

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE
PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.
TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.
Daily (with Sunday) One Year, \$1.00

STAFF OF CIRCULATION.
George H. Tschuck, secretary of the Bee Publishing Company, has announced that the actual number of full and complete copies of the Daily Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of December, 1894, was as follows:

Total, 14,835
Daily average net circulation, 49,372
Copies not delivered, 11,892

George H. Tschuck, Notary Public.
I do hereby certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the actual number of full and complete copies of the Daily Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of December, 1894.

By the end of another week the make-up of the next United States senate ought to be definitely known.

That Mosher bank failure promises to furnish material for federal grand juries for the rest of the century.

The three tailors of Tooley street have once more gotten together and issued a proclamation in the name of "we, the democratic party of the state of Nebraska."

Was the consideration for the accommodating denials of the boss gambler of South Omaha permission to elude the vigilance of the watchful constable into whose custody he had been taken?

That widely read book, "From the Farm to the Presidency," will now have a counterpart in the coming production of Thomas H. Carter, entitled "From Book Agent to United States Senator."

The straight democrats disclaim having contributed to the election of the present governor of Nebraska. As if an official disclaimer were necessary to impress this fact upon the minds of the people!

The bill for a branch mint at Denver has gotten as far as a favorable report from the finance committee of the senate. The difficulty is, however, that it is questionable whether it will get further at the present session.

The State Relief commission insists that it is meeting every legitimate demand made upon it for assistance. If any large community is really suffering from destitution the immediate needs can and will be supplied by the resources at hand.

Eugene Field intimates that the loss of her treasury cannot mean much to South Dakota so long as she has her divorce courts still with her. This is cruel. Particularly after Oklahoma competition has made such inroads upon the South Dakota divorce business.

The monster mass meeting held in San Francisco last week to take action on several matters of public importance in which the people of that city are particularly interested has borne its first fruits in the removal by Governor Budd of the obnoxious police commissioner whom his predecessor had foisted upon San Francisco. It is not likely that this is the end of the matter because the deposed commissioner threatens to fight for what he claims are his rights. It means, however, first blow for the people. It also shows that the new governor is disposed to do what he can in the promotion of better government, and that is a substantial gain.

Omaha will receive nearly \$6,000,000 for 1894 from the gas company in return for the privileges which the latter enjoys under its new franchise. It must be remembered that the principle that the city should secure some return for its favors to the franchised corporations was embodied in the ordinance only by reason of the sturdy fight made under lead of The Bee against the fifty-year gas franchise ordinance, which was railroaded through the council a little over a year ago and stopped by a timely veto by Mayor Bemis. This \$6,000,000 is but a small part of the sum saved to the taxpayers and gas consumers by the new franchise. There has not been a sufficient increase in the consumption to bring a reduction this year in the price of gas according to the sliding scale in force, but a reduction is bound to come so soon as the sales of gas increase sufficiently.

The demand for a market house has once more been made upon the city council through the Commercial club. But there are just a few impediments in the way for the present which must be cleared away before anything tangible can be expected. First, there is no money in the city treasury for the erection of a market house, and there can be no money raised by general tax this year for such a purpose, inasmuch as the levy is already above the limit of endurance. Second, the \$200,000 in bonds voted more than a year ago can not now be issued by reason of the fact that our bonded municipal debt is already up to its legal limit. There is, moreover, a doubt as to whether those bonds could now be issued, even if the assessment is raised to overcome the 10 per cent limit. The special market house committee has therefore several knotty problems to wrestle with.

NEBRASKA'S NEW SENATOR.
John M. Thurston has been duly elected by the legislature to represent Nebraska in the United States senate for six years beginning on March 4. Senator Thurston's career has been in many respects phenomenal and his election to the upper house of the national legislature by an agrarian state known to be intensely hostile to railway domination is an anomaly in the political annals of the country. Only two years ago John M. Thurston was defeated in his contest for the senatorship by William V. Allen, a populist, who will be his colleague for the next four years. Less than three months ago more than 20,000 republicans voted for and helped to elect Silas A. Holcomb, populist, governor of Nebraska, chiefly because of the known subservency of the republican candidate for governor to railroad corporations. Mr. Thurston's candidacy in the face of such adverse conditions was almost a defiance and his election by nearly three-fourths of the entire legislature seems incredible.

