

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

Published every morning. Terms of subscription: Daily (without Sunday) One Year, \$3.00; Six Months, \$1.75; Three Months, \$1.00; Single Copies, 5 Cents.

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A GREAT SPECIAL FEATURE.

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

Romances of the Skies—By Sir Robert Ball—The Famous Astronomer. A series of articles beginning Sunday, by the most eminent of living astronomers.

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

Unrivalled! Unexcelled! The political Arbor day orator will this year saw wood.

This kind of wet April weather may be death on spring bonnets, but it is great for hopes of an abundant crop for the farmers when harvesting time comes.

We don't entertain a Japanese marquis and an American duke in Omaha every day of the year—not even in every year when February counts twenty-nine days.

A few bills to remove the charge of desertion and relinstate the veterans to the active ranks will soon demand the serious consideration of the officers and authorities of the Salvation army.

Kentucky has been surviving some hard raps of late, but it is hardly in condition to stand the selection of one Congressman Breckinridge of breach-of-promise fame to represent it in congress again.

Collis P. Huntington has been re-elected president of the Southern Pacific. The Southern Pacific could not possibly get along at this stage of the game without a man of Huntington's peculiar persuasive legislative abilities at its head.

When Senator Allen in his letter to Governor Holcomb referred to the older and abler men in the populist party more deserving than he of the presidential nomination, could he have had any one in mind but that great populist, Paul Vandervoort?

When Congressman Andrews returns to Washington with his credentials of renomination in his pocket, we suppose the frigidty of the atmosphere in the house cloak rooms will take a sudden rise as registered by the thermometer—especially as the temperature of Washington usually gets warmer with the middle of April.

The Chicago Times-Herald asks the question in all seriousness whether treating can not be abolished by law. It need not speculate on an abstraction for an answer. A no-treat law has been on the statute books of Nebraska for fifteen years, but it has had no more effect upon the treating habit than has the cow that jumped over the moon.

Profiting by recent experiences the labor unions of Omaha are lining up to affirm their determination to prohibit the discussion of politics within their unions. Experience is sometimes an expensive teacher, but it is by all odds the best teacher, and there is good ground for the prediction that labor unions of this city will hereafter disavow any member who seeks to involve them in factional squabbles in any party.

We are soon to be treated to another squabble between the city and county over alleged balances due in costs growing out of police court cases. After it is all over and the money has been taken out of one pocket and put down into another, what benefit will the taxpayer receive? The people in general are not interested in the mere matter of ledger accounts as between city and county so long as the annual deficit continues to grow in proportion.

Year by year some improvement is made in the government crop reports. The system is constantly reaching a higher degree of efficiency. It is now proposed to put in operation in May a plan whereby fuller reports from this section will be made and issued from the Omaha and Lincoln stations.

A RECIPROCAL MEASURE.

The bill agreed upon by the subcommittee of the house committee on ways and means, which proposes an essentially new system of reciprocity, will probably not be acted upon at the present session of congress, but it contemplates a policy which this country will undoubtedly be compelled to adopt sooner or later if the tendency of European countries to discriminate against American products continues.

The meaning of the measure is that there must be either reciprocity in trade or retaliation. Countries that choose the former will continue to enjoy the benefits of the American market under existing conditions. Countries that do not want the reciprocity defined in the bill must accept the disadvantage that would result from having their products subjected to the highest duties this country has ever imposed on such products.

Is there anything just or unfair in this? Is it not the duty of our government to do what it can to protect the interests of our people against the discriminating policy of other countries? Germany and other European nations have established restrictions upon the importation of our cattle and meats, with damaging effect to one of our most important industries.

Republies may be ungrateful, but republicans seldom fail to appreciate and reward party leaders who have rendered eminent service and filled positions to which they have been elevated with credit to themselves and their party.

In most of the older states it is not uncommon to renominate members of congress from term to term, and to keep them at the national capitol so long as their usefulness is unimpaired.

