

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, Editor. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: Daily (with Sunday), One Year, \$4.00...

TIME TO GET A MOVE ON.

There has been a great deal of complaint in the drouth-stricken section of the state over the lack of business methods and want of expedition in the handling and distribution of relief supplies at the state capital.

OFFICES.

Omaha, The Bee Building, 117 N. 15th St. Council Office, 117 N. 15th St. Chicago Office, 217 Chamber of Commerce, New York, Rooms 13, 14 and 15, Tribune Bldg. Washington, 167 F Street, N. W.

BUSINESS LETTERS.

All business letters and remittances should be addressed to The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha, Dakota, checks and postal orders to be made payable to the order of the company.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

Table with 3 columns: Date, Total Copies, and Paid Copies. Rows include Daily Average and Sunday Average for various months.

Allow us to suggest the tax rate for the coming year as a good topic of discussion for the Municipal League.

All the incipient fish and game wardens will now have to turn spurs upon some other prospective state office.

No, don't annex Hawaii until the senators who have prepared speeches on this subject have an opportunity to deliver them.

It may be a cold day, but the temperature will not interfere in the least to prevent a warm canvass among the different candidates for the vacant county commission.

The number of new faces in the next United States senate gives promise of comparing favorably with the number of new members elected to the next house of representatives.

So long as the net for the protection of Mongolian pheasants has been recommended for passage in the senate and placed on the general file the legislature will not have been convened in vain.

Isn't it a little early for the republicans in the United States senate to propose to interfere with protracted senatorial elections in the states in which republican legislatures are still balloting?

When a man lives beyond his income he is on the road to ruin. When a state or a city incurs liabilities way above its ability to pay it is sure to destroy its credit, and that means an empty treasury, irredeemable floating debts and inevitable ruin.

If congress can vote \$300,000 for printing the report of the secretary of agriculture it can certainly with the same degree of equanimity vote a like sum for the secretary to expend in furnishing seed grain to the destitute farmers of the drouth-stricken regions.

The present storm will, of course, give rise to another avalanche of sensational and exaggerated dispatches in eastern newspapers, painting the hardships of the Nebraska drouth sufferers several times worse than what they really are and at the same time making pitiful appeals for additional contributions of money, clothing and provisions.

Some of the lady managers of the Home for the Friendless at Lincoln are reported as saying that they would rather forego all aid from the state rather than submit to the control of state officers over the expenditure of money contributed by their institution by private parties. If they are sincere in this attitude they certainly ought to be permitted to have their own way. Nothing would please the taxpayers more than to have the society which manages the home support it from its own resources. Let the legislature accept the condition and refuse further appropriations of state money to private institutions.

The claim that the Sherman avenue paving controversy is not yet closed owing to an alleged blunder of the president of the city council, will not find much sympathy among the people of Omaha. A resort to petty technicalities where the result of the issue is so plain and beyond dispute always gives the appearance of a put-up job. The record of the city clerk shows that everything in connection with the letting of this paving contract is regular and in strict accordance with the provisions of the law and ordinances. Going behind the record, even if allowable, will not avail anything, because an omission of this kind does not affect the substantial rights involved.

The monthly salary list of the city of Omaha ten years ago averaged about \$6,300. The monthly salary list at the present time exceeds \$20,000. In other words, while the city's population has only doubled in the last ten years and the assessed property value in 1885 is less than 50 per cent greater than it was in 1885 the cost of maintaining city government is five times as great as it was ten years ago. The wonder is how the city can stand such a drain without going into bankruptcy. The question stares us in the face, what shall we do to prevent municipal bankruptcy? We can not do it by multiplying office holders and feeding a horde of tax eaters. The only remedy is the vigorous use of the pruning knife and the contraction of the municipal machine within the reach of the municipal pocket-book.

speculation based on obscure or misleading official statements, it is doubtful whether any legislation can bring real prosperity to the country. It is a deficiency of credit rather than of money that is responsible for existing conditions.

The withdrawal of foreign capital and the forced liquidations are evidence of a lack of confidence not due altogether to the currency system, but largely to the bad and dishonest management of the railway corporations.

LIMITING TAX EXEMPTION.

One of the most flagrant abuses of our system of revenue and taxation is the exemption of property owned by religious and charitable associations under pretext of their coming within the clause of the constitution that authorizes the exemption of property used for churches and schools.

