

THE OMAHA WATER BEE.

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MAKE OMAHA THE CONVENTION CENTER

OMAHA, June 12.—To the Editor of The Bee: Now that the Transmississippi exposition is assured for Omaha in 1898, it does not seem to be for the people of this city to every effort in endeavoring to secure every national convention, including political, religious, fraternal and all others in art, literature and amusement. No doubt there will be during this year and next, at least, 100 national organizations represented by delegates from this city and state.

As a matter of fact, nearly all of these large organizations are partially booked two years in advance, and the locations are largely reciprocal. The Commercial club and all other organizations of the city, as well as all state, county and city officials, should lend their best efforts to these delegates who are striving to secure the conventions. I hope next week to attend the American Institute of Homoeopathy, which meets in Detroit, holding a session of ten days, and where there will be many hundred physicians and their families and friends.

There can be no doubt that the country is prepared to accept some judicious and practicable policy for the creation of a merchant marine adequate to the demands of our foreign commerce and which will save to our own people the vast sum, estimated at more than \$100,000,000, that is annually paid to foreign ship owners and contributes to the support of the foreign ship-building industry.

The principal objection of President Cleveland to the general deficiency bill as it first passed congress related to the appropriation of something over a million dollars for paying what is known as the French spoliation claims. Taking the position that there exists no legal liability against the government on account of its relations to these claims, the president vetoed the measure and congress reconsidered and passed the bill with the omission of the claims appropriation. Thus again claims against the government which have been in controversy for nearly a century and the justice of which has frequently been recognized by congress are rejected by the executive branch of the government.

These claims originated in the depredations upon our commerce by the French cruisers and vessels during the closing years of the last century. The United States in 1793 made a demand upon France for indemnity and negotiations for the allowance and payment of the claims were continued for several years. Finally the French government acknowledged the validity of the claims and offered to pay them, but presented counter claims by French citizens against this government. The outcome was an agreement between the two governments by which the United States assumed the payment of the American claims and France released this government from all liability for claims made by French citizens against it, the validity of which was admitted.

As to the necessity of providing a suitable convention hall, that is admitted as a matter of course. Such a building centrally located and convenient of access will be as much a prerequisite of the great exposition as the exhibition buildings themselves. It is even possible and very probable that one auditorium will not serve the purpose and that two or more capacious halls will be required. This will certainly be the case if the proposed campaign for the national conventions that meet in 1898 achieves the success that it promises and we are called upon to entertain two or three, or even more, colossal gatherings at one and the same time.

AS TO A MERCHANT MARINE. One matter which ought to be given sufficient prominence in the St. Louis platform to attract popular attention is that of restoring the merchant marine. Undoubtedly there will be an enumeration on this subject. It is a question which the republican party has no disposition to ignore, but on the contrary regards with great interest. A merely perfunctory utterance, however, will not answer the requirement. There needs to be a strong and clear declaration in favor of early and aggressive action for giving the United States a merchant marine that will restore the flag to the ocean and carry it to all the ports of the world.

At least fifteen republican state conventions have this year declared in favor of legislation looking to the upbuilding of the merchant marine and most of these conventions have pronounced in favor of a policy of discriminating duties, such as were in

force for nearly forty years from the foundation of the government, with the result of greatly increasing the ocean-carrying trade of the country. The advocates of this policy point out that whereas at the time of this legislation American vessels were carrying only 25 per cent of the exports and imports of the United States, 90 per cent was ultimately carried in American bottoms. Of course commercial conditions now are very different from what they were then and perhaps a restoration of the policy adopted more than a century ago would not produce like results at this time, but it will be for the convention, in its wisdom, to decide as to whether the party should be committed to this policy, which has many able and earnest advocates.

There is no doubt that the country is prepared to accept some judicious and practicable policy for the creation of a merchant marine adequate to the demands of our foreign commerce and which will save to our own people the vast sum, estimated at more than \$100,000,000, that is annually paid to foreign ship owners and contributes to the support of the foreign ship-building industry. The producers of the west see as clearly as the manufacturers of the east that their interests would be subserved by such a policy and they will be found quite as earnest and as zealous in its support as the people of any other section of the country. There has never been so general a demand as there is now for a merchant marine and the republican national convention must not fail to give it proper recognition.

