

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION: State of Nebraska, Deceased County, George H. Trenchard, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the following is a true and correct statement of the circulation of this newspaper during the month of December, 1896, as ascertained from the following:

Table with 3 columns: Name, Circulation, and Total. Lists various newspapers and their circulation figures for December 1896.

Total, 62,955. Less deductions for unsold and returned copies, 5,513. Total net sales, 57,442. Net daily average, 19,147.

Subscribed in my personal and special name before me this 24 day of January, 1897, N. P. FILL, Notary Public.

The festive position for endorsements for federal appointments is on its rounds.

Governor Holcomb is enlisted for the whole expedition campaign. Paste that in your hat.

Even the office that has no pay attached does not have to seek the man in these days.

Pinar del Rio, repeatedly "pacified" by General Weyler, shows a deplorable tendency not to stay pacified.

When it comes to getting an official bond in the sum of \$2,000,000 a state treasurer has to include Omaha in the state of Nebraska after all.

Governor Holcomb's inexplicable delay in appointing his personal staff is grievously disappointing to the deferred hopes of a number of would-be colonels.

The rule of one office for one man at one time ought to be engrained on the statutes of Nebraska before the present session of the legislature adjourns.

A poll tax to be levied for failure to vote except in cases of sickness would be in the nature of a bounty to the doctors, who would be kept busy furnishing sick certificates.

The number of citizens who will not get cabinet positions is seen to be daily on the increase and it will probably far exceed, before March 4, the tale of those who will be appointed.

Senator Allison says he will not be a member of President McKinley's cabinet family. Senator McKimley's cabinet declined more cabinet invitations than any other man in public life.

Uncle Sam collected nearly three times as much internal revenue in Nebraska in 1896 than he did in 1895. If all the states had done as well as Nebraska by the national treasury the deficit would have completely disappeared.

A French physician announces to the world that there is a sure cure for lunatics. There is no good reason, however, why this should stimulate neglect of children that would lead to an increase of the prevalence of this terrible deformity.

Governor Holcomb repents Senator Allen's assurance that the credit of Nebraska will have nothing to fear from the populist state administration. The populist members of the legislature can not afford to disappoint the expectations of these two party leaders.

We were, we know, the sureties on the bond of the state treasurer, but the people ought to be taken into the treasurer's confidence long enough to learn how much of the state funds was turned over in cash, how much in due bills and where the money is deposited.

The certainty that two mounted aides to General Porter will be appointed to take part in the inauguration ceremonies is responsible for the present agitation among the handsome and soldierly men who constitute the greater part of the population of Nebraska.

The disposition of the federal government to deal generously with the Trans-Mississippi Exposition grows more apparent every day. And that part of Governor Holcomb's message which treats of this subject strikes the keynote of Nebraska's probable action in the matter.

Divine guidance has been specially invoked for the young men in the legislature who are endeavoring to frame the statutes of the commonwealth. Just why the old men should be shut out is not apparent, unless they are erroneously considered not to be subject to the temptations which beset the path of youthful statesmen in the capital city.

Emperor William having achieved fame as a poet is now trying his hand as an architect. The emperor has one great advantage over others who struggle to make a name in art or science. It does not matter what the real merit of his work may be, he can always rely upon having favorable mention made of it by men who would not care to incur imputation by destructive criticism.

BYRAN AND HIS DEMOCRACY.

In his Chicago Jackson day speech William Jennings Bryan defines the creed which he would prescribe as the test of true democracy. According to Mr. Bryan "a democrat in the broadest sense is the one who believes in the form of government in which the people rule. When I say believes in this form of government I mean actual, sincere, heartfelt belief, not a formal and enforced submission."

Those who endorsed the Chicago platform are democrats, and those who refused to support the platform are not democrats. Presumably Mr. Bryan intends to convey the idea that those who bolted the Chicago candidate did not support the platform, and have, therefore, ceased to be democrats, while those who voted for Bryan and Sewall supported the platform and are semi-pure democrats committed to every principle enunciated in the Chicago platform.

William Jennings Bryan has apparently experienced a radical change of heart within the brief time of twelve months. Less than five months before his nomination for the presidency he penned an editorial which appeared in the Omaha World-Herald of February 23, 1896, under the heading, "The Philosophy of Bolting," in which he defends the right to bolt in the following language:

The strength of party organization is found in the fact that men do not like to repudiate a man or leave their party for light or trivial causes. In fact, the tendency to vote a straight ticket is so great that men require the strongest of reasons to justify desertion, and yet the right to bolt or abandon is essential unless a man is to become a mere machine and unless the party machine is to be made omnipotent. The desire to draw voters to the party makes the party careful to endorse the wisest policies, and the fear that men may bolt is the most effective protection against bad elections.

