

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

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Table with 3 columns: Name, Amount, Total. Lists names and their respective contributions to the Bee.

Two more republican senators will be admitted to the senate this week. And there are more in prospect and on the way.

St. Louis will this year have the privilege of entertaining three national conventions, two of them at the same time.

And now it is the bar iron manufacturers who are combining to put the price of their product up, and they insist that not even iron bars shall prevent them from carrying out their program.

The latest divine healer, who claims the succession to Schlatter, neither wears a beard nor rides a donkey. Without these necessary properties to the business it is feared his efforts must fail to strike the popular chord.

A few more "amateur" bicyclists have suddenly discovered that they are full-fledged professionals under the accepted classification. It takes an expert nowadays to distinguish between the amateur and the professional bicyclist.

If the Venezuelan boundary commission does not find occasion to make a trip at least to Europe, the reputation of its members for knowing a good thing when they see it and making the best of it will suffer sadly in the mind of the general public.

They are going to dedicate the new battleship Kentucky with Bourbon beer instead of with champagne. If the new war vessel does not prove to be stancher and stronger than the ordinary battle ship, dedication services might as well hereafter be discontinued.

Queer, isn't it, that ex-Warden Beemer couldn't find any way of getting rid of the last \$15.71 of his \$2,000 draft on the state treasury except to turn it back as an unexpended balance. The operation of refunding this surplus must have been undertaken only as a painful last resort.

General Alger has had himself toasted as a presidential possibility at a Detroit banquet, just to let the people know that they can still have him whenever they want him as their chief executive. General Alger is apparently as willing as ever to have his barrel tapped.

They are talking extra session in Iowa before the present legislative session is really half begun. By the time the legislature is ready to adjourn the chances are that the people will be so tired of it that they will have forgotten all about the proposed extra session.

It will be noted that ex-Warden Beemer insists on submitting his expense account to the state board as a report of "the lessee of convict labor." Inasmuch as the supreme court has declared that there was no state's prison contract, this little fiction might as well have been discarded.

An officer of the regular army has volunteered the opinion that in case of war between the United States and Great Britain, Chicago would be one of the first points the enemy would attempt to capture. Now listen to the Chicago people change their cries for war to demands for peace.

It was not a sense of poverty-stricken pride that prevented the Turkish sultan from giving his consent to the distribution of American relief contributions among the distressed Armenians. Had the aid been consigned to good and true Mohammedans it is doubtful whether any objections would have been raised.

Several interior towns are bidding for the location of beet sugar factories. The farmers of Nebraska have become thoroughly convinced that sugar beets are the most profitable crop they can cultivate and it is conceded that a greater acreage than ever will be planted to beets this year. How about Douglas county?

The Monroe family must have spread all over the United States, if the number of people who are giving birth to doctrines by that name is any criterion. It is strange, moreover, that the Monroe doctrine as enunciated by one infallible authority in one state in the union would not recognize the Monroe doctrine as formulated by another infallible authority in the same or some other state.

ABOLISH THE CAMP.

Nearly thirty-one years have elapsed since the close of the great conflict between the north and south, and nearly thirty-five years since the first shot was fired upon Sumter. Every man who enlisted for the defense of the union who is still alive is commencing to turn gray if his hair has not for years been white. The merest boy who responded to his country's first call to arms has passed his 50th year, and even the youngest who enlisted in the closing campaign is fast approaching the half-century mark.

Notwithstanding the changes that have been wrought in its membership the Grand Army of the Republic organization has maintained unchanged the original program for its annual reunions, local, state and national. The camp is the distinctive feature of these reunions. For three days or a week or a fortnight the old scenes are re-enacted within a tented city and the hardships of military service vividly recalled by revells, parades, guard duty, sham battles and taps. The original idea of a camp reunion was doubtless to make these gatherings more characteristic of war time memories and to re-establish, if only for a few days, the old spirit of military democracy that prevailed among the ranks during the war period.

