

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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A SPECIAL FEATURE.

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

Commencing Sunday next The Bee will reprint in its Sunday edition a series of extracts from the book written by George E. Roberts, entitled "Coin at School in Finance."

The extracts which The Bee will print will appear Sundays for five consecutive weeks and will, when taken together, give the substance of the entire work.

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

DON'T MISS IT.

To Secretary Lamont: Come again when you can stay longer.

The president makers were more in evidence at Cleveland than the presidents.

Well, what is the state board going to do with the penitentiary which it has gotten on its hands?

Dorgan is still running the penitentiary. If the legislature were yet in session he would also be running it.

Governor Altgeld ought to get enough of the Illinois legislature this year to last him for the remainder of his political life.

The country will hold its breath until Private Secretary Timmer returns to Washington and resumes control of the national government.

The penitentiary appraisalment scandal will not blow over. The stench is too strong to permit of its eradication by ordinary fumigating processes.

People are still waiting patiently for the great things which the newly appointed attorney general was expected to accomplish as soon as he entered upon the duties of his office.

Those new secretaries of the State Board of Transportation will not be named until the railroad managers shall have had ample time to decide just what candidates are satisfactory to them.

The municipality and county ask. Why are so many pages of the annual city reports only half utilized? That's an easy one. It is to give the men who hold the municipal printing contracts a fatter job.

Wonder what Mr. Holdrege proposes to do with the Cleveland wing of Douglas county democracy this fall. It looks now as if he will have to blindfold some of the faithful before he begins to herd them.

The festivities at Kiel have passed without the display of ill feeling between Germany and France. And some people who were looking for a possible international fracas are correspondingly disappointed.

It is reported that Uncle Sam's meat inspectors at South Omaha will tender Secretary Morton a banquet July 4, just four days after all the boys have been lined up in pursuance of the secretary's kind suggestion.

The Commercial club has shown a commendable spirit in tendering a banquet to Governor Holcomb. The Bee suggests that the banquet be preceded by public reception in the city hall, where all the citizens of Omaha could pay their respects to the chief executive of the state.

If representation in the national convention of republican clubs approximated more the ratio of the republican representation of the different states in the electoral college, or even in congress, the sentiment on several important questions would be more pronounced and expressed with considerably less wrangling.

STILL MORE ABOUT THE ROBERTS.

The Lincoln organ of the penitentiary contractor informs us that if any one thinks either the state board or the warden is running the penitentiary he is mightily mistaken. Erison Boss Dorgan is still in control and is running things just as if no appraisalment of his property were ever made.

We are also notified that the Mosher-Dorgan bill for the support of the prisoners will be presented and allowed on July 1 just the same as if the legislature had passed no penitentiary bill.

Pray what were the \$50 a day appraisers employed for and how long does their appraisalment stand good? They included in their award items for all the groceries and provisions on hand at the time their inventory was made, for which the highest market price was allowed.

Now Dorgan is using these supplies to feed the prisoners according to his alleged contract and expects payment therefor. How many times is the state to pay for the property on which the honest appraisers set two values? Is Dorgan to be allowed to sell goods to the state and then after using them himself charge them up to the state a second time? If the appraisalment and Dorgan's acceptance of the award is legal and binding what right has Dorgan in the penitentiary anyway? And how long is he to be allowed to use the property which the appraisers' award covers? Does not Dorgan's persistence in hanging on to the penitentiary indicate that he knew the whole appraisalment was conceived and executed in fraud and will not hold water for a moment if tested in the courts?

A PERMISSIVE ABUSE UNCOVERED.

One of the worst abuses that has been uncovered by the investigation into the condition of the city treasury is the practice of advancing city funds to officers and employes of the various municipal departments before the money has been earned. The only excuse that can possibly be offered is that the treasurer desired to accommodate parties who are on the city's payroll. Such advances made out of his private funds would constitute a personal loan, but even in that case they would be of doubtful propriety.

