

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

Published every morning. Terms of subscription: Daily Bee and Sunday, One Year, \$3.00...

Statement of circulation: Total copies printed 10,000. Total copies distributed 8,500. Total net sales \$12,000.

DEALING WITH PERPLEXING PROBLEMS

Nearly every legislature now in session is wrestling with the perplexing problem involved in the control, regulation or restriction of corporate combinations of every conceivable form.

In this, as in the regulation and control of railroads, state lawmakers are baffled by the states rights doctrine that enables the combines and trusts to play stultified and battledore across state lines.

The perplexing problem is how to bring combines doing an interstate business under the operation of state laws that can be effectually enforced.

The first step in restraint of the worst corporate abuse should be taken by the states in the general supervision of all concerns incorporated under state law.

The cancer that has been eating the vitals of the American industrial system is the fraudulent capitalization of corporations of every description.

The remedy lies in the prevention of further fraudulent and fictitious stock and bond issues. This abuse can and should be abolished by state and national legislation that would subject all corporations to publicity of resources and liabilities.

It will hereafter cost a Chicago woman \$3 to wear a high hat to the theater. This privilege opens a wide field for free advertising for women ambitious for notoriety.

Hawaii does not seem to be a very safe place for American diplomats if the experience of Stevens, Blount and Willis is the basis of judgment.

The liquor establishment that sought to gain favor by providing all but three or four of the members of the Indiana legislature with sample bottles of choice whiskey made one fatal mistake.

Nebraska survived the year 1896 without contributing a single example to the year's lynching record. This is a decided improvement over the preceding twelve months.

If the office of public defender is established by law it will be one of the most dignified and important of positions and should not be bandied about for a few months at a time among briefless attorneys who will use it as a means to an otherwise dubious livelihood.

The bill introduced into the Nebraska senate to prevent blindness in infants should not be taken by the uninformed to be a patent medicine advertisement.

representatives, particularly in England, it will do a desirable thing. The British ambassador to the United States does not go about making addresses at all sorts of occasions and there is no good reason why our representative at the British court should do so.

A REASSURING STATEMENT.

The statement by Senator Sherman of his views regarding the position of the United States government toward the Cuban insurrection is highly reassuring. It will be accepted as undoubtedly reflecting the opinion of the president-elect and it will have the effect to dispel whatever apprehension has existed that the next administration would adopt an extreme course in relation to Cuba.

While it is to be deplored that corn is so low and the market so restricted that farmers in certain parts of Nebraska and surrounding states prefer to use corn as fuel rather than dispose of it at the price offered, yet if he really is the farmer he cannot be blamed for pursuing that course.

FUEL VALUE OF CORN.

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The following table shows how much coal is worth per ton when its heating power is the same as that used in the experiment and when corn is selling at a certain price per bushel:

The economic farmer will not burn corn as fuel when he can secure the same heat cheaper by buying coal and selling corn. Nor will the economic farmer decline to burn corn so long as the price is so low that he can save money by so doing.

The United States is said to have produced 4,699,187,555 cigars during the year 1896. Computing the importations and exportations as counterbalancing one another this means fifty-eight cigars for each man, woman and child of our 79,000,000 population.

It remains to be seen whether the courts will countenance the claim on which one of the Northern Pacific attorneys is suing the receivership for a fee of over \$11,000 for services in securing the passage of a bill by the North Dakota legislature.

Populist National Committeeman Washburn says the campaign for free silver was only a preliminary to the campaign for flat paper and stumps. Prior to the election few free silverites could be persuaded to admit this.

Senator Hill and William J. Bryan ought to get together. They both say they are democrats of the genuine brand, but one sees nothing but defeat before the party, while the other can see nothing but certain democratic victory.

A complete collection of all the governors' messages delivered this month would afford a most comprehensive view of political and industrial conditions throughout the whole country.

structure and suggestive information. The governor's message is a peculiarly American document, and it holds a unique place in the realm of literary productions.

And now complaint is made in Massachusetts that the bar association of that state is a close corporation organized for the purpose of assisting members to exact extortionate lawyers' fees from helpless clients, an illegal business in which it is regularly sustained and protected by the courts.

Washington merchants and hotel keepers are looking forward to the inauguration of McKinley with great expectations of making up for what they missed when Cleveland was inaugurated. The crowds that attend republican festivities have money to pay their expenses and spend it. Had the propepetic ticket won in the election the local merchants at the national capital would have long ago made up their minds that there was nothing in the inaugural celebration for them.

Seventy thousand sheep are being cared for this winter in one county in Nebraska and 30,000 sheep in another county. The Nebraska sheep industry is only waiting a favorable opportunity to expand into one of the most profitable and important businesses in the state.