From every point of view the conclusion is now forced upon every rational man that the time has arrived to abolish the camp as the center of the Grand Army of the Republic reunion. Retain as they may be to admit the fact, the veterans of the war are no longer physically able to bear the burden of camp life even for a short while. The now grizzled soldier who takes an outing once a year to meet with his old associates and talk over war times is entitled to better accommodations than life in a tent can offer. It is unreasonable to detail him to guard duty and positively cruel to call upon him to hobble along in a parade that is painful to the spectators and exhausting to the participants. If the veterans of the war have deserved anything of the new generation it is the right to enjoy themselves at their remaining reunions amid the comforts and conveniences of civilized life. They cannot have these if they establish a camp in a stubble field on the outskirts of a small town. Accessible assembly halls, warm beds and good shelter for all who may come, well cooked food in plenty, are provided best in the larger cities.

The Grand Army of the Republic reunions of the future should be held in the cities and the barbarities of camp life forthwith abolished.

A POSTAL DEPOSIT SYSTEM.

The Philadelphia Times is an advocate of a postal deposit system. That able paper says that congress failed to perform a most important duty, not only to the government, but to the people as well, when it failed to accept the proposition of Postmaster General Wanamaker for the adoption of a postal deposit system by which the people in every section of the country could deposit their savings, large or small, with the Postal department of the government and receive interest on the same at a low rate. The Times says that when the proposition of Mr. Wanamaker was submitted the government was not in special need of such a loan, but the conditions have changed. "The government is likely to need the money that the people would deposit and there is no source from which so large an amount could be obtained at so low a rate of interest. Such deposits would not be subject to the fluctuations of deposits in ordinary banking institutions, as no contingency could arise to create doubt in the minds of the people as to the safety of the government. There is little doubt that not less than \$300,000,000 would thus be deposited in the small savings of the people and the government could with entire confidence rely upon the amount of the deposits without material variation." This is an extremely moderate estimate, it being most probable that within a year after the system was established double the amount stated by the Times would be on deposit with the government, giving it command of a fund far more likely to grow than to decrease. There is every reason to believe that under such a system there would be one of the most gratifying manifestations of popular faith in the government ever witnessed.

The Times says it regards a postal deposit system as of vital importance to both the government and the people, especially so in the present financial distrust among the holders of small amounts of money. So it must be regarded by every man who will give the matter intelligent and unprejudiced consideration. From whatever point of view it is studied a postal deposit system commends itself as wise and sound, possessing advantages for both the government and the people, and there are no serious difficulties in the way of establishing it. This is a very practical matter for the discussion of which the present time is peculiarly auspicious.

SUGAR DUTY AMENDMENT.

The delay in reporting the house revenue bill to the senate is due to the insistence of Senator Jones of Nevada, who is a member of the senate finance committee, that the 15 per cent increase of duties which applies to all schedules except that of sugar shall also be extended to that schedule. He believes that the sugar-producing interest of the country is as well entitled to this additional protection as any other interest and that the effect of increasing the sugar duties 15 per cent would be to somewhat stimulate the industry, without making any appreciable difference in the cost to the consumer. In this Senator Jones undoubtedly represents the sentiment of the sugar growers of the country and at the same time takes a consistent position, but may there be another plan which would operate equally well for the producers of sugar and be less profitable to the refining monopoly?

Of course the protection secured to the trust by the present tariff would be increased with the increase of the duties

and there is every reason to believe that under the ad valorem system the treasury would not get the expected benefit, but that the result would be chiefly to the advantage of the monopoly. There is no doubt of the desirability of fostering and encouraging the sugar industry. With a reasonable degree of protection this country can produce in the course of perhaps a dozen years all the sugar required for its consumption. It would become in time almost if not quite as valuable a product as wheat or corn, giving employment to a vast amount of capital and labor and enabling us to keep at home the large sum annually sent abroad to pay for sugar. But there is a very general feeling that no further advantage should be given to the trust. That monopoly is doing too well under the present tariff. It recently paid 7 per cent on the preferred and 12 per cent on the common stock and it is estimated, upon the assumption that the cost of refining was one-half of a cent a pound, that the trust's profits last year were over \$11,000,000, or more than \$4,000,000 in excess of the sum required for the dividends. It is not to be doubted that the monopoly made heavily from undervaluation, thus defrauding the treasury.