In the first place they afford an incentive for men who should live within their means to spend more than they earn. In the next place the practice is pernicious because it places public officers under an obligation that might, in just such emergencies as the present one, tend to embarrass them in the fearless discharge of their duty.

If private loans by the treasurer to his fellow officers and employes tend to demoralize the public service, how much more does the illegal loaning of public funds promote reckless extravagance and lawlessness? Even if the law did not expressly forbid the payment of city money to anybody except on warrants duly signed by the mayor and certified by the comptroller, what guaranty has the treasurer that the money advanced will be earned? An officer or employe may go wrong and be suspended or dismissed at any time or he may die. In either case there would be no warrant issued and the treasurer could not justify the withdrawal of the funds advanced. Every such transaction lays him liable under the law to summary removal from office by the council.

Suppose the men who have drawn this money in advance are compeled, would they do their duty? Would they depose the man for an offense committed for their benefit and accommodation, or would they be tempted to pass lightly over the defalcation and thereby encourage more flagrant violations of the law? Once the doors are opened to the appropriation of public funds without warrant for the benefit of municipal officers, it is but natural that they should also be opened to city contractors who expect to have claims against the city for work done or to be done. And when contractors are accommodated with loans of city funds, why should not the warrant-shavers be similarly favored?

The only safe way is to enforce the law rigidly. The law makes no distinction between taking money out of the treasury for bucket shop gambling and taking it out for private loans, whether the borrowers are city officers and employes or whether they are outsiders. It is defalcation just as much in one case as in the other. While there may be no intention to defraud the city, such acts on the part of the treasurer can not be ignored or condoned with safety to the public interests.

THE QUESTION OF RAILROAD RATES.

In an interview a few days ago Mr. Chauncey Depew said he regarded the question of railroad rates as a vital one—quite as important and perhaps more important than the currency—and he made this statement: "Never since I have been in the business has there been such utter demoralization in freight rates as at the present time. The rate cutting is widespread and extends all over the country. Hundreds of thousands of dollars are being wasted and neither the newspapers nor the government are giving the situation the attention it merits." Probably nobody will question the authority of the president of the New York Central on this subject, and while it may not be news to the business men of the country, or that portion of them who are in a position to get cut rates, it may be information to the Interstate Commerce commission. When Mr. Depew says that freight rates were never so utterly demoralized as now he means that demoralization is more general than ever before, and this violation of the law is going on without any apparent effort on the part of the commission to correct it. Of course there are very great difficulties in the way of applying a remedy, so far as the commission is concerned. Mr. Depew remarked that that body "cannot enforce its rulings and convict railroad officials for rate cutting because of the esprit du corps among railroad men which prevents them from giving evidence against each other." In other words, these law-breakers stand by one another whenever any of them is discovered in wrong doing. Then the favored shipper, of course, will not give any in-

formation. Thus by collusion all around the law is practically nullified and an expensive commission is maintained at public expense which is of very little practical value. This is manifestly a most ridiculous situation for a strong government, supposed to have ample powers to regulate corporations and to enforce the laws. There is surely substantial warrant for popular complaint and discontent when the transportation interest of the country goes on persistently breaking the law with impunity and trusts and combinations organize and flourish in defiance of legal enactments against them.

Mr. Depew's remedy is in a pooling bill. Let congress pass the pooling bill, he said, and surround it with proper restrictions under the Interstate Commerce commission, making freight rates alike to all for similar service, and the evils complained of would be corrected. "The pooling bill should provide for penalties against the corporations themselves," said Mr. Depew, "and the whole matter should be under the control of a government commission. We have tried associations, arrangements and pools, whose provisions, under present laws, could not be enforced in the courts, and we have failed to reach a harmonious adjustment. We can certainly trust the government. If we cannot, then we are assuredly in a bad way." There is a widespread popular belief, however, that even with such a pooling law as Mr. Depew describes the corporations would find a way to take an undue advantage of the public, and so long as this belief continues, due to an utter lack of confidence in the integrity of railroad managers in their relations to the public, the chances will be against legislation to permit pooling. It is to be expected that this question will be considered by the next congress and assuming that Mr. Depew voices the sentiment of railroad officials generally a vigorous effort to secure the passage of a pooling law may be anticipated.