The National Educational association brings to the city where it convenes from 15,000 to 20,000 people during its annual session. These people come from among the most intellectual and highly cultivated classes of American men and women.

The democrats who are so freely predicting factional fights among republicans so soon as the republicans take control of the national administration may rest assured of one thing—even if worse comes to worst the republicans could not equal the record of the democrats for factionalism since President Cleveland resumed the executive office four years ago.

One of the appeals made to the ways and means committee is for a duty of \$2 a ton on coal tar. Tar is a by-product of gas and the fall in the price of gas has been due largely to the better utilization of the by-products. If the price of tar is stiffened by a protective duty the price of gas goes down still further.

This sudden dropping of the Cuban question in the senate leads to the suspicion that some of the senators burned their fingers with it.

It was a touching union of the far east with the far west when Croker joined his arms to those of Huntington to secure the passage of the funding bill.

Several Boston boys broke up a bogus "spirit materialization seance" recently and exposed the fraud, capturing all the "spooks" in the phantasm.

The report of the Board of Publication of the Official Records of the Rebellion shows that 101 volumes have been listed, each more to follow for the completion of the story of the active operations of the war, and that 1,467,589 copies of the books have been distributed and sold.

The question of a century celebration of the death of Edmund Burke is being mooted in Ireland.

King Oscar of Sweden, our empire under the Yonozola treaty, has more medals of honor than a champion bicycle rider, but he only wears them on extraordinary occasions of state and when having his picture taken.

A Paris lawyer ran after and overtook a thief who had snatched a watchchain from the lawyer's companion, a young actress, and was amazed to discover that the culprit was a client whose account he had secured for a similar offense committed a few months before.

The price of kisses continues to fluctuate out of all proportion to the ordinary elevations and depressions of the market. Here is a Philadelphia woman demanding \$2,000 for a kiss.

The state of Massachusetts gives official employment to a photographer who devotes his time to securing cutting views of the sportsmen of the state and distributing them broadcast throughout the rest of the union as advertisements.

Department stores are receiving the attention of legislators, as well as small retail merchants, for the purpose of introducing into the Missouri legislature a proposition that each department, but as the tax would also strike country stores, the measure has been abandoned.

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BLASTS FROM RAMS' HORN.

The fault-finder is color blind to virtue. Every man is a giant in the eyes of some boy.

Adamant is like wax in comparison with a miser's heart.

What does it profit a man to be wise, if he marries like a fool?

A wooden head plate will be remembered longer than a souvenir teaspoon.

If you would know what it means to be rich, find out that it is blessed to give.

The man most in need of mercy, is the one who will have no mercy on himself.

In their sermons preachers get many preachers never prepare a stopping place. When the heart strings are rightly touched, divine music will be the sure result.

If your situation is bad, you can better it by helping some one less fortunate than yourself.

Too many people are singing, "Scatter Sunshine," and waiting for somebody else to do it.

The poorest people are not those who have to get much out of little, but those who get little out of much.

The devil has a better round the neck of every man who is trying to get money in any easier way than by honestly earning it.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.

New York Tribune: The Roman Catholic priests of Paris have been forbidden to go to theaters. In the present state of the stage in that city, they will not miss much.

Indianapolis Journal: "And yet you said that you were dead a long time with me." "I really thought so at the time, but it appears to have been only a trance."

Duck: "She taunts me," he hissed, "with saying she was born as she is. 'This true, methinks, her father, her mother, her heaven, three-for's and mine only Pittsburgh stories; but a man's a man for a' that.'"

Town Topics: "I know you will like Fred, but he is very lowly and low with me." "My daughter, I am disappointed in you; I did think you would marry a man who would occasionally get up his heels over his father out to have something."

Cincinnati Enquirer: "Why do you appear so pleasantly surprised?" "Because you appear so surprisingly pleasant."

Old Gentleman: "And now I appear, unapproach, but not unpleasant. Break away and take your course."

Boston Transcript: "Fenderson—Hello, Fogg! How's your wife? I understand she is confined to the house."

She whose one joy, whose heart's delight, Was just to see her husband fight, Her children dear, by day and night, Her father's school, her mother's sight, Her face beside the open door, Her smile no mother's glad!

Now if we smile or if we sigh, Or smile or sigh, or look or cry, Or open like a flower we lie, Or closed we lie, or dead we lie, Or do we but pretend to live, Or do we but pretend to die, Or do we but pretend to be, Or do we but pretend to be?

The dear old farm, the little house, Where all was busy bright, You told from north to night, And, singing, led thy children on In childhood's merry ring.

It, too, is lonely mother dear, Or, too, is dark, or light, Or will thy mission call thee there To cheer the lonely, or to cheer, If homes can feel, it loves thee still, No other light it had!