THE SPOLIATION CLAIMS. The principal objection of President Cleveland to the general deficiency bill as it first passed congress related to the appropriation of something over a million dollars for paying what is known as the French spoliation claims. Taking the position that there exists no legal liability against the government on account of its relations to these claims, the president vetoed the measure and congress reconsidered and passed the bill with the omission of the claims appropriation. Thus again claims against the government which have been in controversy for nearly a century and the justice of which has frequently been recognized by congress are rejected by the executive branch of the government.

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statements, in regard to a fiscal system between England and the colonies, is attracting world-wide attention and it possesses greater interest, perhaps, for the United States than for any other country. In his address to the congress of the chamber of commerce of the British empire Mr. Chamberlain made a notable departure from the principles of Cobdenism. He urged commercial union within the empire and declared as the true solution of the problem that England and the colonies should have free trade among themselves, with a compromise English tariff for certain foreign imports. He considered it an essential condition that Great Britain should consent to replace the import duties on articles which were largely produced in the colonies. The schedule he suggested consisted of wheat, meat, wool, sugar and other articles of enormous consumption in England, which are produced on a large scale by the colonies and which might under the conditions of an imperial Zollverein be wholly produced by British labor. Here was a program in direct contravention of the fundamental principles of the policy of Cobden and Bright and it met with the heartiest approval of the delegates from Canada, the West Indies, Australia, South Africa and other colonies.

There is no doubt that there is an overwhelming sentiment in the British colonies favorable to Mr. Chamberlain's plan and this will be brought to bear with great force upon the English people, with the probability of creating a very powerful sentiment in England favorable to it. It contemplates, as the London correspondent points out, duties upon American food products for the benefit of Canada, a tax on wool from this country for the benefit of Australia, and other tariff discriminations against the products of the United States in the interest of similar products of the colonies of Great Britain. There appears to be no doubt that the spirit of protection is growing in England and although those who favor that policy are still largely in the minority the fact that they are making headway is of commanding interest to the American people. It most strongly suggests the importance and necessity of this country returning to the policy of protection as a means of industrial development and the upbuilding of the home market for our natural products.

The granting of a degree by the State university last week to a young colored man, the first of that race to receive a diploma from that institution, is deserving of at least passing notice. The educational facilities provided by the people of Nebraska are freely accorded persons of both sexes without regard to color, from the first classes of the primary grades to the highest class of the highest university department. That no colored student had previously pursued a university course has been due, doubtless, to circumstances that have prevented representatives of the negro race in Nebraska from devoting the necessary time to scientific and literary pursuits. While the University of Nebraska now counts its first colored graduate, it is to be hoped it will not prove its last one.

The retail merchants are interested in any measure that will bring people to Omaha and at the same time provide for the distribution of money in the city for material and labor. When our mechanics and laborers are all employed the retail merchant receives the first direct benefit. Thus it is that the proposed exposition will be of incalculable advantage to the shopkeepers. A vast sum must be expended upon the exposition alone, while in its shadow will spring up many buildings and enterprises that will cause the expenditure of money here. There is plenty of money in Omaha. The difficulty has been that those who possess it have for the past few years declined to invest it.

Senator Teller will be the only man at the St. Louis convention with a delegation behind him instructed to carry out his ideas upon the pending vital issues of the day. Whatever the senator does, therefore, it is to be expected that the entire Colorado delegation will do. But Senator Teller was secretary of the interior under one republican president, and was always elected to the senate as a republican. Men who have been so honored by the republican party will hardly be expected to repudiate republicanism at this time.

Watch for the foreign press comment upon the choice of this week's convention of the republican standard-bearer of 1896. If the foreign editors do not relish the nominee they will not be able to conceal their disgust. They will try to imagine that they are called upon to elect the president of this country and their advice and criticism will be freely offered. As the number of votes controlled by the foreign press, however, is extremely limited, it will scarcely make much difference what even they may say.