A CLAIM AGAINST SPAIN.

It appears that the reports from Washington that Secretary Olney had made a demand upon the Spanish government for the immediate settlement of the Mora claim, which has been pending for some nine years, exaggerated the facts. The impression conveyed by these reports was that our government had determined not to wait any longer for the adjustment of this claim, which amounts to \$1,500,000, and which Spain promised in December, 1886, to pay. It was given out that if Spain did not at once make a settlement our government would take steps to collect the claim by occupying the port of Havana, Cuba, and taking the customs receipts there. The claim grows out of the seizure and confiscation by the Spanish authorities in Cuba, during an insurrection there, of a valuable sugar property owned by Antonio Maximo Mora, an American citizen. The wrong thus done was admitted by the Spanish government, which agreed to pay an indemnity of \$1,500,000, but thus far no indication of a purpose to carry out the agreement has been shown. The matter was called to the attention of Spain by the late Secretary Gresham, whose course in the matter was approved by congress. It seems that all Secretary Olney has done is to repeat the action of his predecessor, which amounted simply to informing the Spanish government that the government of the United States thought it was time the claim were settled. It does not appear that there was any intimation of urgency and certainly no threat of extreme measures in the event of the claim not being settled at once.

That our government would be fully justified in urging the prompt payment of this claim is unquestionable. Spain having acknowledged its justice and agreed to pay it, nine years in which to make good the agreement must be regarded as ample time. But international amity perhaps requires that our government consider the present situation of Spain, organized in a costly effort to suppress a formidable insurrection in Cuba, with her treasury bankrupt and her credit almost ruined, and not attempt to force immediate payment. Of course if our government should insist upon the settlement of this claim at once and Spain failing to settle the United States should undertake to collect the amount by taking the customs duties at Havana, the result would very likely be the loss of Cuba to Spain. With our war vessels occupying the harbor of Havana and depriving the Spanish government of the revenues there, it is not to be doubted that the effect would be to give a great impetus to the insurrection and in an equal degree to dishearten and disorganize the Spanish forces, as they are by no means enthusiastic in the war against the insurgents. Such a course on the part of the United States would very likely be interpreted by other countries as designed to produce this result, whatever we might say in justification of it. While it would be approved, undoubtedly, by the jingo element, it is a question whether the United States could afford to put itself in a position before the world of taking such advantage of a friendly nation in its time of trouble.

MINNEAPOLIS TRIBUNE.

These examples, (Taylor and Holt), should constitute a warning to all communities not to place such matters in the hands of a few individuals. There should be a commission composed of at least five persons to decide as to where public funds should be deposited and who are to have control of any money to the promotion of private speculation or enterprises should be made and who are to be punished as felons whether the funds are lost or not. It is probable that every fiduciary official who appropriates the money of others intends to do so, and that the only way to do so is to have a commission to investigate and report on the matter. It has always been so and will continue unchecked until the people shall insist that the public business be transacted in the interest of the taxpayers instead of the officeholders.

PROTECTION OF PUBLIC FUNDS.

Kansas City Journal: The most ordinary precautions against these evils which would be provided in any law, are wholly unthought of by the people when making laws for the protection of the taxpayers' money. The subordinate of the wayward official, who has every opportunity to know that gross irregularities are going on, violate their oaths to protect the man who gives them their jobs. Fellow officials witness the dissipation and hear of the dangerous speculation that is going on without raising a hand in warning. Political bills are tacked for all they are worth, stay any movement from without to compel an accounting, and nine times out of ten the people are compelled to pay the bill or to profit and loss. It has always been so and will continue unchecked until the people shall insist that the public business be transacted in the interest of the taxpayers instead of the officeholders.

HIGHEST OF ALL IN LEAVENING POWER.