No other light, sweet mother mine, Can make me home to me, No there is no smile like that of thine On dreary land or sea; Though other friends may through its walls, Thy empty without thee.

Avoca, Ia. E. T. C.

Enormous Profits Gathered Up by Insurance Companies. According to the reports of the fire insurance companies in this country, the insurance business is one of the most profitable in the country.

The total fire losses last year were \$130,000,000, which was less than for any other year since 1890.

There was no great fire in any city in 1896 involving millions in a single loss. The losses were widely distributed among cities from the fourth or fifth class to the first class.

The following table shows the total fire losses and the insurance losses for seven years, from 1890 to 1896 inclusive:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Total losses, Insurance. 1890: \$100,000,000, \$70,000,000. 1891: \$110,000,000, \$80,000,000. 1892: \$120,000,000, \$90,000,000. 1893: \$130,000,000, \$100,000,000. 1894: \$140,000,000, \$110,000,000. 1895: \$150,000,000, \$120,000,000. 1896: \$160,000,000, \$130,000,000.

Hard times years are usually most productive of fires. Incendiarism prevails to a greater extent when trade is depressed and insolvency threatens many classes than it does in prosperous years.

It is added that the insurance companies will divide \$4,000,000 profits in excess of their average dividends. This is a large sum to harvest from the calamities of the people of the country.

A New York Name for the Disease Commonly Known as Hustle. A German physician has discovered a new disease, he calls it Americanitis.

the machine. The result is chronic fatigue, not from overwork, but from unnecessary work. When we learn to use only those muscles which are needed for a particular act, we will expand but a small fraction of the vital energy we now lavish on our work, and we will have a reserve force that will save us from premature breakdown and life as over disease.

DOMESTIC IDYLS.

Somerville Journal: Old maids retire. Other people go to bed.

Chicago Record: "They say early raising is very unhealthy." "I raised with me." "Well," replied young Mrs. Torkins, doubtfully, "he usually helps take up the count of the count."

Dublin Freeman: He (angrily)—Was there any fool sweet on you before I married you? "Yes," said she.

"But I didn't reject him; I married him." Detroit Free Press: "How did you happen to discharge that last girl, Mrs. Meekly?" "I just had to. She only allowed me two afternoons a week."

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Now if we smile or if we sigh, Or smile or sigh, or look or cry, Or open like a flower we lie, Or closed we lie, or dead we lie, Or do we but pretend to live, Or do we but pretend to die, Or do we but pretend to be, Or do we but pretend to be?

The dear old farm, the little house, Where all was busy bright, You told from north to night, And, singing, led thy children on In childhood's merry ring.

It, too, is lonely mother dear, Or, too, is dark, or light, Or will thy mission call thee there To cheer the lonely, or to cheer, If homes can feel, it loves thee still, No other light it had!

No other light, sweet mother mine, Can make me home to me, No there is no smile like that of thine On dreary land or sea; Though other friends may through its walls, Thy empty without thee.

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Coming to this country, he was puzzled by finding among his patients all manner of nervous disorders which seemed to have no organic basis. He has made a number of different varieties that come under his notice, and has named the mysterious malady Americanitis.

In his opinion, the disease is characterized in the hurry excitement and intense application of life in this country.

It is true that as a nation, Americans lack repose. Yankee zeal in well-doing is an undeniable fact of history. It is proverbial among foreign chroniclers who have written us up as especially diligent.

Three-fourths of the population is afflicted with nervousness, which varies in intensity from trivial habits and mannerisms to actual disease. We drink with the flag and we pull fellows to bits. We twist and untwist screws of paper. We tap the floor with our feet. We scribble and scribble and scribble back and forth in rocking chairs. Finally, we collectively and individually, chew gum.

All this occurs in ordinary conversation and passes for vivacity. It is not, however, only perfectly innocent and natural, but as a necessary form of working off superfluous energy.

As a matter of fact, it is a most unnatural mode of expression and an unjustifiable waste of vital energy. It is a serious indication of a wrong attitude of mind and an unwholesome mode of life.

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'It's Time'

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YOU ARE NOW ABLE TO PURCHASE OUR OWN HIGH GRADE SUITS AT \$3.00, \$10.00, \$12.00 AND \$15.00—THAT WERE \$12.50, \$15.00, \$20.00 AND \$22.50. OVERCOATS AT THE SAME SAVING. FINE BLACK CLAY WORSTED TROUSERS—THAT WERE \$5.00—CAN BE HAD FOR \$3.75—ALSO MANY VERY DESIRABLE PATTERNS IN CHEVIOT, CASHMERE AND WORSTED AT THE SAME LOW FIGURES.

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