THE WESTERN TRUNK LINE COMMITTEE.

The successor of the late Western Passenger association is to be known as the Western Trunk Line committee.

When the defunct association finally succumbed it was understood in railway circles that its disappearance was simply to make way for a new organization including substantially the same members and working for substantially the same objects.

In fact, the work of forming a new railway alliance began before the old one was formally dissolved, and so confident were the projectors of their ultimate success that the officers of the Western Passenger association refused tempting positions in the expectation of retaining places at the head of the new organization.

In these expectations, it seems, they have not been disappointed.

The purpose of the committee is announced to be the maintenance of rates for passenger traffic. It proposes to do this by binding each railroad to give ten days notice of every proposed advance or cut in railroad fares, such changes being allowed provided they are open and above board.

It is not lower fares that the railroad men fear so much, because if they know of them in time they can meet them and in that way protect their roads. It is the secret rate cutting and secret rebates, and the use of scalpers to handle rate tickets that has demoralized the passenger traffic.

Every infringement of the old agreement was excused or justified on the ground that some competing road was stealthily cutting below the published rates. If these abuses can be stopped every railroad man feels confident that an era of stable passenger rates will be introduced.

Experience only will tell whether the new Western Trunk Line committee will prove any more successful than its predecessor. It has a much simpler task before it, but at the same time it is a much looser organization and one without any apparent means to effectually enforce its agreements. It is possible that this may prove a source of strength rather than of weakness. Yet there has never been a railroad association in which each road was not ready to repudiate its obligations whenever the first chance for individual aggrandizement appeared. It will not do to look for anything extraordinary from the new committee.

It may not have been an impeachable offense for Judge Ricks to receive money earned as clerk after his elevation to the bench, but it will be when the amendment to the sundry civil appropriation bill, proposed by Congressman Ray becomes law. Should another federal judge indulge in similar practices he will not be able to get off so easily by making an appeal to custom.

The weather man seems to have taken a notion to prove that the calendar is right after all.

The Public Is Right.

New York Tribune. The public has a habit of being right in these days. Public sentiment in Brooklyn is in favor of the strikers. This is a good point for the railroad officials to consider.

But They Are Dead.

Courier Journal. It is an actual fact that few members of congress have put forth neither a concrete plan nor a Hawaiian resolution. They are the members of the "honorable" congress has put aside other business and pronounced ornate funeral eulogies.

Faker Suits the Democrats.

St. Louis Republic. Kansas has had the luck to bring out of her senatorial deadlock a better man than the original candidate, Lucien Baker has long been called the "democratic republican in the state." No other republican has done so well in the hands of the critics. Senator-elect Baker is in every way, except in his republicanism, a worthy successor of Judge John Martin.

Bank Surplus Taxable in Iowa.

The Iowa supreme court has decided that the undivided profits or surplus of banks are taxable and the decision will meet with approval. When the individuals they become liable to earn more profits they become liable to pay more taxes. The main object of capital is to be put to work in every number of any possible directions.

But the Theft Proceeds.

Memphis Avalanche. By a vote of 15 to 14 the bill to steal the chief executive office of Tennessee from Governor Evans, who was elected by the people on November 6, and give it to Peter Turney, ex-governor, and at present holding the office by force and violence, passed the senate. Senator Bates protested in an argument that was powerful, lucid, logical and unanswerable. For this service he endeared himself to nine-tenths of the demagogues of Tennessee, who have courage and fairness, and who scorn trickery and subterfuge. Senator Bates possesses the true Jacksonian spirit.

Thurston's Financial Ideas.

Mississippi Tribune. It is evident that Mr. Thurston's ideas are either in a state of very serious muddle on the money question, or else he is endeavoring to cater to the free silver sentiment of the state without conceding the same entirely to the free and unlimited coinage idea. It is to be feared that, like all congressmen, he will be obliged to get away from the money question by getting himself upon one side or the other. He will be forced to do this, because the maintenance of all forms of money at par measurement by the gold standard, or the devaluation of our currency to the silver standard, there is no middle ground.

It is possible to estimate revenues with a reasonable degree of accuracy when the conditions are normal, but it is a very uncertain work when the conditions are as at present.

What the party in power ought to do is to propose some plan that will give the government more revenue at once, but there seems to be little probability that it can agree upon any plan. There is almost as much diversity of opinion in the party on this subject as there is on the currency.