Nebraska, Arkansas and Louisiana all have the same number of delegates in the St. Louis convention. That Nebraska should be put on the same plane as Arkansas and Louisiana, where the republicans seldom make even an impression on the returns, emphasizes the need of a revision of the system of representation and the ultimate adoption of some plan just to all interests affected.

The newspaper correspondents have intruded themselves in St. Louis ahead of the delegates to the big convention. To tell the honest truth, it might be hard to decide which will be the most important adjuncts to the gathering, the correspondents or the delegates.

It must be a sound money platform. No other will satisfy the expressed demands of the vast majority of the rank and file of republicans in every state and territory in the union.

ALL NEBRASKA REJOICES.

State Press Hails the Transmississippi Law with Delight. Beaver City Tribune (rep.): Congressman Mercer is the biggest man in Nebraska since secured the passage of the Omaha exposition bill. Kearney Hub (rep.): The press of San Francisco given a strong endorsement of the Transmississippi exposition to be held at Omaha in 1898. The entire west and middle west is enthusiastic for it. Schuyler Herald (dem.): The citizens of Omaha are sounding the praises of Senator Allen for the substantial aid he gave in securing the appropriation for the exposition at Omaha. There are some things for which we admire the senator and this is one of them. Sidney Journal (rep.): In spite of all opposition the Omaha exposition bill passed the house Wednesday. The senate immediately concurred in the house amendment and the bill went to the president, whose signature made it a law. Omaha and all Nebraska rejoice.

Hartington Herald (rep.): Score one for Nebraska. The Transmississippi exposition bill became a law Wednesday. It was passed through both houses and carried by Mr. Mercer to the president, where it received his signature, all in a little more time than it takes to write this account of it. Howells Journal (rep.): Nebraska greatly needs the Transmississippi exposition. Needs it in show, wonderful resources; needs it to show what great possibilities she has; needs it to show her boundless productions and still greater capabilities. It will be held with a certainty and our visitors there will be greatly surprised at what we have to exhibit. Blair Courier (dem.): Nebraska has escaped with but the faint end of a cyclone. Thus far, while surrounding states have felt its awful breath, with plenty of rain and no cyclones we lift our hat and say: Nebraska, home of our boyhood and manhood, too, we love thee dearly and ask no more than to live beneath thy skies for many years and to have the Transmississippi exposition in Omaha two years hence.

Springfield Monitor (rep.): Congressman Mercer has added another feather to his cap and is to be congratulated on his untiring efforts and the many obstacles he overcame in getting the Omaha bill for the Transmississippi exposition through congress. Senator Allen also did noble work for the bill. The bill passed both houses yesterday without a hitch, and soon after its passage we love thee dearly and ask no more than to live beneath thy skies for many years and to have the Transmississippi exposition in Omaha two years hence.

Kearney Hub (rep.): Omaha and the west are to be congratulated on the passage of the Transmississippi exposition bill, which was passed under great difficulties in the closing hours of the session after it had apparently been lost. Congressman Mercer of Omaha is also entitled to the warmest of congratulations, and Senator Allen is to be commended for the assistance that he gave while his "pop" com-patriot, Kem, was endeavoring to kill it. Winnside Tribune (rep.): The Transmississippi exposition is almost an assured fact. Omaha in particular and Nebraska in general should get down to a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull all together for the success of the enterprise. It will again give us credit in the eyes of the world at large; it will show that Nebraska is one of the great producing states of the northwest; it will show that Nebraska has the pluck, push and power to make a success of what they undertake.