Mr. Thurston's triumph is by no means to be interpreted as a sudden reversal in public sentiment in favor of the corporations and the pernicious methods by which they have imposed their dominion upon the people of this state. It is due mainly to the immense popularity of the man and his brilliant achievements in the oratorical field. It was also brought about by the peculiar conditions under which the recent campaign was fought, and more than all else the tremendous republican tidal wave that swept the country from ocean to ocean and submerged all secondary issues under the irresistible impulse to affairs into the hands of the grand old party of Lincoln, Grant, Garfield and Harrison.

Incidentally, Mr. Thurston was so fortunate as to encounter no opposition from competitors in his own party. This is the more remarkable as there were several very able men in the field who might have blocked his way had they been courageous enough to plant themselves upon a platform that would have touched the popular chord.

In casting a unanimous party vote for John M. Thurston the republicans in the legislature have assumed a grave responsibility and Senator Thurston more than any other man must realize that fact. It remains for him to exert his talents and influence to counteract the prejudicial impression that the republicans of Nebraska have committed themselves to the policy of fostering monopolies and making the common weal secondary to the promotion of corporate interests. When Senator Thurston severs his official relations with the Union Pacific Railway company and enters upon his duties as a representative of the people of Nebraska he will be in position to divorce himself from railroad politics and devote himself solely to the interests confided to his keeping by the people of Nebraska. He is still in the prime of life, possessed of great natural gifts and a vast store of information gathered in the political arena and by years of experience in the profession in which he has occupied high rank. We mistake very much if John M. Thurston will be content to stop on the rung of the senatorial ladder. With ambition still further to be gratified we have no doubt that he will shape his course in the national legislature so that it may receive the approval not only of his constituents, but of the country at large. Sprung from the loins of the common people, Senator Thurston's instincts and sympathies are with the people, and if he obeys his natural impulse his career in the senate will reflect credit on himself, his ardent personal following and the state.

DEPLORABLE CATASTROPHE.
The frightful catastrophe at Butte, Mont., stands unparalleled in the annals of recent years. Ten pictures are unable to portray the terrible scenes that were enacted in the short period of fifteen minutes, within which not less than a half hundred of human beings were literally blown off the face of the earth and as many more seriously wounded. Such an accident or series of accidents could not possibly have been foreseen by those who were made its victims. The first to be stricken down by the unexpected explosion of gunpowder were the brave firemen, who, in the fearless performance of their duties, were endeavoring to extinguish flames born of incendiarism. The men who were caught by the second and third explosions were heroically trying to rescue the bodies of the dead and the wounded who were first entrapped. The sufferers in each instance were innocent victims to duty. Should the incendiaries be still alive and be apprehended at any future time the severest penalty of the law will be only lent for them. In the meanwhile the whole country stands aghast at the awful wreck and extends its sympathy to the bereaved and the suffering people of Butte.

THE LETTER OF RESIGNATION OF President Casimir-Perier is variously construed by the Paris press and his enemies attribute to him motives which it is almost impossible to believe him capable of entertaining. But it is a most remarkable fact that his course has no defenders. His explanation certainly will not add to his fame for unselfish devotion to the state and an elevated patriotism. That he had been subjected to great cares and perplexities, as well as to insults which deeply wounded him, is true, but all this will not excuse him for having deserted his responsibilities under circumstances most favorable to the enemies of the republic. The occasion demanded the most complete self-obliteration, but it found Casimir-Perier unable to withstand at a most critical juncture an attack on his dignity, and with a plea of powerlessness he capitulated and left the country to the conflict of factions. His predecessor, Carnot, would not have done this. It is useless to conjecture what the outcome of the crisis may be, but it is very probable that there will be some important changes and a revision of the constitution is not unlikely. The national assembly will meet at Versailles today, when action will be taken on the resignation, which, if accepted, as it probably will be, the assembly will proceed to the election of a new president.

THE FIRE AND POLICE COMMISSIONERS have reached the conclusion that a 5-mill tax will not yield enough revenue to enable them to increase the force to the proportions which they are ambitious to have it assume. They therefore want the general fund increased by 2 mills and let the treasurer transfer this increased revenue to the fire and police fund. This proposition will be resented and vigorously objected to by the taxpayers of Omaha. This is no time for increasing taxes. The fire and police board should fit its garment according to the cloth. They should cut down expenses and devise means for reorganizing the police and fire force on the basis of the 5-mill income. They can dispense with several detectives, and by the time the charter is revised they will doubtless be in a position to organize

between the two houses on any measure in the brief period remaining to this congress, and it may be regarded as practically certain that this, with a number of other important questions of general interest, will have to await action at the hands of the Fifty-fourth congress. In the meantime the business interests may very wisely and properly give expression to their views on this subject. They have already with practical unanimity asked for a uniform bankruptcy law and this request has come from all sections of the country. Whatever opposition has come from this source has been of so little consequence as hardly to merit serious consideration. But no harm can come from repeating the request, so that the next congress may understand that there has been no change of mind among business men as to the desirability and necessity of this legislation.