The reason why abandonment of party is not frequent is found in the fact that party principles are generally permanent in character, and therefore the members of the party, agreeing in opinion, work together harmoniously to carry out those opinions in legislation. The fact that a new national platform is adopted every four years is evidence that the right of a party to change its position on a question is universally recognized, and the fact that a candidate is carried on through the press and upon the stump is proof that the right of the party to change his party affiliations is also recognized. The party is a means, not an end.

It may be said to contemplate the disturbance of harmony or the disintegration of a party, but until human nature is changed our form of government abandoned such things must be contemplated. If abandonment of party is ever justifiable the voter must determine for himself when the time for abandonment arrives. When should he decide? The proper time, if not the only time, is after the party has adopted its platform and named its candidates. Until that time he does not know whether he can rely upon it to secure the government which he regards as good and the legislation which he considers necessary. Does participation in a primary or a convention bind the voter to support a policy which he considers ruinous? If he tries, through his party organization, to save his country and fails, must he then take a hand in its destruction? If a great question arises must he assume that his party will go wrong and therefore leave it before it acts, or should he try to hold his party to the right course?

In making these declarations William Jennings Bryan was paying the way for a wholesale bolt of the free silver wing of his party, which at that time seemed to be on the eve of defeat in the national convention. But the changing of the tide turned the tables and Bryan found himself supported by a majority of the delegates. Who believes that he would have supported the Chicago candidate or the Chicago platform had he been turned down? Who believes that he would have relinquished his claim to the name of democrat had the gold wing controlled the convention and been vanquished at the polls?

There is something passing strange also in the assumption that the 6,470,656 people who cast their votes for Bryan electors are all "actual, sincere and heartfelt believers" in 16 to 1 free coinage and all the other doctrines in the Chicago platform. Mr. Bryan knows as well as every intelligent American knows that fully one-half of these voters gave "a formal and enforced submission" to the decree of the convention. It is a matter of history that the six New England states which gave Bryan 263,256 votes sent gold delegates to Chicago pledged against free silver. The states of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania, which cast 1,112,171 votes for Bryan, were equally pronounced against free silver, and so were the delegates from the states of Delaware, Maryland, Wisconsin and South Dakota and a majority of the delegation from Minnesota, while the Michigan state convention had also declared against free silver.

If the millions of democrats who supported Bryan and the Chicago platform against their honest convictions are good democrats according to the latest test prescribed by Bryan, under what rule of morals or ethics can Bryan proscribe the democrats who had the courage of their convictions and followed the advice which he volunteered before his nomination? If Bryan's democracy is true Jacksonian democracy, as he would have us believe, then the New England states and the great central states must be forever abandoned by the democratic party, and from a great national party it will sink down to a mere sectional and factional aggregation. In that condition its fate would be that which overtook the whig party when it disintegrated and passed out of existence.

STATE LEGISLATION.

Legislatures are in session in more than half of the states and these minor congresses of the people have it in their power to do more for the general welfare than it is possible for the national congress to do. They exercise great powers, which wisely used can accomplish a very great deal in promoting the progress and prosperity of the communities for which they legislate. Whoever has read the recommendations of the governors of the various states in which legislatures are assembled can not doubt that

there is abundant opportunity for useful work by these bodies. There is a universal demand for reforms of one kind and another, rendered necessary either by changed conditions or because policies and methods now in operation have been found to be inimical to the public interests. The most general demand is for the better regulation of corporations and in some of the states very aggressive legislation is recommended. It is noteworthy, also, that there is a pretty general demand for stringent anti-trust legislation, which is significant of a recognition on the part of state authorities of the power of the states to deal with this form of monopoly. It has been said that there is too much law-making and this is doubtless true, but there is still opportunity for wise and practical legislation in every state and not a few of them it is urgently needed.

STILL TRYING TO MISLEAD.

Because the country has not realized in the few weeks since the presidential election a full restoration of the prosperity of which it was deprived through the operation of democratic policy and the agitation for a debased currency, the defeated advocates of free silver exultingly proclaim that the republican promise has failed. The fact that a number of national banks have recently suspended, due in nearly every case to reckless management and the rashness of officials, and that business failures have been numerous, is pointed to as showing that no good results have followed republican success and as evidence that prosperity cannot be expected under the gold standard. This was done by the free silver leader in his address at Chicago Thursday night and it is to be expected that what he said will be echoed in the free silver organs and by his adherents throughout the country.

