

## THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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## 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 postoffice orders to be made payable to the order of The Bee Publishing Company.

THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

George B. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the average number of copies of the "Morning and Evening Bee" and "Sunday Bee" printed during the month of January, 1896, was as follows:

17,246	17	18,410
18,488	18	19,432
19,432	19	20,454
19,723	20	19,723
19,425	21	19,304
19,225	22	19,225
18,277	23	18,182
18,399	24	18,293
18,399	25	18,518
18,566	26	18,566
18,566	27	18,566
18,566	28	18,566
18,566	29	18,566
18,566	30	18,566
18,566	31	18,566
Total.....	50	50,846
Less deductions for unsold and returned copies.....		6,204
Net sales.....		56,042
Average.....		18,182

Sworn to before me this 24 day of February, 1896.  
 (Seal) N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

Arizona and New Mexico still have hopes of getting statehood bills passed by this congress. But they have given up all hope of being enabled to have representation in the coming electoral college.

Omaha business men do not seem yet to appreciate the magnitude of the Transmississippi exposition project. The Transmississippi exposition will surpass the state fair as the state fair surpasses a corner Punch and Judy show.

Patronize home industry. By hampering constantly at this hall the Manufacturers and Consumers association has accomplished wonders. The success of this organization is a living example of the benefits of pulling together.

The democracy showed up badly in the vote in the house on silver because the democrats who were successful in the last congressional election came for the most part from free silver districts. The sound money districts preferred to elect republicans and that no chances.

Prof. Moore informs the people of Chicago in his official capacity as chief of the government weather bureau that their black snow is nothing but dirt. Dirt is so common in Chicago that that is the last thing they would dream of if it came down from the heavens instead of up from the streets.

The Omaha jobbers have wisely concluded to go directly to Utah and do a little missionary work on behalf of the proposed Transmississippi exposition, in which the people of Utah take a lively interest. Time was when Omaha jobbers sold more goods in Utah than were sold by jobbers of any other city and it stands to reason the proposed exposition will bring about a closer business relationship between merchants of the two states.

## WHEN RETALIATION IS RIGHT.

In his message to the New York legislature approving the retaliatory insurance law, Governor Morton said that while retaliatory legislation is not usually to be commanded, it should be enacted for purposes of self-defense and the protection of our business interests whenever it appears that any other state or country is unwilling to accord to our citizens reasonable reciprocal privileges within its dominions. Governor Morton in writing this very likely had in mind other circumstances inviting and justifying retaliation besides that of the exclusion of American insurance companies from Prussia. He is aware of the fact that Germany and other countries of Europe have prohibited the importation of American cattle and that the policy of discrimination against American products by certain European countries is a growing one. This spirit of commercial unfriendliness, which was in large part abandoned through the efforts of the last republican administration, has within the last two years been more strongly and more widely manifested than ever before, and the promise is that if nothing be done to check its growth there will in a few years be established such a general system of discrimination in Europe against the products of the United States as will have most damaging results to our commerce.

Governor Morton is right in the opinion that retaliation is justifiable for purposes of self-defense and the protection of our business interests, and the question of resorting to it may command the serious consideration of congress and the country at no very remote time. Referring in his annual message to the course of European governments in regard to our products, Mr. Cleveland said: "If an examination of the situation suggests such measures on our part as would involve restrictions similar to those from which we suffer, the way to such a course is easy. It should, however, by no means be lightly entered upon, since the necessity for the inauguration of such a policy would be regretted by the best sentiment of our people and because it naturally and logically might lead to consequences of the gravest character." There should be an investigation by congress of the regulations by European governments unfavorable to American products and if these are found to be based upon alleged causes that are groundless it will be the duty and the right of our government to adopt a retaliatory policy. It is said that there are imported into the United States annually from European countries a very large amount of merchandise which could properly be excluded on the ground of adulteration and impurity, while a great deal more could be shut out, without disadvantage to the masses of our people, by prohibitive duties. As the president says, the way to a policy of retaliation is easy.

A commercial warfare is to be avoided as long as there is any hope of defending and protecting our business interests without it, but we should not perpetually submit to unjust discrimination until every means of remedying it have been exhausted. There is little reason to doubt that in this matter an aggressive course on the part of the United States would have the desired effect of inducing European governments to abandon, or at any rate greatly modify, the policy which discriminates against American products.

The Transmississippi Exposition association has decided to urge an appropriation of \$250,000 at the hands of congress. In view of the fact that \$200,000 was voted to the Atlanta exposition, the amount asked by the proposed Transmississippi exposition is now too large considering the vast territory embraced in the scheme and the fact that this is the first request the great west has made for congressional aid for an interstate exhibition.

Congressman Strode has introduced a bill providing for another clerk of the district court, who shall reside at Lincoln and keep the books and records of the court there. The practicability of such a law is open to doubt. Suppose South Omaha would ask the legislature to pass a law providing another clerk of the district court who shall reside and keep his records in that city. The lawyers would be required, under such a law, to constantly run hither and thither and apply for search warrants to get at the papers and records in their cases.