In many cases the conscientious voter is confronted with Hobson's choice. He has to decide between supporting a yellow dog candidate on his own party ticket and a yellow dog candidate on the opposition ticket.

The Massachusetts republican platform declares in favor of discriminating duties on all merchandise imported into the United States in foreign vessels, thus reviving the policy which prevailed for a number of years after the foundation of the government.

A bill providing for discriminating duties on imports in favor of American ships has been introduced in congress by Senator Elkins, who in a recent speech in the senate urged that we should "go back to the teachings of our fathers and restore the old discriminating duties; that we should impose a tax of 10 per cent ad valorem.

It will thus be seen that the policy of discriminating duties as a means of building up an American merchant marine has very respectable advocacy and it is not to be doubted that it could receive large support in and out of congress.

There can be no question regarding the salutary effect upon the shipping interest of the country of the discriminating duties adopted at the beginning of the government and maintained for more than a quarter of a century. It placed the United States on an equal footing with England in the carrying trade of the world.

But would a re-

turn to that policy, under existing conditions, which differ widely from those of more than a century ago, produce a like result? Is it probable that with our vastly more extended commercial relations we could now impose discriminating duties in favor of American vessels without inviting retaliation that would operate unfavorably to our producers? It seems reasonable to assume that if this government should discriminate against foreign vessels in the way proposed foreign governments would impose a like discrimination against American vessels, and it will hardly be contended that such a warfare of duties would promote the building up of the merchant marine.

It is hardly possible to overestimate the importance of providing the United States with ships equal to the demands of its foreign commerce. It is essential to both our commercial expansion and our commercial independence. But it is very questionable whether we could attain this condition by a return to the policy instituted more than an hundred years ago under circumstances very different from the present.

THE SOUTH AND CARLEISE.

The Louisville Courier-Journal believes that Secretary Carlisle can get a large support from the south as a candidate for the presidential nomination. It says "the south will not refuse to support the first southern man it will have had a chance to vote for in thirty-six years."

St. Louis merchants are dissatisfied with the distribution of the appropriations made in the river and harbor bill. They want more money expended for improving the navigation of the Mississippi between St. Louis and Vicksburg.

THE CRAWFORD COUNTY SYSTEM.

That there is a great deal of room for reform in the machinery of our political parties is universally conceded. The convention system is largely responsible for nominations that do not represent the popular choice. Men who are notoriously disreputable and could not run the gauntlet of free popular selection are foisted on the party's tickets by trading themselves in through combinations with other candidates equally bad.

In many cases the conscientious voter is confronted with Hobson's choice. He has to decide between supporting a yellow dog candidate on his own party ticket and a yellow dog candidate on the opposition ticket. It frequently happens, for example, that in making a choice of nine candidates for the council or nine candidates for the lower house of the state legislature, out of thirty odd names presented by the various parties not a half dozen decent and competent men can be picked.

The remedy for these abuses is believed to be direct popular selection by the so-called Crawford county system. Now that the initial steps have been taken by a republican club of this city toward the adoption of this system, it may be well to discuss its effects in all their bearings.

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OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

British interests in South Africa cover a great deal of territory, and in the event of any general movement against those interests, it would require a large army of British troops to defend the movement. Yet troops are as badly needed in north Africa (if the campaign in the Sudan is to be continued) as they can be in South Africa.

The Kansas City papers are not likely to be disconcerted or deceived by the bombastic vapors and brazen lies of the Omaha police commission organ, which has the assurance to assert that Omaha's defaulting city treasurer was elected by the same element that supported the citizens' reform movement last year.

As has been predicted by The Bee and other papers along the river, the Big Muddy has commenced its springtime ravages. The water is gradually rising and at Plattsburgh the railroad company has been forced to protect its tracks.

Illinois prohibitionists have declared for free silver and woman suffrage and the national prohibition convention is likely to do likewise. The idea no doubt is to hold out inducements for the women of Utah, Colorado and Wyoming and the free silverites of the whole country to flock to the cold water standard.