These people are not candid and while they will mislead some, they cannot deceive any who take an intelligent, practical and unprejudiced view of the situation. These know that although business depression has not been entirely removed the conditions are better than before the election. What are the facts that justify this statement? The most important of them is that financial apprehension has disappeared and there is confidence in monetary stability for at least four years to come. There is greater industrial activity and more labor employed, thus increasing the purchasing power of the people. The balance of foreign trade in our favor is being steadily enlarged by the excess of exports over imports, so that instead of borrowing money abroad we have money to lend there. Gold is accumulating in the national treasury, the banks at the money centers are amply supplied with money, capital is beginning to seek out safe investments. There is reason to believe that as a whole the banking institutions of the country are on a sound basis and while there will continue to be business failures—for these occur in times of prosperity as well as in times of depression—they will probably become less numerous. The fact is, that when one fairly considers the severe strain and stress to which the business of the country has been subjected for the past year it is surprising that failures have not been more numerous and disaster more general.

The republican party is not yet in power. The democratic policy which is responsible for depression is still in operation. The republican promise was to restore financial confidence and to give the country legislation that would provide the government with sufficient revenue and afford reasonable protection to American industries. Confidence, so far as concerns monetary stability, is restored. There is every assurance that the republicans will propose legislation that will infuse new life into our industries and make an active market for labor. A part of its promise has, therefore, been fulfilled; the other part will be if not prevented by the men who are falsely declaring that there has been no change for the better and who don't want prosperity because it would be destructive of their theories. When republican policy is fully inaugurated if it does not produce the results promised then the free silver advocates will be justified in leveling against the gold standard, but all fair-minded people will be disposed to wait until the party called to power has had an opportunity to put its policy into effect before declaring the promise of that party a failure.

SENATOR WOLCOTT'S MISSION.

It appears that the visit of Senator Wolcott to Europe, for the purpose of ascertaining the sentiment regarding an international conference to consider bimetallicism has not aroused much interest there. London advises say that bankers and practical financiers are talking about it quietly among themselves, but it has received no public discussion. Still it is expected that the senator will be cordially received, particularly by the bimetallicists, who constitute a very respectable element and whom it is easy to understand will be very glad to learn Senator Wolcott's views. The London correspondent of the New York Tribune says that the financial situation is favorable in one respect for promoting the objects of the senator's mission. The export of gold from England to India has begun and in view of the monetary stringency in India is likely to continue for some time. It is admitted by financiers that the reopening of the Indian mints would be of great assistance in the present crisis and for this reason Senator Wolcott's visit is thought to be well timed. The correspondent says it is possible he may receive some concessions on the silver question from financial authorities of the British government and officials of the Bank of England, but none of these will be in the direction of international bimetallicism.

The truth is that nobody seriously expects any practical result from this mission. The most that can be hoped from it is an accurate understanding of the official and public sentiment abroad regarding bimetallicism, from which the next administration can determine as to the expediency of inviting an international conference. Meanwhile congress-

can make provision for having the United States represented in such a conference, as contemplated in the proposition to be submitted to the senate republican caucus. The inquiry to be made by Senator Wolcott will serve a good purpose for the guidance of this government, but it is not probable that it will have any value beyond that. There is no reason to believe that any of the principal European governments are favorable to a free coinage agreement just now.

WANT TO GO ABOARD.

It is remarkable how many people are willing to serve the country in foreign lands. It is said that senators and representatives who will serve in the next congress are being deluged with applications for consular appointments under the next administration, the impression evidently being that there is no barrier to spoils-hunting in this direction. The fact is, however, that there will not be a great many consular officials appointed by the next administration if it adheres to the rule established applying the merit system to positions in the consular service where the compensation is not over \$2,500 or under \$1,000. Applicants for such places are now required to undergo an examination and it is presumed that the next administration will maintain this rule. More than one-half the total number of consular positions are subject to this rule, so that the chances of getting into the service are small. As to the better positions, many of them are now filled by experienced men, most of whom will very likely be retained.

It is expected that the next administration will endeavor to improve the character and efficiency of the consular service and in order to do that it will probably appoint new men only in cases where the incumbents have proved incapable or unfaithful. It is pretty safe to say, therefore, that there is disappointment in store for a very large majority of the applicants for consular appointments.

The Kansas state bank commissioner attributes the bank failures of the past few years to simply an overstoppage of banks, or more banks than were needed to do the banking business of the country. There may be something in this, although it is not a complete explanation. There were not too many banks when business was everywhere running at the top notch, but the reduction in the number of business houses and the decrease in their total business has had the effect of contracting the banking business to a point too low to support all the banks. More tersely expressed, all our business interests are so interdependent that one can not be injuriously affected without reacting on the others.