There continues to be talk that President Cleveland will call an extra session of the Fifty-fourth congress very soon after the adjournment of this congress if there is nothing done at the present session to relieve the difficulties and embarrassments of the treasury.

If he entertains such an intention the indications are that he will have the opportunity to act upon it.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

The newly elected president of the French republic has already made the disconcerting discovery that the functions of the office which he has assumed are much more difficult to discharge than the casual spectator might imagine. They are rendered difficult by the essential vice of the French constitutional system, which makes the chief executive dependent upon the legislature, and upon whose support for any protracted period it is never safe to count.

The president must carry on his administrative functions through the medium of a ministry, and as this ministry is subject to be forced into retirement at any time by an adverse vote in the Chamber of Deputies, it follows that the executive has no real authority, and can only exercise his functions by legislative assent.

This would be bad enough if the chamber had any real solidarity, if it were controlled by two parties of nearly equal strength. Under existing conditions, with half a dozen cliques striving for control, and the most inconspicuous combinations constantly being made, it must be well understood that it must be especially harassing to President Faure, for he is in the embarrassing position of owing a divided allegiance. His election being made it must be well understood that the platform has been a coalition of the purpose of preventing, at any sacrifice, the threatening success of the socialists and radicals.

Under existing conditions it is not easy to see what is to be gained in practical politics by Mr. Gladstone's return to the House of Commons. That he will materially strengthen the composite ministerial party is doubtful. He will more probably weaken it, by making more marked the line of cleavage between its old guard of genuine liberals and the motley host of radicals, socialists and other "left" men who are in the press and on the platform having a coalition goal of "to him" will resent his return and rail against him. And they hold much more than the "right" power. That he will be called to them back and remonstrated with under the old liberal banner is utterly out of the question. His reappearance in the House, as it will be an historical episode, is not likely to mark a political epoch. He will, of course, be greeted by all with the personal honor due to the greatest Briton of the age. But there is only too much cause to fear that the unmatched leader will find a divided following, his eloquent voice will awake discordant echoes of dissent, and his exalted principles will be more inspired and dominated the party in which he is most omnipotent.

The supposition that Bismarck may resume the direction of affairs in an official capacity may be dismissed as entirely improbable, but a return to his foreign and domestic policies seems imperatively demanded by the situation. The efforts to isolate France and a renewal of the close alliance between Germany and Austria, which were characteristic features of Bismarckian statesmanship, seem necessary in view of the growing weakness of the Triple Alliance and the looming up of new political combinations. The rising tide of socialism has already required a reversion to the Bismarckian policy of repression. The rumors of the prospective dismissal of various ministers who are obnoxious to Prince Bismarck are too persistent to be disregarded. The return of the energetic Von Bismarck, Prussian minister of the interior, and of other members of the backstairs conspiracy which led to the demission of the creator of the German empire would signify the complete rehabilitation of Prince Bismarck in the eyes of the ruling powers at Berlin. The substitution in the foreign office of Radowski, the Bismarckian diplomat, now ambassador at Madrid, in place of that Caprivan nonentity, Baron Marschall von Dierstein, would be the signal for the triumph of the ex-chancellor's foreign policy. In these senses a new Bismarckian era seems to be dawning in Germany. If the hearts of the German people the sun of Bismarck has never set.

The statesmen of Japan are showing as much astuteness in listening to overtures for peace as they exhibited in preparing for war. They know that the interests of Great Britain and Russia are so diverse that those two nations are not yet ready to agree upon a plan by which to intervene and end the war. And so, instead of accepting the terms of peace which have been offered in such a vague way by China, they prefer to wait for their own opportunity. The Chinese first being so complete that she will be willing to settle on any conditions proposed by the victors. It may be argued that peace could be had now, when the way to Peking is virtually open. But the Prussian army did not turn away from Peking, though it had destroyed the fabric of the French government and no doubt Japan feels that if she were to end hostilities today and impose an easy burden on China, she would not even then be safe from future danger. Japan is taking all the chances with the boldness of a supreme conviction of success, and such a conviction, so well sustained, counts for much in the scales of victory.