Latest U.S. Gov't Report

ABSOLUTELY PURE

Two famous democrats visited Omaha Thursday. Both were asked to discuss the political situation. Secretary Lamont begged to be excused on the ground that he had been talking politics ten months of the year down at Washington. And this is what Mr. Henry Watterson said: "I don't talk politics any more. If God Almighty should come down on earth he would not be able to straighten out the political situation. Why should I try to do it?"

Pears are expressed in some quarters that the exposure of the shortage in the city treasurer's office in its fullest extent may be injurious to the credit of the city of Omaha. These persons argue upon the wrong theory. Closing up the delinquencies can never make the city's credit stronger. On the other hand, if the city shows itself jealous of its reputation and insists that every dollar of public money that has been misappropriated be made known and restored by the parties responsible for it, it cannot but improve its standing with investors everywhere. The danger is not in letting the public know just how much public money has been diverted to private use, but in trying to conceal something that cannot be concealed.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION HAS TAKEN ACTION WITH REGARD TO THE SCHOOL FUNDS.

The Board of Education has taken action with regard to the school funds in the custody of the city treasurer. The council seems content to await developments through the inquiry instituted by the bondsmen. Are the interests of the bondsmen paramount to the interests of the city?

WHAT IS THE USE OF HAVING A COMPTROLLER UNLESS HE KEEPS TAB ON THE CITY TREASURER AND RINGS THE BELL WHENEVER ANYBODY ATTEMPTS TO TAKE CASH OUT OF THE DRAWER WITHOUT A WARRANT?

STATING A COLD TRUTH.

Why anybody should hint at a third term for Mr. Cleveland passes comprehension unless the hint is understood to be issued by the professed enemies to the third term. It is settled that no man shall have three terms in the white house, whether consecutive terms or not.

EARLY AND LATE CONVENTIONS.

There is talk among republican leaders of holding the national convention of next year as early as May. This must be inspired by a desire to escape the insufferable heat which will afflict the June convocations held in the central regions of the country. But it will be giving the campaign too early a start, and one that will be taken from it much of the dash and spirit which politicians deem so important. Better a date after the heated term than before.

CANADIAN TUSH AND PINCK.

The pluck of Canada in pushing forward large international improvements is worthy of admiration and emulation. The completion of its new ship canal at the outlet of Lake Superior, and now has a continuous lake, river and canal route to the sea from the mouth of the St. Lawrence to the head of Lake Superior, a distance of 2,334 miles. The new ship canal at Sault Ste. Marie is 18,100 feet long, 142 feet wide at the bottom, and has a depth of 22 feet. Most of the work has been done within two years. Our northern neighbor can teach us several things about modern waterways.

AN UNBORN OF JUDGMENT.

The Omaha papers have been recently filled with the report that the editorial in that city. The editor of a paper published in Sarpy county made some comment upon the conduct of a foreman of a grand jury and the trial of a man charged with the murder of a woman. The editor of the paper in question, anywhere but in Omaha, is it pretty clear that the courts of Douglas county have no jurisdiction over the conduct of a grand jury, or the trial of a man charged with the murder of a woman, or the conduct of a grand jury, or the trial of a man charged with the murder of a woman.

IS THERE NO REMEDY?

In the settlement of the penitentiary matter with Dorgan an account seems to have been taken of the large amount of money sent to the state from the sale of the property of the insolvent contractor, which was permitted to draw for the construction of the cell house. That he has sold in nearly four years for \$12,000, which has not been paid, is a fact which we have not seen disputed. Why has not an action been brought against him to recover the money he owes? Why has not the money been seized and sold? Why has not the money been used to pay the debt? Why has not the money been used to pay the debt? Why has not the money been used to pay the debt?

THE RUSSIAN FLEET IS GROWING STEADILY.