It would seem to be entirely practicable to substitute a specific for an ad valorem duty, making the former equivalent to the present duty with the proposed increase, and if this were done the treasury would be a large gainer, the sugar producers would be benefited and the trust would be deprived of its opportunity to cheat the government. Whether or not there is an increase in the duty on raw sugars it should be made specific.

AN INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION.

A bill has been introduced in congress for the appointment of a non-partisan commission to collate information and to consider and recommend legislation relating to the problems presented by labor, agriculture and capital. It provides that the commission, to be appointed by the president, shall consist of five men representative of labor, five representative of agriculture and five representative of business, but a majority of the commission shall not belong to any one of the political parties which took part in the last presidential election. Each division of five is authorized to appoint two additional commissioners, making the whole number twenty-one, these appointments to be made with reference to maintaining the non-partisan character of the body. The term of the commission is to be for two years.

Among the duties prescribed for the commission is that of furnishing such information and suggesting such laws as may be made a basis for uniform legislation by the various states of the union in order to harmonize conflicting interests and to be equitable to the laborer, the employer, the producer and the consumer. In thirty-two states there are statutes directly affecting labor and in all of the states there are laws affecting agriculture and business, but no two sets of these laws agree. It is urged that a commission appointed for the purpose and with the scope proposed would bring together more information for the future unification of all laws on these subjects than any voluntary convention possibly could. This is doubtless true, but it is questionable whether the practical results would be as valuable as the advocates of the measure profess to believe. All the really important information which it would be the duty of the proposed commission to obtain ought to be obtainable through the departments and bureaus of the government without any great additional expenditure and with quite as much accuracy and thoroughness as through a commission, at an annual expenditure of \$50,000. As to the recommendations of such a commission, experience teaches that they would not be likely to have much influence upon legislation.

The proposed measure received the approval of the house committee on labor in the last congress and will probably be approved by the committee in the present congress, but its enactment into law is hardly probable, in view of the many other and far more urgent demands for the expenditure of the public money. It is a matter that can wait without harm to any interest.

A UNIFORM BANKRUPTCY LAW.

The national convention of manufacturers adopted unanimously a resolution favoring the enactment by congress at an early day of a national bankruptcy law that will deal equitably with both creditor and debtor. It was set forth in the preamble to this resolution that the present laws of bankruptcy in many of the states are not uniform in their application and discriminate against the rights of the creditor class to such an extent that the preference creditor may, and frequently does, absorb the entire remaining assets of the bankrupt and thus prevent the administration of that strict justice which underlies and is the basis of all healthy commercial activity. The National Board of Trade, which will hold its annual meeting in Washington city this week, will undoubtedly renew its recommendation in favor of a uniform bankruptcy law.

Such expressions from the representative business men of the country ought to have some weight with congress. It is a well attested fact that the various and contradictory state bankruptcy laws are most unsatisfactory in their operation, both as to creditors and debtors. They generally fail to preserve the equities between different creditors, while they do not secure to the debtor such exemptions after the assignment of his property to his creditors and such command of his future earnings, free from the attachments of his creditors, as will enable him to accumulate from his earnings such working capital as will permit him to make the most of his earning capacity. The present machinery of the law for the collection of debts is so cumbersome, costly, uncertain and wasteful that its use is abhorrent to all business men of enlightenment and with a sense of honesty and justice, the results being

disastrous to the debtor and unsatisfactory to the creditor. Such being the necessary condition from having a uniform state bankruptcy law, it is plainly the duty of congress to give the country a uniform system that will secure the property of debtors from ruthless sacrifice, preserve the equities between different creditors and secure to both creditor and debtor fair and just treatment, with such exemptions to the latter as will enable him to utilize to the best advantage his earning capacity. A judicious and properly adjusted bankruptcy system, it should be understood, is quite as important to debtors as to creditors, and undoubtedly the former quite generally as strongly desire such a system as the latter.

