

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE.

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Does the United States want a new pension list of disabled Cuban war veterans? The man with an appointment to public office to bestow has more friends just now than he will ever have again in his lifetime.

The silver agitators are ready to agitate just as long as the silver mine bullionaires are willing to put up the cash; to pay the addler.

The California judge who threw the noisy prize fighters out of court ought to be awarded the championship belt without further dispute.

Weyler has now been hanged in effigy several times. If this is not a sign of true greatness the Spanish horoscope must be out of working order.

If there is to be war the provocation ought to come from Spain. The moral position of the United States as a pacific nation forced into hostilities would then be unassailable.

Reports from France of a partial failure of the champagne grape crop need not terrify consumers in this country so long as American apple trees continue to yield in abundance.

The intelligence that China has joined with other nations in accepting a code of rules designed to prevent collisions at sea is one of the most conclusive proofs of recent years that the "world do move."

If the unfortunate battleship Texas could be manned entirely by belligerent United States senators it is safe to predict that she would float at least long enough to get them to a place of comparative safety.

Times must be improving when an actress can complain of having been robbed of \$125 in cash. How many actresses were there a few months ago who did not have \$125 of which they might be robbed?

A year ago the people of the United States were worked up almost to the point of war with Great Britain. Today Spain is the object of the popular wrath. Republics, like women, are always privileged to change their minds.

A few veracious American war correspondents within the lines of the Cuban belligerents might have spared both sides of the conflict the necessity of doing so much tall lying about facts which ought to be easy of verification.

It is suggested that there is room for reform in the system of managing our state institutions through a multiplicity of boards. On this point there should be no difference of opinion. A legislature bent on economy will not have to hunt long for places inviting retrenchment.

In making his application for a receiver for the suspended Silver Knight newspaper, and alleging that for \$1,000 for which he obligated himself he has already spent \$10,000 in his excursion into journalism, Senator Stewart of Nevada is seen to be still loyal to the ratio of 16 to 1.

Bryan's followers are boasting that their candidate polled more votes in 1896 than Cleveland did in 1892, when he swept the country. But Cleveland had no populist endorsement. Add to the Cleveland vote of 1892 the populist vote of that year and the difference will show how far Bryan fell behind.

The few high school law enacted by the last legislature has struck snags in several parts of the state. If there are really doubts as to its constitutionality a case ought to be made up so that an authoritative ruling might be had in time to have the defects, if any, remedied by the coming legislature.

Among the matters that will come before the legislature will be the confirmation of the findings of the joint boundary commission appointed by Nebraska and South Dakota to adjust a disputed strip of state line. This controversy seems to have been satisfactorily arranged by the joint commission, and unless there are objections based on valid grounds the confirmation of the report should be a mere matter of course.

WANTED—GOOD GOVERNMENT.

Nebraska has been assured by those who assume to have authority to speak the best government during the next two years that it has ever had. This, we are told, is to be the goal which the new state administration will keep constantly in view. Our citizens are to have returns for the confidence reposed in the state officers-elect in a government honestly and economically administered in all of its branches. Nothing could suit the people of Nebraska better than the fulfillment of these promises. The best government they have ever had is what the people of every state are looking for and the best government they have ever had is what they will be demanding for all time to come.

While few now subscribe to the old idea that government is best which governs least, the demand is for such a conduct of the public affairs as will not only keep the burden of taxation within reasonable limits, but make every tax-paying citizen feel that he is getting full value for the money he is called on to contribute to the treasury in the shape of taxes. If public funds are used to defray the salaries of needless officials, wasted in unnecessary or extravagant expenditures, or diverted into the pockets of dishonest contractors and jobbers, the taxpayer naturally and rightfully thinks that he has been personally defrauded. There is no question that much of the popular discontent in this state and elsewhere is traceable to the failure of public officials to apply to the public business the same principles of honesty and economy which they would apply to private transactions affecting their own interests only. The man who is elected to public office ought to feel that he has not only the same responsibility that would attach to the management of his own business, but a double responsibility arising out of the trust which he has undertaken to execute for others.

From a still different point of view, it is to be hoped that the promises of good government held out to the people of Nebraska will not prove altogether idle. The reputation of a state outside of its own boundaries depends largely upon the character of the government it enjoys. Capital and labor can be attracted or repelled by good or bad government, by low or high tax rates, by public economy or public extravagance. At this particular time, when investors are on the alert for promising fields for placing idle capital and thousands of industrious citizens are looking about to make new homes in the most inviting spots, the importance of Nebraska holding out irresistible inducements is not to be underestimated. The best government we have ever had is none too good for the people of this state. By all means let us have it without delay.

