

## THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

H. ROSEWATER, Editor.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:

Daily Bee (without Sunday), One Year.....	\$3.95
Two Months.....	5.95
Three Months.....	8.95
Six Months.....	12.95
One Year.....	15.95
Weekly Bee, One Year.....	6.50

OFFICES:

Omaha, The Bee Building,  
Second Floor, corner N and 24th Sts.  
Cincinnati, 12 Pearl Street.  
Chicago Office, 312 Chamber of Commerce,  
Young Ave., 10th and 11th Streets, Building  
Washington, 1407 F street, N.W.

CORRESPONDENCE:

All communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed to the Editor.

BUSINESS LETTERS:

All business letters and remittances should be addressed to The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha. Drafts, checks and postales orders to be made payable to The Bee Publishing Company.

THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

George B. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, states that the average number of full and complete copies of the Daily Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of January, 1896, was as follows:

1.....	17,248	15.....	18,410
2.....	28,488	16.....	19,690
3.....	28,328	17.....	19,690
4.....	18,225	18.....	18,728
5.....	19,425	19.....	18,201
6.....	18,296	20.....	18,201
7.....	18,567	21.....	18,182
8.....	18,569	22.....	18,201
9.....	18,569	23.....	18,201
10.....	18,203	24.....	18,182
11.....	18,184	25.....	18,182
12.....	18,184	26.....	18,182
13.....	18,203	27.....	18,182
14.....	18,184	28.....	18,182
15.....	18,184	29.....	18,182
16.....	18,203	30.....	18,182
Total.....	55,845	31.....	18,182
Less sales.....	55,845	32.....	18,182
Net sales.....	0	33.....	18,182
Daily average.....	18,182		

GEORGE B. TSCHUCK, in my presence this day of February, 1896,  
(Seal) N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

The crime of 1873 seems to have suddenly taken a back seat along with the other inmates of Coln's schools.

The department of parliamentary practice in the Omaha Woman's club uses Reed's Rules as its text. That is another instance of reciprocity.

Now that General Campos is safely housed in Madrid, he is courageously making faces at Uncle Sam and making light of the Cuban rebellion.

A number of bids for the new bond issue had to be thrown out because their makers neglected to sign their names to them. The absent minded man is still abroad in the land.

It will always remain a point for puzzling curiosity how the anti-prize fighting bill ever got through the upper house of congress without having a free silver coinage amendment tacked on it.

The endless chain will be in full operation again within a few days. We shall soon see the gold being pumped into the treasury vaults at Washington and dipped out of the subtreasury in New York.

A few more national military parks established by act of congress on the sites of famous battles and half the world will be lamenting that it is not plastered thick with such profitable battlefields.

## GERMANY AND SILVER.

There will be no surprise at the statement made by the German chancellor in the Reichstag that the government deems it undesirable to take the lead in calling an international monetary conference to consider the silver problem. It has been all along apparent that the German government had no intention of inviting a conference of the nations on this subject, notwithstanding the fact that all the federal governments of the Empire had requested that this be done, and the Reichstag had voted in favor of it. Whether it would have taken the initiative in this matter if the present British ministry, as was hoped would be the case, had shown more favorable consideration to international bimetallism is questionable, but as soon as it was found that no encouragement from this source would be given the bimetallic movement its abandonment by the German government became assured.

The German chancellor admits that the fall in the price of silver has been damaging to German silver mining, and to the export trade to silver countries and he says that a rise in the price is desirable from economic and mint standpoints, but he can see no present prospect of an understanding with the countries interested in international commerce. He points out that a condition precedent to the unlimited free coinage of silver is the opening of the mints of India, and this is not expected within measurable time. In the event of another state making definite and acceptable proposals promising success the German government would consider the question of representation at a conference, but the chancellor doubtless fully understands that there is hardly a possibility of such proposals being made by another state. It is not to be expected from France, for although the sentiment in that country is not unfavorable to a conference, there has been shown no very strong desire that one shall be called, the existing conditions being, it seems, quite satisfactory. In short, no European state appears to want a change so much as to induce it to urge a conference or to take the lead in calling one. The United States will not at this time invite a conference, because President Cleveland has as little faith in any practical results from it as Prince Hohenlohe has.

It may be regarded as certain, therefore, that the decision of the German government not to call an international monetary conference disposes of the matter indefinitely. What effect this will have upon the cause of bimetallism remains to be seen, but it would seem that its tendency must be to check agitation of that policy, at least, in Europe. American free silver advocates may find in it an incentive to more strongly urge their policy of having the United States open its mints to the free and unlimited coinage of silver regardless of the action of other nations, but they are not likely to win any new converts to this view, and the popular sentiment at present is overwhelmingly against it.

## AMERICANS IN CUBA.

The report to the effect that Americans resident in Havana are apprehended down to a contest between the evasive shrewdness of the pugilists and the vicious watchfulness of the federal authorities. And bets on the outcome would not be safe for either side.