THE TRANSFER SWITCH LAW DECISION.
The decision of Judge Chapman that the transfer switch law enacted by the last legislature is unconstitutional is unfortunate, because coming as it does in the wake of a similar decision with reference to the maximum freight rate law it must tend to strengthen the impression already gaining ground that no law affecting railroads can hold in our courts. The text of the opinion in this case does bear out this theory because the decision is based upon purely technical grounds. The law is held to be unconstitutional because it contravenes that provision which requires every legislative act to contain no more than one subject clearly expressed in the title and that no law be amended unless the new act contain the section or sections so amended. The transfer switch law, it is held, in reality modifies a previous law on the same subject and hence falls to comply with the constitution. The point whether or not the railroads can be legally compelled to give the use of a transfer switch without extra charge is alluded to as questionable, but the decision turns solely on the technical defect.

Having the way thus indicated in which the law can be uttered so as to obviate the constitutional difficulties, it rests upon the legislature to immediately make the needed changes and re-enact the law. Judge Chapman himself says that a mandatory act of this kind is necessary, and that had the legislature observed in the construction of the act the law in force and the constitutional provision governing the enactment of laws there would in all probability have been no contest in the courts regarding the construction and maintenance of such switch connections. It is the duty of the present legislature to remedy these omissions of its predecessor.

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Denver News.
While some of Governor Altgelt's views intrude upon the mind, the clearly seen danger to American industry arising from combinations of unscrupulous corporations is a subject which red heads and capitalists none will deny that these combinations, taking advantage of the laws for the security of property rights, have a right to exist. It is gratifying to see an officer occasionally who looks after the interests of those who elect him and induce for the rebellion.

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I've got an idea. Let's have the street car magnate painted a fiery red. Let's have a Superintendent—that wouldn't increase their heat-giving qualities. Street Car Magnate: Would'n't, eh? Just think how it would stimulate the passengers' imagination.

BEAUTIES OF THE SPELL.
There was a young woman of Guinea,
Who played for she was no Guinea—
When game was called guano,
But she was clear off.
For the pastime was nothing but shuinea.

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the police force on the line of graduated pay that will enable them to increase the force without decreasing the pay of the veteran policemen and without increasing the aggregate of the police pay roll.

One member of the city council explained his vote in favor of the resolution authorizing the purchase of two additional fire engines on the ground that he had been assured that the present additional rate for insurance above the third story would be removed so soon as the increased fire fighting facilities were at hand. This is an ancient tale. We have heard of frequent prospective reductions in insurance rates, but the reductions have always failed to materialize. If we remember correctly this same assurance was given out at the time an enlargement of the fire department was first agitated. Since then material improvements in the service have been made and one of the three engines has already been secured. Just let the insurance companies show their good intentions by immediately taking off one-third of the additional rate for insurance above the third story. This would be no more than carrying out a proportionate part of their representations. When they shall have done that it will be time to consider the question of meeting the rest of their demands.

Chairman Wisniewski of the Board of Public Works has been granted a ten days leave of absence for a skip to California and back. If the chairman means to be back within the time of his leave he will have very little chance to look around California. But why does he take this trip just now, when the courts are liable to dissolve the injunction in the Sherman avenue paving case?

The annual exhibition of the Nebraska State Poultry association is in progress down at Lincoln. The display is said to include some of the finest birds that have ever been seen in these parts, but yet it is having a hard time to draw favorable comparison with the collection of political feedings on view in the halls of the state house.

Omaha will be very grateful for the \$200,000 appropriation for her postoffice building contained in the sundry civil appropriation bill just reported to the house. That will enable work to be continued for another year, when we will be nearer a position for the final estimates. In the interval small favors will be thankfully received.

SOUTH OMAHA INVESTIGATION.
Charges of blackmailing having been preferred against an Omaha councilman, the body called a special meeting, went into committee of the whole, investigated itself and returned a report of condemnation. The comic opera librettist is overlooking a good thing by neglecting the Omaha Dispatch.