COST OF THE LEGAL TENDERS.

The report of the comptroller of the currency contains a statement intended to show the great cost of maintaining the greenback circulation and of course to supply an argument for the retirement of that currency. Doubtless the advocates of such retirement will appeal to this statement in support of their position, so that it is important that its erroneous and misleading character be exposed. Mr. Eckels gives the total principal of bonds sold for redemption purposes as being \$57,815,400 and the interest at 4 per cent on average of free gold in treasury from January 1, 1879, to January, 1895, at \$93,440,000, these sums together making \$151,255,400. He computes the interest on all bonds sold from January 1, 1876, to dates of maturity, at \$283,945,146, to which is added the United States outstanding, \$346,081,046, making together \$629,626,162. He thus figures a total cost and liability due to the legal tender notes, or greenbacks, amounting to \$1,081,881,522. On the other hand, if the United States notes had been funded on January 1, 1879, in 4 per cent bonds the cost to the government would have been, as the comptroller states it: Principal of bonds, \$346,081,000; interest to maturity 60 years, \$335,246,340—a total cost of \$741,827,340. Thus he makes it appear that the government would have saved by funding no less than \$333,984,222.

AN EXECUTIVE POWER.

The country will find reassurance in the interview given out by Secretary Olney in reference to the position of the senate foreign relations committee on the Cuban issue. The secretary of state points out that the power to recognize the so-called republic of Cuba as an independent state rests exclusively with the executive and he pretty plainly implies that the president will not abdicate this power to congress—that is to say, that he will not necessarily be governed by any action that congress may take in the matter. The resolution which it is proposed to report to the senate on Monday is a joint resolution and therefore requiring submission to the president for his approval or disapproval. If it should pass both branches of congress. In the event of its being disapproved by his veto, it might be passed over his veto, in which case there might arise an issue between the legislative and executive branches of the government, growing out of the refusal of the president to carry the resolution into effect. That the president would refuse to act is hardly to be doubted. He would probably hold that congress had sought to usurp authority which belongs exclusively to the executive and which could not be countenanced without establishing a dangerous precedent. He would insist upon maintaining his exclusive power in the matter and it is highly probable that he would have the support of the country in doing so.

THE PRACTICAL STANDPOINT.

The advantages of Omaha as a sugar refining center are ably set forth elsewhere in this paper in an article contributed by one of our leading business men who has had large experience as a manufacturer. In presenting the subject in all its bearings great stress is laid upon a fact which has been heretofore overlooked. Capitalists who invest money in manufacturing plants always weigh the advantages and drawbacks. They must not have merely easy access to the raw materials, but also facilities for consuming all parts not directly converted into the finished product. Above all things they need good transportation facilities that will enable them to reach every market.

THE PRACTICAL STANDPOINT.

There is no difficulty in finding locations in Nebraska that will supply a sufficient quantity of sugar beets for a factory of large capacity, but there is difficulty in finding the necessary labor at the right time and in disposing to advantage of all the by-products of the root. At the most available locations there is still this drawback, that the factory can be kept in operation only about three to four months of the year. That means dead capital in buildings and machinery for two-thirds of the year and the throwing out of work of skilled mechanics during a similar period.

THE PRACTICAL STANDPOINT.

A great glucose and beet sugar factory at Omaha, or rather South Omaha, would have all the advantages of other locations without any of the disadvantages. The soil of the surrounding country within twenty miles on both sides of the river will grow most abundant crops of fine beets and the factory would be accessible to farmers at comparatively nominal cost for delivery and handling. With thirteen railroads converging at Omaha the factory would enjoy unrivalled facilities for reaching all points of the compass. By combining the manufacture of glucose with that of beet sugar the factory would be kept in operation all the year round, thus affording steady employment to workmen and women. At South Omaha all the ingredients of the beet root could be utilized while at the same time the packing houses would contribute materials for the use of the glucose works and sugar refinery.

THE PRACTICAL STANDPOINT.

From a business standpoint, therefore, Omaha is one of the very few locations in the country that affords every possible facility for the profitable conversion into sugar of the corn and beets grown in this section. It is only a question of time when Omaha shall be able to boast of the largest glucose and sugar factories in America.

THE PRACTICAL STANDPOINT.

It is to be expected that the statement of the secretary of state, which will command the respectful consideration of all thoughtful and conservative men, will tend to induce members of congress to give more careful deliberation to this matter than some of them

THE PRACTICAL STANDPOINT.

have seemed disposed to do. The possibility of creating a grave issue between the executive and legislative departments of the government should induce them to most seriously inquire whether the claims of the Cubans justify action in their such a result.