The bill introduced in the last congress by Senator George, as a substitute for the Batley bill that passed the house, is now in the hands of a senate committee and may be reported during the session. Its cardinal feature is that it provides for voluntary bankruptcy, whereas the Torrey bill provided for involuntary bankruptcy. It is to be presumed that a measure will be introduced in the house, perhaps on the lines of the Torrey bill. There appears to be an urgent demand from the business interests of the country for a uniform bankruptcy law, and congress should give heed to it.

THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE.

The proposition that the United States government should abolish the regular diplomatic service has had some prominent advocates who urged their view partly on the score of economy and partly on the ground that the service is of no great value to the country, in fact, is rather more ornamental than useful. But recent events must have convinced even these people that a nation like the United States, with its great and steadily growing international interests, cannot afford to be unrepresented in any of the principal countries of the world, and that instead of doing away with a regular diplomatic service the demand is rather for its development. There is no European country in which it is not expedient or necessary at this time for the United States to have a diplomatic representative, and the same is true of China, Japan, and the countries of South America, and this will not be less so in the future.

In a recent address Mr. Andrew D. White, ex-minister to Russia, spoke of the duties and needs of the diplomatic service and pointed out very clearly its importance and value to the national welfare. He showed how great a service a minister could render in promoting the commerce of the country and how much he might do in averting serious political complications. A striking example of this occurred during the civil war, when the firm action of the American minister to England stopped the sending out from British ports of cruisers to prey upon our commerce. Our guiding idea in any reform of the diplomatic service, said Mr. White, should be not revolution, but evolution. What is good in the existing system should be recognized and something yet better developed out of it. So far as the leading places are concerned he would have our present system retained, choosing from our public men those accustomed to important public business and to large affairs. The subordinate positions should be filled with carefully trained men—men trained especially in international law, in modern languages, in history, particularly the history of treaties and the like, and there should be promotion by merit.

Mr. White believes that our representatives abroad should be liberally paid, so that they will not have to pay a large part of their expenses out of their own pockets or else live in a style detrimental both to their influence and to the dignity of the nation. He endorses the recommendation in the annual message of President Cleveland, that every leading embassy or legation of the United States should have a good and sufficient house or apartment, suitably furnished, either owned by the United States or leased for a term of years, as is done by other leading powers. The United States expended last year for the diplomatic service a trifle over \$500,000, which is certainly not an extravagant sum for this great and wealthy nation, and if the character and influence of that service can be improved by a moderate increase of this expenditure there ought to be no objection to increasing it. It is not necessary that we shall enter upon any rivalry with other leading nations in this respect, but it is to be considered that if we do not suitably honor our representatives abroad the countries to which they are accredited can hardly be expected to do so. The present is not an auspicious time to advocate increasing the salaries of our diplomatic representatives, but neither is it a time to consider any proposition the effect of which would be to diminish the usefulness and efficiency of the service.

A Chicago paper suggests that the way to relieve the government of the heavy charges entailed on it by the colossal expenses of the federal courts is to tax up the whole costs upon the litigants and to compel them to pay the piper. "He who is litigious," it says, "ought to pay the entire cost of maintaining the court in which he is to dispute himself." This complaint, however, is not altogether well grounded. The trouble is not so much that litigation is made costly enough to the litigants, but that the courts are extravagantly conducted. If the court officers were placed on reasonable salaries, and the court procedure simplified, the total expenses could be met from what is taxed up against litigants in the form of costs and the costs be lessened at the same time. The demand is for more inexpensive justice, not to make justice so expensive that only the rich can afford to stand up and insist on their rights before a judicial tribunal.

Another Sunday anti-shaving law has been killed by the supreme court of Missouri and the barbers of that state can now keep their patrons in agony seven days a week. We presume, however, that demagogical legislators will continue to enact Sunday anti-shaving laws, if only to busy the supreme courts with the work of declaring them unconstitutional and of no force.

A VANISHING BREAK.

