THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

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George B. Tzschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of February, 1897, was as follows:

1	19,796	15	19,912
2	19,794	16	19,859
3	19,801	17	19,848
4	19,675	18	19,841
5	19,809	19	19,866
6	19,887	20	19,896
7	20,310	21	20,320
8	19,787	22	19,918
9	19,871	23	19,907
10	20,003	24	19,841
11	19,778	25	19,792
12	19,823	26	19,916
13	19,830	27	19,898
14	20,300	28	20,550

Total	557,918
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Total net sales	549,505
Net daily average	19,625

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 1st day of March, 1897.

(Seal.) N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

THE BEE ON TRAINS.

All railroad newsboys are supplied with enough Bees to accommodate every passenger who wants to read a newspaper. Insist upon having The Bee. If you cannot get a Bee on a train from the news agent, please report the fact, stating the train and railroad, to the Circulation Department of The Bee. The Bee is for sale on all trains.

INSIST ON HAVING THE BEE.

Uruguay has at last concluded to maintain its reputation by having another little revolution of its own.

The governor who is not permitted to name a senator or two these days feels as if he were shorn of part of his executive prerogative.

Since all great men who are hors de combat must write books, it will be in order for ex-Senator Dubois to write his memoirs under the title of "The Lost Battle."

The charter passed the senate with the emergency clause, but it will encounter several stumbling-blocks before it passes the house without the emergency clause.

When the council is required by law to levy all the school taxes the school board may see fit to make requisition for, the annual tax rate will be high enough to stop the High school clock.

City employes have the advantage over county officials in that they have no cause to worry over their salaries for the next couple of months. But then there is the assessment for the summer campaign.

Before the season of wolf hunts is over it might be well, in view of the condition of the finances of Douglas county, to devise some feasible method of keeping the wolf from the door of the county treasury.

Now is this not presuming on the public patience a little too much? A combination announced to raise the price of yeast! Has it not come to a pretty pass when yeast is no longer strong enough to raise itself?

The people of Omaha want the exposition held on the site that promises most for its success from every point of view. The exposition is a public enterprise and private interests must be subordinated to the public interest.

The prospect that the long pending viaduct case may be advanced on the calendar of the United States court will furnish cheering news to those who are hoping to live long enough to see the viaducts once more in safe and passable condition.

Only 106 presidential nominations to postmasterships unacted on by the senate before the adjournment that caused them all to lapse. But this is only a starter for President McKinley. He will be dealing out postoffices nearly every day of his entire presidential term.

There are lots of laws on the statute books now to punish bribery at the polls and corruption in elections, but the penalties are too seldom enforced. If some of the energy expended in framing new laws to punish election frauds were devoted to the prevention of lawlessness at the polls and its punishment whenever detected, better results might be accomplished.

President McKinley will not emulate Grover Cleveland in vetoing pension bills voted by congress to the widows of union veterans. We trust, however, that President McKinley will sternly set his face against every attempt to have the charge of desertion removed from the records of men who have let thirty-two years elapse after the close of the war without clearing their skirts from the stigma of desertion.

We have the word of Congressman Newlands of Nevada that the free silver men in congress will not endeavor to obstruct tariff legislation at the extra session. Mr. Newlands ought to be in a position to speak with authority on the plans of the free silverites, yet, at the same time, it may be well for the republicans to wait till the work of tariff making is begun before counting on their late opponents remaining passive.

WHY NOT RECOUNT ALL?

The decision of Judge Keysor denying the application for an injunction to restrain the clerk of Douglas county from delivering the constitutional amendment ballots to the secretary of state as required by the recent recount law and the dismissal of similar proceedings in the courts of Lancaster county removes the obstruction sought to be interposed to a recount of the votes cast for the amendment to the constitution increasing the number of supreme court judges. If it be true, however, that in several of the counties that have transmitted their ballots to the secretary of state whole precinct returns are missing, it will be impossible to get an absolutely correct recount of the whole state. No returning board has ever been clothed with power to make computation of an election on estimates of votes presumed to have been cast. Unless it is found that the ballots actually counted show a constitutional majority for the amendment the governor will not be in position to issue a proclamation declaring the amendment adopted.