IOWA AND THE EXPOSITION.

The legislature of Iowa, which is soon to convene in extra session, should not fail to make such additional appropriation for an exhibit at the Transmississippi Exposition as will best a state so great in natural resources—a state of such vast commercial interests. The legislature of Iowa meets once every two years. It convened last winter and will therefore not meet in regular session again until it would be too late to make an appropriation to this end. It is necessary that the appropriation shall be made at the coming extra session.

Nothing stands in the way of this being done, as the proclamation of Governor Drake does not confine the legislature to any particular field of action. Last winter the legislature passed a bill appropriating \$100,000, with the quite general understanding that this amount was simply intended as an exhibition of interest and good faith in the project and that an additional appropriation of not less than \$75,000 would follow. Whatever doubt existed in the minds of the people of Iowa at that time as to the merit of the undertaking and the advantages to be gained, it must be clear to them now that the proposed exhibition will be one of mammoth proportions and one at which no western state—especially a great agricultural state like Iowa—can afford to be poorly represented.

THE PRACTICAL STANDPOINT.

Iowa owes it to herself to be liberal in this matter, perhaps as much, if not more, than does any other state. Being traversed by the great trunk lines over which the eastern capitalists will have to travel in coming to and returning from the exposition, Iowa will be doubly benefited by the exhibit she makes of her products and by having her sweeping fields of grain and long stretches of fertile soil personally viewed by people of enterprise and means.

NIAGARA CANAL BILL.

It is very doubtful whether there will be any action at this session on the Niagara canal bill which is pending in congress, but the friends of that measure seem determined to press it to consideration and they are probably sufficiently numerous to accomplish this. When a petition was recently circulated asking the house committee on rules to set aside a time for the consideration of the bill, so that a vote can be reached on it, there was no difficulty in getting signers both among republicans and democrats and this has been accepted as meaning that there would be no trouble about passing the bill in the house. Indeed, it is the opinion that there is a majority in either house favorable to the measure, but there is some doubt as to what President Cleveland would do with any measure providing in any way for government aid, either by guarantee or direct appropriation, toward constructing the canal.

THE PRACTICAL STANDPOINT.

The political platform all favor the canal and this is doubtless regarded by most members of congress as binding upon them, but none the less the proposition that the government shall at this time assume an obligation of \$100,000,000 or more is sure to encounter considerable opposition. This might not be effective against the measure in the house, but it could be made so in the senate, where a few persistent opponents of the bill could prevent action on it. It is this which warrants the belief that the measure cannot be passed by the present congress, notwithstanding the fact that it has enough supporters in either house to pass it if it should be brought to a vote.

THE PRACTICAL STANDPOINT.

With regard to public sentiment, it is very questionable whether a majority of the people, could their views be obtained, would approve of the government taking upon itself, under present conditions, so large an obligation as the construction of the Niagara canal involves. The board of engineers appointed under the authority of congress to make an investigation estimated the cost of building the waterway at upwards of \$133,000,000 and while the accuracy of this estimate has been questioned, still it is generally accepted as conservative. That is a large sum of money for the government to become responsible for when its revenue is running behind expenditures and there is an addition to the public debt to be provided for out of future revenue. Granting all that is claimed as to the importance of the Niagara canal, it can wait until the financial condition and outlook of the national treasury is more favorable than at present.

THE PRACTICAL STANDPOINT.

Samuel Gompers wants the labor organizations constantly represented at the seat of government during the sessions of congress to guard and further the interests of labor. In other words, he wants the trades unions to copy after the great railway and industrial corporations in maintaining a paid lobby at Washington. The question is whether because the trusts and monopolies indulge in a pernicious practice labor should take it up also or should secure its abolition. The paid lobby has thus far proved a nuisance to the people's rights. Will it be improved by injecting labor's representatives into it?

THE PRACTICAL STANDPOINT.

The St. Louis Republic announces that if we must fight Spain, Missouri will furnish all the colonels necessary to lead our troops to glorious victory in Cuba. Missouri must not be allowed to outdo its sister states. Nebraska will supply the judges required to sit on courts-martial, and we have no doubt that Iowa can be freely drawn on for all the quartermasters demanded for the occasion.

THE PRACTICAL STANDPOINT.

The British press, with its usual ludicrous insularity and misapprehension of conditions on this side of the water, believes that in the present crisis "the calm judgment of the American people will override jingoism, as in the Venezuelan case." The general impres-

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THE JACKSONIAN BOUNCE.