The official returns of the strength of the regular British army at the close of 1894 show that there are now rather more than 222,000 officers and men on the regimental rolls, and including the first class army reserve of men, who have been thoroughly trained within very recent years, and who are liable to be called upon for service at any time, the full strength of the regular military forces is about 302,000 men. These, however, include the West India regiment, the Royal Malta artillery, and a few corps raised in other parts of the world for special local duty, but who, of course, reduce the demands upon the ordinary troops. Of the 222,000 about 106,000 are quartered at home, nearly 78,000 being in England and Wales, 3,500 in Scotland, nearly 25,000 in Ireland, and the remainder in the Channel islands, a very large proportion of those in England being quartered in the southern parts and convenient for the prompt mobilization of an army corps at short notice. The colonies and Egypt take the services of nearly 28,000 troops, and 78,000 are in India and Burma. The Egyptian garrison absorbs quite 5,000 British soldiers of all kinds, besides the many British officers who are attached to the khedive's forces either to train and command the native levies; and in the Mediterranean, Malta has a garrison of 8,500 and Gibraltar one of nearly 5,000, besides the small force kept in Cyprus. Hongkong has a force of about 3,000, Bermuda and the Straits Settlements have each about 1,500; Canada has only about the same number; South Africa, 3,400; the West Indies, 2,000; Ceylon, 1,700; and the remainder of those troops on colonial duty are spread over the West African settlements, Mauritius and St. Helena, Australia containing no imperial troops.

The strange intermingling of races in Austria, unique in the history of any habitable Europe, gives an extremely curious aspect to its modern politics as reported daily in the cablegrams. Certain names are linked with certain parties to whom in the derivation they are diametrically opposed. That thoroughly national enthusiast, Premier Welerle, is unmistakably of a non-Magyar line of descent. Among the German leaders of Bohemia are Schneykal, Chlumetzky and Cizek, and among the Czechs are statesmen with such German patronyms as Klieger, Krumbholz and Purgarth, while the most prominent parliamentarian, the opponent of the Austrians is a Croat boasting of the sonorous Italian name of Bianchi. This very diversity yields hope, however, of a happy outcome, a true political state, irrespective of races. Although the Poles still have a nationality, despite their division among the foreign states for a hundred years, the Swiss nationalities are, on the contrary, a confederation of three races and tongues. Austria need not despair.

Highest of All Leavening Power. Latest U.S. Gov't Report

ABSOLUTELY PURE

THE TRUST DECISION.

Philadelphia Press: A manufacturing monopoly, which sells its products in every state in the union, is not, according to the supreme court, any less a monopoly.

Chicago Inter-Ocean: The Sugar trust decision will breed discontent. Since the famous Scott case no ruling so declaratory of state's rights in limitation of those of the citizens of the republic has been rendered.

Chicago Tribune: Those persons who are complaining of "centralization" of the powers of the general government should take notice that the suppression of trusts has been declared by the supreme court to belong to the states. It remains to be seen how competent they are to attend to the matter.

Detroit Free Press: It has been decided by the supreme court of the United States that the Sherman anti-trust law does not prevent the organization or maintenance of trusts in this country. This rather tends to confirm a long-standing opinion that it was not intended to accomplish the purpose for which it purported to have been made.

New York World: By a decision of the supreme court the Knight case yesterday the Sugar trust has won a decided advantage in a skirmish, but it has not yet established the Olney doctrine that interference with interstate trade is unconstitutional. The decision in this case is only that certain matters do not come under the anti-trust law, not that the law is unconstitutional.

Buffalo Express: The Sherman law under-look to get at trusts through the powers vested in congress to control interstate commerce. It forbade combinations in restraint of interstate commerce. The suit attempted to show that the Sugar trust was such a combination, inasmuch as it sells its product in different states. Judge Dallas in the circuit court held more than a year ago that this trust was not a trust, but was a manufacturing trust. Its purpose was to control the business of refining sugar, not the interstate trade in sugar. The supreme court has now decided that it must be confessed, is logical and reasonable.

A FEW HAPPY DAYS.

Philadelphia Record: A man has to blow himself, as a rule, before he can wet his whistle.

Rome Tribune: We know a man who is not in straitened circumstances and who wants to be. He's a hunchback.

Boston Transcript: He-How Miss Elizabeth carries her age! She-But then she has become so accustomed to it, you know.

Detroit Free Press: Judge-See here, last night a fellow called me a blooming idiot-Yabber! He'd been saying you just might myself, and you were looking queer as could be.

Indianapolis Journal: "Sharpe got himself elected to the council as a man of vision, didn't he?" "Well, he is living up to it. Scarce a bill passed, that he isn't deemed a good man to see."