If Congressman Hall of Missouri has been won over to the cause of sound currency and away from the free silver idols there may be hope yet that Congressman Bland may be shown the error of his ways and led back to the path of rectitude.

The school board continues to trifle with the people. It comes with poor grace from a body that refuses to take the first step toward retrenchment to threaten to invoke the power of the courts to compel the council to increase the tax levy for school purposes.

It looks as if all the railroads through their representatives in the senate were going to put their ears into the Pacific railroad debt settlement controversy. The problem will soon resolve itself into the question, which of the railroad syndicates has the most senators?

Major Moses P. Handy becomes vociferous over his alleged discovery that for the first time in years Indiana is to go into a republican convention without a favorite son. But the major may be a trifle premature with his applause. It is yet four months till the time for the assembling of the convention and the birth of a favorite son does not require any such period of time.

According to Congressman Hall of Missouri, cowardice is the greatest sin of American statesmen. Yet American statesmen are constantly parading their patriotism and love of country and proclaiming their willingness to uphold the honor of their country whenever it is called upon to protect itself against foreign foes. Apparently, Mr. Hall makes a distinction between patriotism and spread eagleism.

## AN INVITATION TO FRAUD.

If the present congress does not do something to better protect the treasury against undervaluation frauds perpetrated by dishonest importers its failure will be inexorable. It is stated that the federal courts are crowded with cases in which frauds by undervaluation are charged and the number of such cases steadily grows. How much the treasury has lost by these frauds it is impossible to say, but the amount is very large, and while some of it may be recovered the immediate effect is to embarrass the treasury, besides putting the government to a heavy cost. It is estimated that the loss through undervaluations equals 10 per cent of the entire revenue from customs, but in some lines the loss is greater than this, for example, in the woolens schedule.

The Philadelphia North American urges that honorable importers owe it to themselves and to the public to press upon congress the necessity of legislation to put an end to such practices. Of course, it is not easy, says that paper, to defend against the dishonesty of persons who have no stake in anything but trade, and who, while enjoying our hospitality, think it no shame to be in collusion with agents in for-

ign countries for purposes of robbery, and it suggests that a good step in advance would be to substitute specific for ad valorem duties where that is feasible, and then increase the penalty for violations of the law. Fines and forfeitures are necessary, but something more than loss of money seems to be necessary to deter dishonest men from the commission of such frauds.

This state of things supplies a most conclusive argument against the system of ad valorem duties, though it was not needed to demonstrate the faultiness of that system, but undoubtedly if the democratic party were given another opportunity at tariff revision it would adhere to the system. The experience of European countries, if not of our own, should have been sufficient to establish the fact that the true policy is to make duties specific. It is probably not feasible for the present congress to make a general change, but a return to specific duties should be effected as soon as it can be done.

## A CAUSELESS COMPLAINT.

The absence of the editors of the Omaha dailies from the recent meeting of the Nebraska State Editorial association is ascribed by a Lincoln paper to an arrogant sense of superiority and a lack of sympathy with the objects and aims of the organization. In that respect a contrast is sought to be drawn between the press of Omaha and Lincoln. As a matter of fact the Omaha dailies were capably represented by their staff correspondents at the state capital and gave wide publicity to the proceedings of the association in full and accurate reports. It was not egotism that caused the absence of the editors of Omaha dailies, but the eternal grind that keeps them at the daily mill.

Incidentally it must be admitted that the principal dailies of the country can not, in the nature of things, have the same interest in state and district editorial associations that the county papers have, which almost exclusively make up the rank and file of their memberships. As a matter of necessity, the standard dailies are compelled to join with other leading dailies in associations for the collection of telegraphic news and for the protection and promotion of business interests which they have in common, but with which the weeklies and smaller dailies have little or no concern. On this score the relations of the Omaha dailies to the Nebraska State Editorial association differ in no way from the relations of the Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Milwaukee or San Francisco dailies to the associations of their respective states.

## A COMMENDABLE SELECTION.

The selection of Hon. James Whitehead by the State Board of Public Lands and Buildings to act as penitentiary supply agent for the board is an agreeable surprise to republicans who have not been favorably impressed with the course pursued by the board in connection with the penitentiary management. Mr. Whitehead enjoys a reputation for integrity and straightforward dealing that commands him to public confidence. Should he accept the position to which he has been appointed he will no doubt devote his best energies to the task and keep clear of all entanglements that have heretofore scandalized the management of the state's prison and bred discord and contention in the board.

## PUTTING ON THE BRAKES.

The State Board of Agriculture and patrons of the state fair in general will doubtless applaud the effort being made to pave roadway from the city to the state fair grounds. Exhibitors and booth holders will be particularly benefited, to say nothing of property owners along West Leavenworth street, which it is proposed to pave. This improvement is one of the essential things to the highest degree of success of this year's state fair.

There are, of course, the very best of reasons why dealers should be required to secure licenses or permits to carry on their business in the city, but in times like these there are men who cannot raise the license fee, and must engage in the traffic or starve.