New York Sun. The name of the Jacksonian club of Omaha must be regarded as severely injured by the institution has just dropped a number of Democrats who committed the crime of continuing to be Democrats and refusing to support the republican ticket. The notice to the expelled members of the club is a very democratic one, but none the less extensive. It speaks of Bryan and Sewall as "the regularly nominated candidates of the Democratic party." The fact is that the "regularly nominated candidates of the Democratic party" were the Chicago convention was destroyed by extraneous and unscrupulous genuine democratic delegation from the state of Michigan and Bryan himself was at the time of the Chicago convention a member of the Chicago convention.

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Proposed reforms in the interest of business men. St. Paul Pioneer Press.

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An improvement in the postal service, of greater advantage to the public than the proposed permission of private postal cards, would be the introduction of a plan for giving receipts, when desired, for ordinary mail matter which deposits in the post offices, on payment of an additional fee of say 1 cent for each receipt. There are numerous occasions when it is desirable to retain some proof of a letter having been mailed, for legal purposes, and persons dispatching letters to the postoffice by a messenger would often like a receipt in evidence that such letters were properly mailed. But the greatest demand for such receipts comes from book publishers and from city merchants who are making an increased use of the mails for the transmission of small parcels, of not sufficient value to justify the payment of a 10-cent registry fee. The cash and order departments of many stores do an enormous business of this character, and the inability to show a receipt for goods actually mailed, but claimed to have been received by parties to whom sent, is the source of much annoyance. It not infrequently happens that a merchant or publisher feels obliged to send a letter by mail, and that a merchant or publisher may rest on his integrity.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

Blank receipts could be prepared and sold by the dollar and a half, and in little cost like those used by express companies, only smaller, and the sender, being obliged to fill up the blank himself with a copy of the address on his letter, or package, would remain for the postoffice clerk to do would be to compare the receipt with the package and to stamp it with the ordinary mailing stamp of the office. This plan would involve very little expense to the government, no liability, and no extra care in the handling of the mail, and would be of great benefit to the sender, and would be an improvement generally appreciated, while at the same time it would be a source of much needed additional revenue. It would not materially

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PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

Last of the Buffaloes. Buffalo Express.

THE JACKSONIAN BOUNCE.

A pathetic sign of the times is the sending of a twelve-mile message throughout the country from Salt Lake City, announcing the death of a buffalo bull on Antelope Island in Great Salt Lake. There are many representatives in congress who would not receive that much attention after death. The dead animal is sorrowfully described as "one of the last full-blooded buffaloes in the country." Now that he is dead his body has been taken to Salt Lake City and is now on exhibition. All this in a country where the bison once roved in countless herds and formed almost the sole sustenance of whole tribes of Indians.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

Allen's Political Unbecome. Kansas City Star.

There is no reason why Senator Allen's resolution to inquire into the question of money in elections should have created a "stir" in the senate yesterday. It was simply a bit of burlesque, essentially harmless and thoroughly harmless. Of course there was plenty of money spent in the campaign, and each party got all it could. Much of it was spent in the campaign, and each party got all it could. Much of it was spent in the campaign, and each party got all it could. Much of it was spent in the campaign, and each party got all it could.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

Articles to make the heart glad Christmas. We offer a few timely suggestions to help you, if undecided—

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

First see our windows for an idea of what a superb assortment of men's, boys' and children's wearing apparel we have. Our Douglas street window contains the very latest novelty dainties for boys and children—pretty suits—reefers—overcoats—waists—blouses—leggin—neckwear—mufflers—hats—caps—we have a selection of all fixings that are made for the little folks Douglas street window contained.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

You will there see represented our men's clothing made and sold by us alone—our own clothes—our own make—our own styles—which for durability, quality, honesty of make and elegance, lead the whole world. A suit—a coat—a vest—a pair of trousers—an overcoat—an ulster—would be a gift that would be appreciated and a lasting remembrance.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

No v look down Fifteenth street and see the magnificent display of furnishings—where will you find such an assortment of underwear—hosiery—shirts—garters—collars—cuffs—ties—night shirts—gloves—mufflers—bath robes—smoking jackets, etc.—in fact every thing that the average man can think of—also a showing of hats and caps that are all right to have Santa Claus leave. All the leading brands are shown at modest prices—and every article you find here assured is of finer quality and style than you can get elsewhere for the same money.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

Your money back if you are not suited—Open evenings

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

B. K. & CO. BROWNING KING & CO., S. W. Cor. 15th and Douglas Sts.

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