New York Tribune: At the theater, Wags-How gloomy that curtain! Gags-Wait till you have seen the play and you will think the curtain the brightest thing in the house.

Judge: Bear (in trap)-Wow! ow! ow! I free Bear-Rearing won't get you out of the trap. Free Bear-It's not the trap I'm roaring at. That brute away up there congratulated me on having "quite a snap" here and I can't get on him.

Chicago Tribune: "On principle," said the honorable member from the "Stentch district," "I am opposed to his pocketbook and putting the latter back in his inside pocket. I am opposed to a member of the legislature accepting a railroad pass, but when the railroad just forces it on you, you know, why, that's different."

ONE ENJOYS

Both the method and results when Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant and refreshing to the taste, and acts gently yet promptly on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, cleanses the system effectually, dispels colds, headaches and fevers and cures habitual constipation. Syrup of Figs is the only remedy of its kind ever produced, pleasing to the taste and acceptable to the stomach, prompt in its action and truly beneficial in its effects, prepared only from the most healthy and agreeable substances, its many excellent qualities commend it to all and have made it the most popular remedy known.

Syrup of Figs is for sale in 50 cent bottles by all leading druggists. Any reliable druggist who may not have it on hand will procure it promptly for any one who wishes to try it. Do not accept any substitute.

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. SAN FRANCISCO, CAL. LOUISVILLE, KY. NEW YORK, N.Y.

DOWN THE HILL WITH NANCY.

New York Sun. It's oh! for an old-time wintry sky, When the air is cold and the sleds jingle 'ny; 'Twas the kind I fancy! An' 'twas a blooming day when she came, When she slid 'n' down hill with Nancy!

When the nights were still On the old village hill, 'Twas a heart full o' joy When I went down hill with Nancy!

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The president must carry on his administrative functions through the medium of a ministry, and as this ministry is subject to be forced into retirement at any time by an adverse vote in the Chamber of Deputies, it follows that the executive has no real authority, and can only exercise his functions by legislative assent.

This would be bad enough if the chamber had any real solidarity, if it were controlled by two parties of nearly equal strength. Under existing conditions, with half a dozen cliques striving for control, and the most inconspicuous combinations constantly being made, it must be well understood that it must be especially harassing to President Faure, for he is in the embarrassing position of owing a divided allegiance.

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Under existing conditions it is not easy to see what is to be gained in practical politics by Mr. Gladstone's return to the House of Commons. That he will materially strengthen the composite ministerial party is doubtful.

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And so, instead of accepting the terms of peace which have been offered in such a vague way by China, they prefer to wait for their own opportunity. The Chinese first being so complete that she will be willing to settle on any conditions proposed by the victors.

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THE SUNDAY BEE.

Among the attractive features of The Sunday Bee may be mentioned the opening chapter of Anthony Hope's serial story, entitled "The Chronicles of Count Antonio," said to be the most ambitious effort of this celebrated English author, whose "Prisoner of Zenda" scored such an unqualified success. Joel Chandler Harris, an untried among juvenile readers, contributes another of his "Timberlegger Stories," which have attracted much attention in recent issues of The Sunday Bee. A symposium of newspaper opinion upon the subject of "The Concentration of Wealth" is a most interesting feature, presenting, as it does, the opinions of leading editors throughout the country on a topic that engages the attention of the best thinkers of the day. Rev. Dr. Parkhurst spoke in Chicago a few days ago of his work in behalf of reform in municipal government. He gave his auditors wholesome advice, which is not alone applicable to Chicago. A condensed report of his address will appear in The Sunday Bee. Carpenter's letter describes a recent tour into the interior of the Hermit Kingdom, in which graphic pictures are given of the country and people, subjects about which little is known. Hon. Robert P. Porter, whose letters from Great Britain have for months formed a distinctive feature of The Sunday Bee, contributes a London letter on the condition of agriculture in England. Every student of political economy, as well as every intelligent farmer, will read this letter with unusual interest. It treats one of the serious problems now confronting the English people, as the British farmer may be said to be "on the way to the poor house." A gossip letter from Chicago, by Miss Stacia Crowley, well known in Omaha educational circles, is highly entertaining. It is devoted chiefly to an account of a recent visit to the great Chicago university. A brief interview with the widow of General Sheridan dispels some of the illusions attending the general's famous ride. Mrs. Sheridan says the general's memoirs may be written by