The receivers of the water works have in contemplation increased pressure for the large portion of the city known as Hanscom Place. The elevation being very high in that locality the pressure in the water mains has never been strong enough and property owners there will appreciate the proposition of the company to supply the long felt deficiency.

Relief for the Indian Voter.

Placing the Indian bureau under civil service regulations removes another source of political disturbance. Hereafter there will be no scramble for the Indian vote.

Overstocked with Trouble.

Nobody outside of the ranks of the marines will credit the report that England has pledged her support to Spain for the subjugation of the Cuban rebellion. England has no time to hunt for trouble nowadays.

How the Census Works.

The methods of the press censor in Havana are very simple. When the insurgents enter a certain province he announces that they have been trapped, and when in their own time, they leave he announces that they have been driven out. Meanwhile, they come and go at pleasure.

The Widow's Darling.

Senator Allen has removed the last nail in the title to the position of the champion "ladies" man of the national capital. He has introduced a bill providing for the restoration to the pension rolls of the names of widows of soldiers upon the death of their second husbands.

A Good Precedent to Make.

There seems to be a good chance that congress may adjourn the 1st of June, if not before. To end the session by the beginning of June would be to make a new record, for not since 1890 has there been an early adjournment.

Effect of the Steel Combine.

Steel brings an exceptional net profit at \$20 a ton. It affords a fair business return at \$18, as the cost of manufacture at Pittsburg, where labor is cheaper, is at any other point, is \$12.50 to \$13, and to attempt to force the market to \$22 and \$25 per ton simply means disaster and closed mills.

One Good Term Deserves Another.

Editor George D. Perkins of the Sioux City Journal, who is developing into a strong congressional worker, is more than likely to receive a renomination. The state of Iowa has a fashion of giving its congressmen a fair showing in the harness term after term, and, as a result, it is always represented by strong men.

POLITICAL CROOKS TURNED DOWN.

The election in Wisconsin was full of surprises, and it was also free-handed with warnings to both of the leading parties. In most instances where a man on either ticket was known to have been unfaithful in public trust or crooked as a citizen or partisan, he was very properly cut down by the independent and inquisitive searcher.

An exhibition will be held in Vienna in 1898 in connection with the celebration of the fifty anniversary of the accession of the emperor, to illustrate the progress in Austria of technical, artistic and manufacturing industry during the last half century.

The preliminary figures of the German census which was taken last September show that the population of the empire of 52,244,503. In 1890 the number of inhabitants was 49,428,470. The increase in five years was 2,816,033.

It is remarkable that there should have been as large an increase, either absolutely or in the rate per cent, in a country as densely populated as Germany. The population of Germany the natural tendency is toward a falling rate of growth, unless exceptional conditions contribute to expansion.

King Menelik informs the czar that he will not be able to attend the coronation of the latter, soon to take place at Moscow, being detained at home to watch the further progress of the Italian war.

HIS SISTER.

When Dolly donned her Easter gown, To go to church with me, she looked so demure, The very churl will own that she's a lovely sight to see.

What have Italians to be proud of, from a military and naval point of view, since the aims of Mazzini and Garibaldi were attained by the consolidation of almost the whole of the peninsula, together with the island of Sicily, under the house of Savoy?

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GOOD WORK PERFORMED AT THE FOLLS IN WISCONSIN.

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THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

A new serial story by A. Conan Doyle. The tale is told by the hero himself, who is a retired naval officer, and recalls the incidents of his career when a boy. The opening scenes are laid at London and Brighton. The story has been pronounced by competent critics to be one written in Dr. Doyle's very best style.

SCENERY OF THE MOON.

The first of Sir Robert Ball's astronomical articles, undoubtedly one of the most valuable series of popular science sketches ever printed in a newspaper, illustrated from photographs made at the Paris and Lick observatories, and besides a portrait of the author, the next one in the series will be entitled "The Planet Saturn."

DEATH OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

Thirty years ago, on April 14, Abraham Lincoln fell by the bullet of the assassin in Ford's theatre, Washington. The anniversary of this date is commemorated by an article from C. C. Bangs, who, then a lad, claimed to be the one who was sent by Mrs. Lincoln to the white house to inform Robert Lincoln, the son of the president, of the tragedy.