## INVESTIGATING BOND SALES.

It is not apparent what good would be accomplished by the proposed investigation of the sales of bonds under the present administration. There is no general belief that the secretary of the treasury has not in all these transactions acted with absolute integrity and according to what he believed to be the best interests of the government. The only excuse there is for an investigation is the impression that the Morgan syndicate was apprised of the bid of a rival syndicate in time to enable it to overbid and thus secure a large block of the bonds, but there is really very little substantial ground for this impression and there are some very good reasons for believing that there is no foundation at all for it, so far as it implies any collusion or favoritism on the part of the treasury officials. It is possible that Morgan may have obtained in New York some idea of what the Stewart syndicate bid would be, but it is not at all probable that he got any information from the treasury. Governor Bradley was elected largely on the silver issue, and should he be further honored it will be because of his outspoken stand on this question.

Governor Bradley of Kentucky defines his attitude toward the silver question in these words: "I am opposed to the free and unlimited coinage of silver, believing it would destroy all national prosperity. The gold dollar is the best dollar, and I am in favor of making every other dollar equivalent to it in value. I am the friend of silver, and believe it can be best protected by holding its issue in such bounds as will insure its parity with gold as a circulating medium." With this as his platform Governor Bradley's friends can come before any convention with assurances that their favorite is out and out for sound currency. Governor Bradley was a such a one as so shrewd a financier as J. P. Morgan would have been expected to make, while that of the Stewart syndicate was doubtless prompted by the belief that the loan would not be a success and that the treasury would be compelled to accept a low figure. It is not difficult to understand that the rival syndicate should feel sore over its failure, but it does not seem necessary or desirable that congress should countenance its attempt to make out a grievance against

the treasury for which there appears to be no substantial ground.

## OMAHA AND THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

It was to be expected that the anti-Omaha Bee would object to any reference to the attacks made upon Omaha by the Carthage paper, for that attack was largely made up of the slanders upon Omaha that have been sent out through the Associated Press from the office of the anti-Omaha sheet—World-Herald.

The man who repudiates his honest debts usually can say nothing too mean about his creditors. The inspiration for the persistent effort which the World-Herald has made for the past two years to discredit and slander the Associated Press can be rationally ascribed only to the same motive. Three years ago the World-Herald, with its natural bent for brazen imposture, displayed conspicuously at the head of its editorial column the following inscription:

The World-Herald is the only journal published in Omaha having both the Associated Press and United Press franchises.

As a matter of fact the World-Herald never did own a franchise in the Associated Press. And that imposition it was obliged to disavow by the managers of the Associated Press to avoid the risk of being prosecuted. On December 27, 1893, this bogus claim was taken down and the following heading was substituted:

An important decision has been reached in the district court respecting assessments upon property adjacent to street improvements but not abutting streets upon which public work has been done. In the case in hand lots three blocks from the work had been assessed by the council and the court ruled that such levies were valid and must be paid. To have decided the point in favor of the plaintiffs would have opened the way to interminable suits, to say nothing of the injustice of compelling abutting property to stand the expense of improvements which benefited property upon neighboring streets. The only question is, How far from the line of actual improvement can the tax for benefits be imposed?

Attorney General Churchill says he couldn't think of being a candidate for congress, because, even if successful, he could not expect to serve for more than two terms, the effect of which would be to take him for that length of time out of his profession, thus destroying his practice. Since when has it become a rule of law or custom that no one can serve in congress more than two terms? And how could a term in congress destroy a law practice when the attorney general is supposed to be devoting his time exclusively to the legal business of the state? Mr. Churchill need not run for congress if he does not want to, and he need not apologize for not wanting to run.

The Associated Press needs no defense at our hands. It is a national news gathering association whose membership extends from Nova Scotia to Puget sound and from Duluth to the City of Mexico. Neither its managers nor its members have any disposition to decry Nebraska or disparage Omaha or any other state or city. The charge that reports derogatory to Omaha and Nebraska have been transmitted by the agency of the Associated Press in this city is absolutely untrue. This charge is as baseless as any the outrageous attack upon it last summer, when the World-Herald charged it with sending out blood and thunder stories about the police commission contest. The exaggerated reports complained of emanated from special telegraph correspondents over whom the Associated Press has no control and for whom it cannot be held responsible. The Associated Press restricts its agents to the most important general news briefly stated. The special correspondents endeavor to cover the sensational features, and the more sensational the more likely are eastern papers to accept what they offer. When traced down, most of the reports which the World-Herald howled about were written by men in its own employ and in its own office. These facts are as well known to the World-Herald as they are to us.

And now as to the alleged anti-Omaha tendencies of the Associated Press. Who was it that sent broadcast through the whole country the most damaging and slanderous reports concerning Nebraska? Who sent the horribly exaggerated descriptions of starvation and suffering, representing famished children freezing in the arms of their mothers and hundreds of families perishing for want of food and fuel in the heart of Nebraska? Not the Associated Press. It was the World-Herald and its special staff correspondent. Who was it that only a few weeks ago sought to create a sensation by proposing that Omaha should surrender its charter and ask the court to appoint a receiver to wind up its municipal business? Surely not the Associated Press or any one connected with it or with the Bee. It was the exclusive work of that great and exclusive friend of Omaha, the World-Herald.

By the way, would it not be well for that sheet to look into the glass and see the beam in its own eye before becoming distressed over moles in the eyes of its neighbors?

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