build itself up on other people's ruins. But people are not all fools. The Bee has succeeded because it has deserved to succeed. We observe that on the trains more people call for The Bee than for any other paper. One has only to compare the news and editorial columns of The Bee with the B. & M. organ, or any other paper in this part of the United States, to be convinced, if he ever had any doubts, of the great superiority of the former. The pretensions of the Journal remind one of the ass who dressed himself in the skin of a lion.

A Healthy Lesson.

Antelope Tribune.

A campaign conducted as the last one was by the republicans ought to be crowned with defeat. Back of the Business Men's organization was the railroad boodlerism of Majors. It is currently reported that every man who would get out and work for him could have a pass over the roads, and that the number of passes thus distributed in Nebraska this year is perfectly astonishing. It may be in harmony with Nebraska republican ideas for their idol of checkered character to carry a bottle with him in a prohibition town to treat his reunion friends. It may be consistent with some men's ideas of Christian duty to vote for a representative of the boodler element of a big party. But we are glad to know that enough members of the party took a different view of the matter to insure his defeat; and we are gratified that Antelope county furnished its full quota of those. It was for the party to know that not even the power of a veteran's league can always save them from merited defeat.

THE SUGAR TRUST BLUFF.

Washington Star: The accusation that the Sugar trust is trying to reap financial benefit through sympathy with the paupers of its own creation should make the ordinary padrone feel like a philanthropic aristocrat.

Philadelphia Record: No matter what the trust may do, or may threaten to do, congress should repeal the differential tax on refined sugar and take the chances on the outcome. The revenue duty on raw sugar should remain untouched, for the very excellent reason that it is needed to help pay the expenses of the government.

Denver Republican: If that bill is not passed before congress adjourns on March 4 it is absolutely certain that the price of sugar to consumers in this country will be increased fully 30 per cent before the 1st of April and will remain at that high figure until the republicans again obtain power to shape legislation, when sugar will surely be placed on the free list and the bounty on American production will be restored.

New York Herald: The simplest and easiest thing for the trust to do is to show its books and convince the senate that it cannot go on paying 12 per cent regular dividends and 10 per cent extras on its three-fold or fourfold inflated capital. Where is the statement withheld in defiance of law and equity for the year before last? What did the trust tax the American people last year on its product? Let us see the books.

New York Times: The frank and bold testimony of Mr. Havemeyer before the Gray committee is still fresh in the minds of legislators and of a great many other persons. Any attempt to show that the change in the duties has made the refining industry unprofitable will surely direct attention to that testimony, and if the trust managers are wise in their day and generation they will not stir up that record, but will permit it to become dusty and obscure.

New York World: There is no truth in the assertion that the trust is losing money. It has glutted the market with sugar refined from raw material imported in enormous quantities under the McKinley act and can shut down for a time without loss. The price of granulated sugar has advanced from 3.86 cents last April to 4.35 cents a pound a month ago, while the refiner's margin of profit on a pound has increased from .709 cent in 1890 to 1.15 cents in 1894. Refining is done more cheaply in the United States than anywhere else in the world.

THE POSTAL SERVICE.

Washington Star: A few years ago the politicians would have jeered and hooted at a cabinet officer who would speak as plainly in behalf of civil service reform as Postmaster General Bissell has done. The practical politician—unfortunately for the public—is still in existence. But where are his jeers today?

Chicago Record: It is not easy to see, in view of the thriving character of the mail service, as shown in Mr. Bissell's statistics, why these annual deficiencies need occur. The Postoffice department ought properly to be conducted on such business plans as would preserve a balance between expenditures and receipts. That it can be so conducted by proper classifications of mail matter and by doing away with needless officials and misuse of public moneys no one need doubt.

Pittsburg Dispatch: The postmaster general's plea in his recently published report for the relief of the postal service from the worry and burden of making 65,000 political appointments of fourth-class postmasters has much cogency. The heads of the Postoffice department should be permitted to give their attention to developing and improving the mail service of the country. When the greater part of their first year in office is devoted to hearing and settling the infinite contests between thousands of local politicians over their respective bit of the spoils the nation is defrauded, not only by turning the local postoffices into plunder, but by preventing the postmaster general and his assistants from attending to their proper business.