A SCULPTOR'S NEW METHODS.

Cleveland Moffett furnishes an article descriptive of the advanced and unusual methods employed by Mr. Partridge in making a gigantic equestrian statue of General Grant, now to be unveiled in Brooklyn—One illustration showing the sculptor's railroad.

PROGRESS OF THE SALVATION ARMY.

Origin, aim and work of this great religious organization—Achievements of thirty years at home and abroad—Strength of the army in different parts of the world—Characteristics of its great leaders.

COMING METHODIST CONFERENCE.

The quadrennial session of the general conference of the Methodist Episcopal church in Cleveland the first week of next month. The meaning and object of the gathering—Important topics that are to be dealt with at the meeting.

IN WOMAN'S DOMAIN.

Moldish fashions and fetching novelties approved by fashion for spring wear—A woman who cost over \$20,000—A woman who cost over \$20,000—A woman who cost over \$20,000—A woman who cost over \$20,000.

POST-LENTEN SOCIETY.

Society enjoying a new lease of life after the Easter festivities—Entertainment of the week—Dinner at the club and luncheon—Out of town visitors in Cleveland—Characteristics of its great leaders.

THE COMING GENERATION.

A peculiar, but interesting story entitled "The Knight of the Blue Arrow" being a legend of the lobster-Paul Du Chailly talks of his experience hunting with beasts in the jungles of Central Africa—Fragments of a young and other bright bits for the little folks.

WITH THE WHEELING HORDE.

Legislation of interest to bicyclers pending in congress—Bicycling in London one of the features of the world's metropolis—Notes and news of bicycle clubs—The wheeling multitude—What the local wheelmen are doing.

IN THE WORLD OF SPORT.

Review of the sporting events of the week, at home and abroad—Activity among the men with the guns—Base ball season drawing near—Horsemen are showing signs of life—General gist of live, newsy sporting gossip.

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

BUY IT! READ IT!

MIRTH IN RHYME.

Philadelpia Record. The birds will soon be singing, The peens peening sonnets, The bees will soon be buzzing in presidential bonnets.

New York World.

She isn't very wealthy, She gets a golden crown; She bought it at a dentist's, For just ten dollars down.

Chicago Record.

Go to, oh, dawdling blue bush, You are too mortal slow, For lilacs bloomed on Mabel's hat, Full two good weeks ago.

Detroit Tribune.

The sun both look her in the face And a way to greatly try her; For she'll stare her out of countenance, If he makes her face perspire.

Chicago Tribune.

"Why do some towns have curfew laws?" The teacher said to Benny, "I guess," said Benny, "It's because 'Turs curls have grown too many."

Philadelphia Record.

A nurse loved a hall of yarn, And nearly had a fit, Because it didn't care a darn, And only answered "NIT."

There was a small sparrow perched high on a tree.

Singing as happy as happy could be; But a restaurant man with bow and arrow, Soon made him quail—the poor little sparrow!

"Shoot Those Hats."

Put that winter tile on the shelf now and bud forth in a new spring one. The grass is green, and so are you if you pass our Hat Department this season. We have just what is requisite and reasonable in the matter of headwear. You could never look better or more handsomely hatted than from our display of latest styles.

You can't equal our hats or our prices in this part of the west. Buyers with an eye to style and economy are always headed for our store. Let 'em come—we'll hat 'em with something that's a stylish bargain every time.

SOLE AGENTS FOR YOUNG'S CELEBRATED HATS.

A few words about furnishings. We have the largest assortment this side of New York and all the up-to-date fixings. For this time we will mention Neckwear. A new tie, like a hat, tones up the whole appearance so much. We have a lot of dollar ties that we put on special sale today at 50c. See our Fifteenth street windows.

Browning, King & Co.,

Reliable Clothiers. S. W. Cor. 15th and Douglas Sts. Hatters and Furnishers.

Absolutely Pure