The policy of the city should be to deal leniently with this class during the winter months.

The Nebraska traveling men are on the right track. Their efforts to get the Omaha jobbers and Nebraska retailers together with a view to mutual co-operation that will insure fair rates and do away with discrimination in favor of Kansas and Missouri distributing points are timely and commendable.

In these days it is very important for the average American to keep up with his geography. One day the country is convulsed about Venezuela, the next day the press is all torn up over South Africa, and the day following we are discussing the condition of mis-

fortune of the state hospitals for the insane have sole supervision of their respective institutions. The powers and duties of the newly created agent must be clearly defined to the satisfaction of all entanglements that have heretofore scandalized the management of the state's prison and bred discord and contention in the board.

The creation of the position of supply agent for the penitentiary implies the power to extend the jurisdiction of the agent to other state institutions that are under the control of the Board of Public Lands and Buildings. In prescribing the duties and defining the authority of the agent, the board should endeavor to avoid complications that are liable to follow an attempt on his part to exercise functions delegated by law to other officers. The warden of the penitentiary has sole supervision of the prison and convicts, just as the superintendent of the state hospitals for the insane have sole supervision of their respective institutions. The powers and duties of the newly created agent must therefore be circumscribed. There is, however, a great deal of work that such an agent can perform without clashing with any other officer. Experience has shown that in the management of state institutions systematic inspections and safety checks upon the purchase and delivery of supplies are very desirable as preventives of imposition and fraud.

THE MARKET HOUSE QUESTION.

One of the subjects that has been brought before the Omaha Retailers' association is the proposed erection of one or more market houses. A market where consumers and producers are brought together has been a long felt want. At present the marketing of vegetables, fruit and country produce is carried on in an open street and the sales are practically confined to hucksters, commission men and retail dealers. What is needed is a market house centrally located and commodious enough to facilitate direct trade between the masses and the producers.

It is said that the Spanish government has given assurance to our government that the campaign in Cuba is to be continued without undue rigor. The rights of American citizens in Cuba are secured by treaty, but it is urged that our government might at this juncture very properly adopt measures which will insure Spanish respect for treaty obligations. Not only would it be well to formally notify the Spanish government that the security of American citizens in Cuba must be maintained, but as a precautionary measure it would not be amiss to station a war vessel where it would be available in an emergency to protect American citizens. It is not desirable that our government do anything not strictly in conformity with its international duty and obligations. This country should take no advantage of Spain's desperate situation. But it should do whatever is necessary to the full protection of its citizens in Cuba.

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If the present congress does not do something to better protect the treasury against undervaluation frauds perpetrated by dishonest importers its failure will be inexorable. It is stated that the federal courts are crowded with cases in which frauds by undervaluation are charged and the number of such cases steadily grows. How much the treasury has lost by these frauds it is impossible to say, but the amount is very large, and while some of it may be recovered the immediate effect is to embarrass the treasury, besides putting the government to a heavy cost.

The last proposition, which called for the erection of a \$200,000 market house and auditorium, carried, but its location on Jefferson square met with opposition from the park commission, and to this day it is hung up in the supreme court. While we have never doubted the right of the city to use Jefferson square for a market house site, and still believe that the court of last resort will so decide, changed conditions will necessarily prevent the execution of this plan. The bonds voted in 1893 cannot be issued because they would exceed the limit of bonded debt fixed by the charter.

The market house question, therefore,

## IN THE GUBERNATORIAL FIELD.

O'Neill Frontier: If Jack McColl is in the field for governor the other candidates will all know that have to go to a convention.

Papillion Times: The best argument in favor of Eugene Moore's candidacy for governor is the fact that he is opposed by that oily rascal, Frank Hilton.

Auburn Herald: The Majors gubernatorial boom is being severely punctured by the republican press, many of which declare they have had all of Majors they desire, and want a new deal this year.

Schuyler Herald: If the republicans of Nebraska insist on trying to elect a governor at the same time honor deserving citizen will nominate A. E. Cady for governor.

McKinley supporters in Illinois are organizing to elect a vice presidential candidate with Senator Cullom, whose boom was launched at Springfield a few days ago.

Savannah Chieftain: Hon. Jack McColl of Lexington is doing some tail hustling for the republican gubernatorial nomination. He has a host of friends who are enthusiastically with him. Frank Reed, Frank Northrop, Judge Norris and W. M. Robertson seem to be in the lead for the congressional nomination.

Wayne Herald: Eugene Moore seems to be in the lead for the nomination for governor in these parts, judging from words heard here and there, while Frank M. Northrop, Judge Norris and W. M. Robertson seem to be in the lead for the congressional nomination.

Stanton Pickett: Already a few democratic and popular papers have begun assailing Congressman Meekins for governor, though he was already the republican nominee.

Oakland Republic: A great many papers are losing a good deal of money because they have to pay for the construction of the west wing of the Omaha postoffice building, as originally planned.

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