The young czar visited the dockyards of the Neva the other day to witness the launch of a new ironclad, the Sebastopol, and then assisted in the ceremonies of laying the keels of four new war vessels, one an enormous cruiser of the Rurik type, to be called the Russia. The dimensions of the new ships will be as follows: The Russia, triple screws, length 473 feet, beam over 68 feet, mean draught 25 feet, displacement 12,200 tons, engines 17,000 horse-power; the Arraks, length over 277 feet, beam 52 feet, draught 17 feet, displacement 4,126 tons, engines 5,900 horse-power; the Khrabry, length over 229 feet, beam 41 feet, displacement 1,492 tons, engines 2,000 horse-power, and the Verney, length 193 feet, beam 38 feet, displacement 2,200 tons, auxiliary steam 400 horse-power. Russia, however, is likely to take a long time to finish and equip the battleships which she is constructing and launching so rapidly. Including the Sebastopol, there are at present five uncompleted ironclads anchored in the Neva, two of which were launched in 1892, and three or four of them are receiving their engines from English firms. Among vessels on the stocks in the Neva dockyards are twelve new torpedo boats, and a new cruiser of 8,000 tons will be begun soon.

THE WANNING CAUSE OF SILVER.

The Louisville Courier-Journal says that when the Kentucky democratic state convention met at the city of 875 delegates 450 will be found many who will vote against a declaration in favor of free coinage. The report is that the convention has already put itself on record as in favor of honest money. It appears, therefore, that an overwhelming majority of the voters of that state are against tampering with the currency. Kentucky, on which the free silverites counted confidently, is dead against them. They are not so sure of the support of Tennessee, Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas. From Maryland to Texas the honest money men are asserting themselves with increasing energy and are bringing back the opponents. The time is far past distant when the free coinage men will be powerful only in the mountains and in the arid regions just east of them.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

That Rosebery needs the long rest he is anxious for is true enough, if half that is said of his physical condition is true, but his public confession that he expects the opportunity to take that rest to come soon, and that he anticipates leisure to return to his favorite studies, is none the less significant. It could not have been a pleasant confession to make, for it admits falling and expected the opportunity to take that rest to come soon, and that he anticipates leisure to return to his favorite studies, is none the less significant. It could not have been a pleasant confession to make, for it admits falling and expected the opportunity to take that rest to come soon, and that he anticipates leisure to return to his favorite studies, is none the less significant.

THE PASSING OF DR. HAY.

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JINGLING BIRTH.

Detroit Free Press. He comes in from the sprinkled street, And carries a bundle of things. A stack of most right up his back— He rides upon the wheel.

Detroit Free Press. "The man is lost who hesitates," Are words we often utter— But how about the man who waits Because he has to stutter?

New York Recorder. On rats and mice and mainly rice John Chapman is fed. How nice if he could only see The value of the gold in his eye! For in that hour the price of flour Would soar toward the sky, And with a wheel a lot of tin To buy a rat and pie.

Chicago Post. She wheeled and wheeled all day before She gave herself in marriage. And after that she wheeled still more, But 'twas a baby carriage.

Kansas City Journal. "Oh, where can rest be found?" A weary soul inquires. "That's easy," cries a store-keeper. "That doesn't advertise."

LAWYERS OF THE FUTURE.

Chicago Post. The time is coming very soon when all affairs will be settled by the law. From matters of importance to the little We'll have our lawyers on a plan without a flaw. And 'twas thought and action is provided for by law.

By law we do our working and by law we have to shove. The law will have its living, and will follow to the grave. The matter of the barbers must have been a trouble, but now that it is settled why the question is: What next?

It looks as if in time to come by law we'll name the book; And if we want to read a bit the law will be our guide. We'll have our lawyers on, too, by law we'll have our guide.

By law we do our talking, as will, too, the person preach; We'll bar all forms of learning, then, but by law we'll do our teaching. By law we'll do our courting and by law we'll have our love and even die.

The law will lay down rules for us for every thing we do; We'll have to see a lawyer if we want to sing. And if we want to make a thought must make us pause— The trouble is at present that we have too many laws.

SPECIAL FEATURES.

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