Minneapolis Tribune: Two notable features of Postmaster General Bissell's report are his opposition to the postal telegraph scheme and his recommendation for a revision of the law relating to second-class matter. Under this law newspapers and periodicals of general circulation register as second-class matter and thereby secure a postage rate of 1 cent per pound. But the postmaster general thinks that advantage is taken of this provision by many pretended publications, and says that if proper rules were enforced and the periodicals now improperly enjoying the low postal rate cut off, the receipts of the department would equal the expenditures and the legitimate newspapers and magazines might be transmitted through the mails from the publishers into the hands of subscribers free of cost.

Who is a Republican?

Grand Island Independent.

The most essential principle of the republican party was from the beginning the protection of the people's liberty against the arrogant domination of an oppressive aristocracy. The only dangerous aristocracy of that time was the party of the southern slaveholders, which, with their northern allies, oppressed the whole people, and which finally by their rebellion, caused that terrible war. In the natural course of affairs the republican party had to add to this their main principle, the other principles of protection to all our industrial, commercial and agricultural industries, and that of protection to our national finances by favoring a sound system of honest money free from swindles and wild imaginary schemes.

These last principles of protection have during the last decades acquired the ascendency, but never has the original main principle, that of an honest fight against the rule of aristocracy been given up by the republican party, and cannot be given up without destroying the genuine nature of republicanism. Those so-called republicans, who obey the orders of our railroad aristocracy, betraying in caucuses, county and state conventions the people's liberty, surrendering our rights and their own freedom into the hands of our present monopolies, give up the best part of the republican creed and become railroad serfs instead of honest, free republicans.

These railroad republicans may do some good services as defenders of sound financial and economic principles as taught by republicanism, but they are only one-third republicans, hurting the interests of the people as much by their subserviency to railroad dictation as they favor them by supporting the other good republican principles.

These railroad republicans cannot be considered as the true representatives of the republican party, may they through frauds and swindles of all kinds get the control of so-called republican conventions or not. They are republican deserters, who have run over into the railroad camp, wearing yet the republican uniform for the delusion of unsuspecting voters.

The leading organ of these false republicans, the real railroad tools, is the Lincoln Journal, while the leading republican paper, the main organ of the true republicans, is The Omaha Bee, which, in the last election, has proven its true republican character by leading in the fight against Majors, in which it was supported by all true republicans.

And the result of this fight, the defeat of Majors, shows that a good many true republicans are left.

Capital on Wheels.

Papillion Times.

It is rumored that politicians from the western part of the state, backed up by the Omaha wholesalers, are quietly working up sentiment in favor of transferring the seat of government from Lincoln to a point near the geographical center of the state, which, as a matter of course, means Kearney. Now that so many state buildings have been erected at Lincoln it will be difficult to induce the people to locate the capital elsewhere. But there are many excellent arguments in favor of removal. Lincoln has become a hot-bed of corruption, where a Mosher is more respected than are honest men; a city whose society circles hold ready hands outstretched to receive and shower honors upon asylum thieves; a city whose population expects state support as a matter of right. There are good and true men and women in Lincoln, but for every man who earns a living by the sweat of his brow there are two fellows who draw sustenance from the succulent sinecures provided by the state. Perhaps this state of affairs exists in every capital city. Perhaps if the capital were removed to Kearney the citizens there would soon take on Lincoln airs, but the change couldn't hurt anybody outside of Kearney. The capital will never be moved from Lincoln, but it ought to be.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

OKLAHOMA INDIANS UNTAMED

Noble Red Man Has Made Little Progress Toward Civilization in a Year.

WHITE MAN'S WAYS ARE NOT LO'S WAYS

Allotment of Land in Severalty Has Not Ended Tribal Relations—Polygamy Still Practiced—Neither a Politician Nor a Criminal.

WASHINGTON BUREAU OF THE BEE,
1407 F Street, N. W.,
WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.

The condition of the Indians in Oklahoma territory, which was formerly a part of Indian territory, together with their advancement or deterioration since the free admission of white men among them and the organization of the territory under government control, will probably have considerable to do with the admission of Indian territory as a state or the organization of the territory directly under government control. This state of affairs makes the recent reports from Indian agents in Oklahoma of more than ordinary interest.