Tokamah Herald (rep.): The Transmississippi exposition bill has passed congress and now the great exposition is an assured fact for Omaha. The government appropriates \$200,000 at the outset, which will give the project the backing necessary to make it a success. All Nebraska should rejoice, as the exposition will mark an era of greater prosperity for the state than has ever yet been witnessed. It will bring people from all over the world to view for themselves our broad and fertile prairies. They will depart having better ideas of Nebraska. Grand Island Independent (rep.): The passage of the Transmississippi and International exposition bill will be hailed with delight by the entire west, as it is the first step that will be taken by the exposition. The Transmississippi country abounds in resources of every description. The manufacturers of the eastern border of the transmississippi country, the products of its fertile plains, the rich minerals of the mountain regions—none have had the advantage of such a display as the exposition will offer them. It will, further-

more, bring thousands of people to this western country who have but a vague idea of its value, and an enormous impression of the people that inhabit it. The whole west will rejoice over the passage of this bill. Western Enterprise (rep.): The people of Nebraska are taking great interest in the Transmississippi exposition which will be held in Omaha in 1898. Congress has appropriated \$200,000, most of the states in the Mississippi and Missouri valleys will have state exhibits, and the exposition will be to the south. It will be a grand thing for Nebraska. The resources of the state will be properly shown up and the throngs of visitors who attend the exposition will see that the state is all right. Gretna Reporter (rep.): Hurrah for Nebraska. Omaha, Dave Mercer and the Transmississippi exposition!!! By dint of the perseverance of Congressman Mercer and Senator Allen the exposition bill was passed Wednesday at noon by the house in spite of the opposition of Objector Kem and Congressman Bailey of Texas. It was immediately transferred to the senate, where Senator Allen had the upper house consider and pass it almost immediately and the president's signature was attached yesterday, thus making the big exposition an assured fact. No enterprise yet conceived is fraught with so much interest to every Nebraskan as this exposition for it means that Nebraska will forge ahead of her sister states and be the center of attraction for two years to come. Millions of dollars will be spent in the erection of buildings and exhibits by the exhibitors and by the millions of people who will visit the west at that time. Now let every man put his shoulder to the wheel and talk this enterprise of enterprises along.

Papillon Times: The proposed Transmississippi exposition at Omaha in 1898 is now an assured fact, the bill having been adopted yesterday by both houses of congress. It is a grand opportunity for Omaha to make the bill law by attaching his signature, and this he did immediately. We congratulate Omaha and Nebraska upon this splendid opportunity to promote the outside millions who will visit us in 1898 that our state is all and more of an agricultural paradise than we have ever enjoyed. No enterprise yet conceived at Omaha means the drawing to this city of millions of people from other states. It means that during the exposition vast millions of outside money will be poured into the state. Aside from favorably advertising Omaha and Nebraska and making rich Omaha merchants and manufacturers, we do not believe the exposition will be of much value to the public. But from a selfish standpoint we can be thankful for these favors and say welcome to the millions of people who will visit us during the exposition. Fremont Tribune: The Transmississippi exposition bill passed Wednesday in the dying hours of congress after being held up by the throat at a critical stage of its passage by Congressman Kem, who emerged long enough from the gloom of obscurity to scold at Omaha and Nebraska not only during the six months the exposition is open, but during the two years of the preliminary preparations. It will produce a generous rivalry along all lines of productive activity. It will increase values first in Omaha, then gradually and incidentally in Nebraska. It will interest investors in this state. And all these will promote emigration to Nebraska. Every loyal citizen of this state has abundant reason to congratulate himself over the successful issue of the exposition bill in congress.

Here's to Mercer. Here's to Omaha. Here's to Nebraska. Here's to the transmississippi region.

HASTS FROM HAN'S HORN.

It is always expensive to be wrong. The man who does well today may do better tomorrow. The man who will not look ahead will have to stay hard. The man who spends his time looking for an easy place to get rich will always stress in black. It is of no more profit to have a contented spirit than a fat bank account. People who live only for themselves are always little, no matter how big they feel. The truth may be buried, but this world is too small to make a grave deep enough to hold it. With a child's heart, and you will have something that will brighten two lives—yours and his.