Governor Lee of South Dakota includes in his inaugural message a strong endorsement of the Trans-Mississippi Exposition and an urgent recommendation of a liberal appropriation by the legislature for an adequate exhibit from South Dakota. Governor Lee rightly insists that his state has the resources to make one of the most creditable displays at the exposition and that few states are in position to benefit from it to a greater degree. The hearty cooperation of South Dakota has been reaped from the first by the exposition managers and for that reason the good words of Governor Lee are doubly appreciated.

According to William Jennings Bryan a democrat is a man who believes in the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 and a man who does not believe in that proposition is a republican. If this is the correct version then every populist is a democrat, every prohibitionist who believes in free silver coinage is a democrat and every republican who advocates the free and unlimited coinage of silver is a democrat. In other words, democracy consists of democratic democrats, populist democrats, prohibition democrats and republican democrats.

Modern authorities may differ as to what a democrat really is. History, however, shows conclusively what Andrew Jackson was and with equal clearness what he was not. There never was any doubt about "Old Hickory's" attitude on any subject upon which he expressed himself. And he was most emphatically not of that dishonest breed which, fifty years after he is too dead to object, uses his name as a cloak for schemes of repudiation and fraud.

CANTON'S WAITING GLORY.

Only two months more and Canton, O., will sink back into the obscurity which has swallowed Lincoln, Neb.

GIVING THEIR MEASURE.

This week a number of the state legislators began the winter work of convincing the people that a serious mistake was made in electing them.

INMATE AND INAPPROPRIATE.

The Smithsonian institute is preparing to present theultan of Turkey with a life-size figure of a Sioux chief in full war array. Wouldn't an Apache in the act of slaying a victim be more to the caliph's taste?

A LESSON IN HONEST BANKING.

A silverite exchange says "The recent bank failures at Chicago and elsewhere have only intensified the sentiment in favor of bimetallicism." Noted! The only popular sentiment that has been "intensified" is that in favor of honest bankers and honest banking methods.

PROTECTION FOR THE PEOPLE.

Governor Pingree favors a law that will send to jail every person who smokes cigarettes, as well as those who sell them, and declares that if such an act is passed during his term of office he will sign it. Pingree's head is level. He may seem to certain persons to be radical upon the subject, but the person who wants to smoke ought to be compelled to use tobacco.

OFFENSIVE SENSATION.

News of sarcastic retort comes from Washington, where Secretary Morton is trying to induce the members of congress to have their packages of government seed addressed and sent off as rapidly as possible. It appears that "some of the congressmen who took the most trouble last year in sending out the seed" are so radical upon the subject, from which it is clear that government seed has a real value hitherto not

attributed to it, and possesses the rich humor inevitable in everything which comes from the Department of Agriculture.

COMING CONVENTION OF LAWYERS.

At their next meeting the manufacturers of steel billets will discuss the scheme of reorganization, the salient points of which are these: To close down many of the manufacturing, throw thousands of men out of work and bribe the owners not to start up by paying them large salaries to do nothing; to concentrate all the production of steel billets in the hands of a few large concerns, which will pay what they see fit and will see that no competition arises to advance the price enormously, although at present they are selling steel billets in foreign markets several dollars a ton cheaper than they sell them for their own countrymen.

AN IDEAL TARIFF BILL.

Philadelphia Inquirer. Experience has taught us that the great bulk of our revenue must come from duties upon imports, that those imports of entirely and we have to turn to internal taxation, which is a direct tax, for our income. The ideal tariff bill would give every American industry a fair show. The duty would be levied on the value of all exports of new inventors and their inventions and sometimes even to forestall them. It has long been suspected that there was underlying hundreds of millions of dollars in the patent office in connection with the issuance of the first telephone patent, though it was so hidden that the fraud could not be exposed. The same thing has happened in the case of the patent on the electric light bulb, and in the case of the patent on the electric motor, and in the case of the patent on the electric fan, and in the case of the patent on the electric refrigerator, and in the case of the patent on the electric stove, and in the case of the patent on the electric range, and in the case of the patent on the electric oven, and in the case of the patent on the electric toaster, and in the case of the patent on the electric coffee maker, and in the case of the patent on the electric iron, and in the case of the patent on the electric clothes wringer, and in the case of the patent on the electric vacuum cleaner, and in the case of the patent on the electric sewing machine, and in the case of the patent on the electric typewriter, and in the case of the patent on the electric adding machine, and in the case of the patent on the electric calculator, and in the case of the patent on the electric clock, and in the 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