This war talk has done good. It has suppressed and intimidated the dudes. It is a fact that fewer young men are walking in our streets today with elbows held out, as if they had bolts in their armpits, than one used to see a month ago; fewer young men with half a pair of eyeglasses in one eye; fewer young men with affectively checked clothing; fewer young men with sparty shirts; fewer young men who draw and say "denkerchew"; fewer young men who try to shake hands with their own hands under their chins; in brief, fewer self-advised fools. No one blames an Englishman for drawing and wearing loud, thick, graceless clothes, because he inherits a tendency to that sort of thing along with his opinions and his complexion. No one blames an American for being like him if the American goes to live in England, for if one decides to become a Englishman it is better to be one all over than a half-breed and a rebelious one. But one does blame the American who lives in America yet acts as if he were ashamed of the fact and tries to pass for a Briton.

He is a compound of weakness and arrogance. He is ashamed of the land that he gets his living from; ashamed by inference of the parents who bore him; ashamed of the ancestors who fought to throw off the yoke of a tyrant and establish the first and greatest of republics for the most important citizens of our people. So we urge the dude not to turn his trousers up when it rains in London and to take his speech out of his throat and put it in his mouth, to get his clothes made to fit him and break that ridiculous piece of glass that he holds in one eye. In short, he has played the clown long enough.

Franks of Photography.

Though a man can not take off his flesh and sit in his bones on a hot day, he may have his skeleton photographed by the latest invention in electric camera, which renders the flesh invisible, and will make a picture of the bones of a man, in science, and it is a curious development in science, and may result in a series of unexpected discoveries.

Vanderbilt's Claim for Relief.

W. K. Vanderbilt's divorce from his wife was accompanied by the condition that he should pay her \$200,000 a year, of which \$50,000 was for the support of their daughter, the countess of Marlborough. On her marriage the sum for her use was deducted from the amount of her mother's dower. And now comes Mr. Vanderbilt into court and alleges that as his ex-wife has married Belmont, a millionaire like himself, he should be discharged from her in the annual payments awarded to her in the divorce. There is a great deal of justice and common sense at the bottom of this claim for relief.

In the Interest of Decency.

The women of the land will rise up and call blessed the members of the New York Board of Health who have set out to banish the evil of expectoration in public places. It is recommended that warnings against this practice shall be posted at the stations and on the platforms of elevated railways, in public halls, federal buildings, etc. This is a good idea, and it is to be hoped that the members of the board will see to it that the warnings are posted in every city in the union.

A Job at the Legal Profession.

A federal judge in New York, after having listened to a bevy of lawyers argue a case for three days, remarked with a great sigh of joy: "I have a faint idea of the controversy now." To the layman who is unfamiliar with the workings of our engines of justice and has never studied the habits and customs of great lawyers it may seem wonderful that learned attorneys should have to talk for three days before they can make it plain to a judge just what they are driving at. To a person, however, who has had occasion to follow court proceedings and become familiar with the court room tactics of erudite attorneys the only wonder is that after listening to lawyers for three days in succession the honorable court had even a faint idea left.

Growing Divorce Evil.

Judge Beckman of the supreme court of New York thinks that the evil of collusive applications for divorce has grown so great in his state as to demand a radical remedy. That remedy he would find in a refusal to grant an uncontested divorce until the evildoer on which the application has been made shall have been gone over and reported on by an officer of the court whose function shall be analogous to those of the queen's proctor in the British divorce courts. In England the evidence in all divorce cases is submitted to the proctor, who may, if he thinks it necessary, intervene and assume the conduct of the case to the extent of attempting to bring out all the facts, and prove or disprove collusion. Judge Beckman describes "who have no regard for the marriage relation, and who look upon it as something temporary to be set aside when they are made harder for such as these their number would be diminished.

Decline of the Anglo-American Complexion Down East.

This war talk has done good. It has suppressed and intimidated the dudes. It is a fact that fewer young men are walking in our streets today with elbows held out, as if they had bolts in their armpits, than one used to see a month ago; fewer young men with half a pair of eyeglasses in one eye; fewer young men with affectively checked clothing; fewer young men with sparty shirts; fewer young men who draw and say "denkerchew"; fewer young men who try to shake hands with their own hands under their chins; in brief, fewer self-advised fools. No one blames an Englishman for drawing and wearing loud, thick, graceless clothes, because he inherits a tendency to that sort of thing along with his opinions and his complexion. No one blames an American for being like him if the American goes to live in England, for if one decides to become a Englishman it is better to be one all over than a half-breed and a rebelious one. But one does blame the American who lives in America yet acts as if he were ashamed of the fact and tries to pass for a Briton.