Chicago Tribune: Found Young Mother—John, let us call him Claude! Equally Proud Young Father (gazing at his first-born)—No, Miranda. It might keep him from being president of the United States some day. Detroit Free Press: "Your wife gave us a splendid lecture on cooking last evening. Why weren't you there to hear her?" "I was home with a terrible case of dyspepsia." New York Herald: Bingo—I should like to go to church with you this morning, but I haven't read the notices in the papers yet. Mrs. Bingo—What difference does that make? Bingo—You don't expect me to go unless I have some intelligent appreciation of the sermon. Chicago Record: "I congratulate you, Westington, on having your three daughters married off." "Just wait awhile, Hopkins; I can't tell yet whether I have three daughters married off or three sons-in-law married on."

St. Louis Republic: She—Did papa give his assent? He—Yes, he almost kicked me over the moon. Harlem Life: Briggs—You know Mangle married a widow and went on a wedding trip, didn't you? I saw him yesterday on his return. Griggs—Anything happen while he was away? Briggs—Yes. He says that in a fit of absent-mindedness she proposed to him again. Indianapolis Journal: Mamma—I don't like the idea of that young Harris hanging around Johnny so much. He hasn't a cent except his little salary. Papa—You needn't worry. They are both too busy talking about bicycles to have any time for love-making. Cincinnati Enquirer: The famous base ball pitcher had walked the floor with the youngest of his family for an hour or so. "Mary," said he, "if the manager saw me now I bet I'd get socked with a fine." "I don't seem to have any control of the bawl at all, I don't."

Atlanta Constitution: There once was a bond they called "Green." But may fate or kind fortune defend True lovers and all. Oh! I love my bicycle ball From the maid with the bicycle bond! HAD USE FOR THEM. Chicago Record: He gave her roses, which she took With a joyous, ardent air; His heart leapt quickly unto hope, From former dark despair. But oh, the trifling, wheeling gift Her lover did not see; That she only prized the roses For her jar of potpourri.

'Twill be all right. I thank Dufts Boylan. Sometimes I trace the day I spent; An' backward look w' discontent, 'Till candle light, When Rob comes whistlin' home again An' says—though it be shine or rain— "'Twill be all right." He canna always tell, I know, But when he makes me draw a show An' then I think, come ill that may, I'll leave him while he's by to say, "'Twill be all right."

Heave in his heart and strong his arm To keep me safe fra' every harm. I pray whae'er our feet may air, Though rough our path, or smooth, we'll "know" "'Twill be all right."

DOMESTIC IDYLS.

Chicago Tribune: Found Young Mother—John, let us call him Claude! Equally Proud Young Father (gazing at his first-born)—No, Miranda. It might keep him from being president of the United States some day. Detroit Free Press: "Your wife gave us a splendid lecture on cooking last evening. Why weren't you there to hear her?" "I was home with a terrible case of dyspepsia." New York Herald: Bingo—I should like to go to church with you this morning, but I haven't read the notices in the papers yet. Mrs. Bingo—What difference does that make? Bingo—You don't expect me to go unless I have some intelligent appreciation of the sermon. Chicago Record: "I congratulate you, Westington, on having your three daughters married off." "Just wait awhile, Hopkins; I can't tell yet whether I have three daughters married off or three sons-in-law married on."

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It is Not Enough

to say that if a suit proves faulty we'll give you another—that goes without saying—but we see to it that you buy just the right kind—perhaps that accounts for the fact that our



20% discount is enough

to increase our business to proportions verging upon the rush order—yes—and the making of the clothes—the good tailoring—the fabrics that withstand the severest tests—the fit—the finish—the fashion—qualities that come from tailors' hand to you for about half the tailors' price have heretofore been considered good enough values—but now because we're getting ready to remodel our store—we are taking off 20 per cent from our plain marked figures—every suit or overcoat for man, or boy, or child is included—nothing reserved, except furnishing goods and hats—even the "Star" waists that were recently marked down from \$1.75 to \$1.00 and the \$1 "Stars" that were marked down to 50c, also get the cut of 20 per cent to get the goods out of the way of the Remodellers of our store. The most remarkable bargains are offered in our children's department as this stock had almost all been reduced in price, before we decided to make these extensive improvements, and now we are giving 20 per cent off on these same plain marked figures.

BROWNING, KING & CO., Getting Ready to Remodel the S. W. Corner 15th and Douglas, Omaha.