Captain A. E. Woodson, Fifth cavalry, acting agent at the Cheyenne and Arapahoe agency, says the progress of those tribes toward civilization has been slow. "Though declared to be citizens," he said, "they are so only in name; they were not at the time nor have they become so since allotments were taken. It is questionable policy whether allotments should be given to or the rights of citizenship conferred on the Indian tribes that are not prepared for the metamorphosis that must ensue before they become prepared to exercise the same. They are not ready to cope with their more astute white neighbors, and are of necessity greatly dependent on their agent for advice and protection. To him they bring all their grievances. Their almost daily tales of the white man's oppression and injustice keep him busy in his efforts to adjust such matters satisfactorily to all concerned.

"The daily conflict of the white man's laws with Indian habits and customs is puzzling to them in the extreme. They cannot understand why they may not have two wives, or why they may not take the property of a relative and use it if they so desire, whether the owner consents or not."

NEITHER POLITICIANS NOR CRIMINALS.

He also states that the Indians have taken no interest in politics nor cared to exercise the right of franchise. Although allotments are taken, tribal relations are still maintained, even though the lands have been alloted to them in severalty. The same old customs prevail, the same old superstitions and the belief in the efficacy of medicine men, the same marital relations, with plurality of wives, and the same inclination to idleness, with lack of thrift and industry.

However, they are agreed on one point, Captain Woodson says: "The freedom from crime of the Indians is remarkable. Although entirely surrounded and intermingled with whites, instances are rare wherein they have been guilty of criminal violation of existing statutes."

At the Osage agency, wherein there are 1,656 Osages and 218 Kaws, Major H. B. Freeman, Sixteenth infantry, does not think there is much progress, although the Osages regard themselves as a great nation. He says: "It does not seem as if these Indians had made much progress in civilization, if civilization means work and all that goes with it, yet it is doubtful if any people would make much more, if each individual were supplied with the means to supply their wants without personal effort on their part. Still the Kaws do not seem to have done much better than the Osages in this respect, as they have very little money, yet one can find a Kaw who will work; an Osage never, voluntarily."

He says that crime, with the exception of polygamy, is very rare, and adds that they submit without resistance to injustice from their white neighbors.

PONCAS DOING FAIRLY WELL.

J. P. Woolsey, in charge of the Ponca, Pawnee, Otoe and Oklahoma agency, has a divided report, the different tribes varying. The Poncas are making rapid progress, being good workers and are in a fair way to become good citizens. The Pawnees do not do so well. The whites are thick about them and whisky is sold them.

The Otoes are a little better, though stubborn and given to "ghost dancing." However, the agent has prevailed upon them to do considerable work. They are opposed to taking allotments. He reports very little moral improvement.

"It is true," he said, "that some of the civilized and educated Indians respect the holy ties, but a majority of them think no more of changing wives than they do of swapping ponies, some of them living with two or three different ones in one year."

Mr. Woolsey reports a better state of things at the Oakland sub-agency, occupied by Tonkaway Indians. They have taken allotments and want their lands improved. They work themselves and lease their lands to whites. There are only fifty-seven of them, all full blood, not mixing with whites or other tribes.

Edward T. Thomas, agent of the Sac and Fox agency, makes a favorable report of the Indians under his care. He sums them up in the following: "There has been a slow but very marked change for the better among all the indians of this agency."

MERCER ALREADY AT WORK.

It has been learned that it is the intention of the Missouri River commission to delay until next year the use of the $75,000 appropriated during the last session of congress for the improvement of the Missouri river at Omaha and Council Bluffs. Congressman Mercer has called the attention of the secretary of war to the matter, and an investigation will be had with the view of changing the intention of the commission. Mr. Mercer says that the immediate use of the appropriation would result in the employment of additional Omaha laborers who are now idle and in need of work. He also thinks if this work is prosecuted at once greater results will be achieved than if it were delayed until next spring, when much more damage has been wrought.

Congressman Mercer will call upon the postmaster general tomorrow and present a petition from Postmaster McMillan of South Omaha, backed by a large number of prominent business and packing men, asking for a general reorganization of the postoffice at South Omaha and for the allowance of increased facilities for the handling of mail matter. Mr. Mercer will impress upon the minds of Postmaster General Bissell the importance of immediate action in this city, and will urge favorable consideration on the part of the Postoffice department.

IN A GENERAL WAY.

F. A. Burdick of Aberdeen, S. D., is here as secretary to Congressman Lucas.

Congressman Bryan was on the floor of the house today.

The comptroller of the currency has been advised of the failure of the North Platte National bank of North Platte. Examiner H. J. Whitmore has been placed in charge. Comptroller Eckels says that the officials of the bank are in hopes of having matters arranged satisfactorily, so that the appointment of a receiver will not be necessary. Several persons have applied for the appointment.