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PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

In Africa, as elsewhere, Great Britain shows unbounded faith in the gold cure. Knock down a hyppocrite, and you will upset a bigger one who is hiding behind him. Make a man laugh, and he will be your friend. Make him weep, and he will be your brother. Give some men a drum, and they won't strike a lick unless they can use it to lead the band. It is the man who is least willing to practice, who finds the most fault with the preacher. Many a man who goes to church with a long face, sells goods with a measure that is too short.

DOMESTIC IDYLS.

Cincinnati Enquirer: "That new baby of Youngfather's is a remarkably wide-awake child. I've heard. We live next door to it." Chicago Tribune: "Did you marry me for love?" "What makes you doubt it?" "What makes you doubt it?" "I never married you because you needed protection from other women." Detroit Free Press: Hubby—When I first got married I determined to have no large items of expense in housekeeping; but I find after all that it is the little things that count. Hatch—How many have you? Hubby—I have four. Philadelphia Record: Mrs. Newwife—Yes, indeed, my husband does love me. He does not love me wildly. Conige—Oh, then, after all, he hasn't outshined his wild doves. Life: She—Yes, they are engaged. I know she refused him twice, but the third time she proposed she accepted him. Her husband—Serve him right.

Indianapolis Journal: "It was a great descent I made when I married you." "Um—yes. Everybody said I took you down from the top shelf."

Philadelphia American: "My dear," he said to his lady love, "I've been busy all day—not making love, you know, but brain work, which is the hardest kind." "Yes, indeed; I know it must be for you," and there was a tender look of sympathy in her eyes which aroused him.

Boston Transcript: "What is the trouble between Axel and his wife?" "Only a little family jar. He was saying that he would give anything if he could have a wheel, and she suggested that he might take one of those he had in his hand."

Cincinnati Enquirer: "I never would have proposed," admitted Mr. Seconfield, "had not lost control of myself. And I never regained it," he added, sadly. "She has done the controlling ever since."

Washington Star: "Dear me," said Maude, "there has been a dreadful lot of talk in the municipal articles about a gold ring. What do you suppose they are driving at?" "Oh, I don't know," replied Mammie, in a weary tone. "I guess it's just some more of this silly joking about engagements."

Evened Up. Yonkers Statesman. I stole down by the brooklet side; I stole a dozen kisses there; That blissful night, I stole her heart from her; I stole her part, I was so good at stealing that I stole her heart. Now we are happy man and wife, How seems it strange if I never regained it? If when I'm fast asleep in bed, She steals my change?

Frank Putnam in Chicago Times-Herald. I like the solemn pomp and show of wealth in some cathedrals on a Sabbath morn; The well-groomed men—I like a well-groomed man; The lovely ladies in their charming suits; The music—nothing finer can be heard; The glorious windows, whence dart daring doves; In great green or red or yellow light; To kiss the beautiful cheeks of dainty dames; The suave and graceful sermons that they have— And grateful, too, for I have never heard That they blame God for any act of His. And they are cordial, too, in their own way; Not in the rash, impetuous mountain style—The vertices must be preserved; but, still, If you can get as good a rate with Dun's As any righteous man should have with God. They drop all pride of their own azure birth And slip you off a tall and well-bred bow. They are the best, the highest, art can make; To see them is a privilege to prize. Thus, when I go back 'midst my threadbare friends, I count the Sabbath morn to be well spent; The world has naught wherefor to make amends; With pipe and book and couch I rest content.

Advertisement for Raymond's Art Jewelers. The demand for Solid Silverware in cases suitable for wedding presents has been so great at 2 p. m. and 7:30 p. m. daily that we have decided to devote one hour of each day to the selling of this class of goods. From this time on we will pay more attention to the sale of fine jewelry of all kinds. A new line of silver novelties will be offered at each sale. The Patek Phillippe watch, price \$800, will be sold Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock. C. S. Raymond.