Postmasters have been appointed as follows: Nebraska—Perch, Rock county, Charles Linke, vice R. W. Cameron, removed. South Dakota—Monroe, Turner county, P. J. Dreher, vice G. W. Blenkkink, removed; Strouseton, Grant county, Mrs. Sarah Arnold, vice J. F. McDonald, resigned.

The secretary of the interior has rendered a decision affirming the decision of the commissioner of the general land office in the case of George P. Johnston against Linnis Lester, in the Mitchell district, South Dakota, dismissing the contest and awarding the land to Lester.

Appropriations for 1896.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—The clerks of the senate and house appropriations committee have prepared a joint statement showing the estimate for appropriations by bills for 1896, which is as follows:

Fund.	Amount.
Agricultural	$ 2,400,330
Army	24,605,682
Diplomatic and consular	1,583,118
District of Columbia	7,317,934
Fortifications	7,357,703
Indians	6,723,844
Legislative, etc	22,349,101
Military academy	579,048
Navy	29,952,096
Pensions	141,561,570
Postoffice	91,059,283
Rivers and harbors	1,475,000
Sundry civil	46,383,815

This is a net increase of $1,035,696 over the estimates for 1895 and of $17,500,762 over the actual appropriations for 1895. The principal increase is in the sundry civil bill, due to the fact that the river and harbor appropriation estimate to meet contracts is included. This estimate amounts to $11,387,115.

Pardoned by the President.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—The president has granted pardons in the following cases: Ronce Moore, convicted in Texas of horse stealing; B. G. Williams, convicted in South Dakota of selling liquor without license; Allen Cooksey, convicted in Illinois of passing counterfeit money; James J. Walker, convicted in Georgia of illicit distilling, and W. A. Markley, convicted in Arkansas of cutting open mail bags.

In the case of Charles B. Murray, convicted in Georgia of counterfeiting, the thirty months' sentence has been commuted to eighteen months' imprisonment, with good time allowances.

Applications for clemency were denied in these cases: John R. Brooker of Georgia, counterfeiting; W. A. Busby, Georgia, counterfeiting; F. A. Loessig, Nevada, illegal liquor selling.

Nothing More Than Talk on Finance.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—Representative Cox of Tennessee and member of the banking and currency committee, and Representative Bland, chairman of the committee on coinage, weights and measures, held a conference and discussed financial measures. Mr. Cox says his committee will report some kind of a measure during the session, but he cannot say whether it will ever pass. Mr. Bland maintains that there is nothing to do but to pass a free coinage bill. He voices the sentiment of the free silver men in saying that they will favor no financial measure that does not include free coinage. In every part of the house today there was a general expression that nothing more than talk would come of all the financial propositions at this session of congress.

Bids for Star Route Service.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—The opening of bids for contracts for star and steamboat mail service in Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa and Missouri will be commenced at the Postoffice department tomorrow. The time for receiving bids expired yesterday. There are 5,000 routes in these states, covering 47,579 miles, and the number of bids submitted is estimated at 100,000.

Five Killed in an Explosion.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 4.—A dynamite explosion occurred in Hull, Que., near Ottawa, today. Four men and a boy were killed and several wounded.

"Money's Worth or Money Back."

On the Skin—

That's where this underwear ought to be, and will be as soon as the skin owners take note of these special closing out prices.

Hose Without Toes.

That's our fix—If you'll supply the toes we'll do the rest.

An excellent quality of heavy seamless tan hose, 2 pair for 25c (the price of one pair.)

A very fine natural wool hose, fine grade, 25c per pair; $1.35 per dozen.

A genuine Shaw knit Cotswold Merino hose, extra quality, regular price 40c, going to close for 25c per pair.

A pure all wool red flannel shirt or drawers, regular price $1.25, to close for 75c.

A lot very fine French ribbed wool shirts and drawers, shirts silk finished and pearl button trimmed—drawers with satteen band, pearl buttons, French back, stayed in crotch, regular selling price $1.50, going to close for $1.00 the garment.

A very fine sanitary natural wool shirt or drawer, self finish, extra quality, regular price $1.50, to close for $1.25. This same quality sold elsewhere for $2.00.

These prices hold good till all are sold.

Browning, King & Co.,

Reliable Clothiers, S. W. Cor. 15th and Douglas.