If, as is now predicted, the recount will show conclusively that the amendment has been adopted the people of Nebraska will want to know why the recount should stop with one out of the twelve amendments that were voted on at the last election. Is there not at least a reasonable probability that sufficient votes were polled to carry several other amendments which are of equal, if not greater, public importance than the first one? While it is true that the last amendment on the ballot received many thousand less votes than the first, the arbitrary grouping of the amendments may not have affected all of them to the same extent. Now that the state has gone to the expense and trouble of undertaking a recount, would it not be well for the governor to send a bill into the legislature authorizing the commission to recount the other amendments in case the first is found to have been adopted?

THE EUROPEAN SITUATION.

The next few days promise to be most eventful in European affairs. It will probably be determined before the end of the present week whether peace is to be preserved or a war inaugurated which will ultimately involve all Europe. Today the ultimatum of the powers to Greece expires and if the Hellenic government does not comply with them, but insists on maintaining its position toward Crete, a grave crisis will be presented. The statement that the ambassadors of the powers have made preparations to leave Athens indicates that they expect the ultimatum will not be complied with. There seems to be no doubt that it is the purpose of the powers to avert war, but will they be able to do it? Greece is ready and willing to fight and she knows she has the popular sentiment of Europe with her. Turkey, it is said, is also in a warlike mood. Can the six powers prevent these nations from coming into conflict, or will they act in harmonious concert to that end? The answer to these questions will soon appear.

Meanwhile public sentiment in Europe, particularly in England, is manifesting itself strongly in sympathy with Greece. The political opponents of the British ministry are making the most of the opportunity to attack the government on its attitude in the Cretan matter and it is predicted that in the event of the government joining in coercive measures against Greece the ministry will speedily be overthrown. It does not appear, however, that this threat is having any effect upon Salisbury and his colleagues. There is no intimation that they contemplate any change of attitude, or that they do not as firmly intend now as at the outset that Great Britain's obligation to the powers shall be faithfully performed. And only in this way, it is perfectly apparent, will it be possible to avert war, for if the British government should prove derelict the concert of the powers would be at an end and with that broken and each power acting independently war would be inevitable.

The situation is extremely critical and for the next few days European news will possess the greatest interest.

FROM THE TOP DOWNWARD.

Thoughtful observers agree that the past quarter of a century has witnessed a deplorable lowering of the standard of public morals as exemplified in American social and political life. The tendency among public men and social reformers is to ascribe this degeneration to the infusion into our population of the debased blood of ignorant foreigners whose depraved habits and vices have been permitted to permeate the untainted atmosphere of America. This idea has been generally accepted as correct by pulpit, press and platform. It finds expression in President McKinley's inaugural, when he seeks to impress upon the nation the necessity of a higher citizenship through more stringent immigration laws, and indulges in the prediction that we shall attain the highest destiny as the foremost of the enlightened nations of the world by encouraging the spread of knowledge and banishing illiteracy from the land.

Is it true that the source of political corruption and social depravity with which America is afflicted is to be found in the dregs of society? Is it true that the virus of vice which is corroding our social fabric has been imported through degraded foreigners? Has not the evolution in American tastes, habits and morals which the church is impotent to arrest come from the top downward rather than from the bottom upward? Has not the tide of corruption, vice and crime its true source among the scions of American aristocracy who have had every advantage of education and social polish, and who by extravagance, licentiousness and flagrant disregard of common decency and honesty have set examples of degeneracy that have too quickly taken root? Are low-bred immigrants or high-bred natives responsible for the lamentable imitations of French manners and morals which scandalize so-called society and afford the food for a debased pictorial press and the demoralizing plays that disgrace the stage? Is our decadence traceable to the illiterate sons of Italy, Russia, Austria and Ireland, who come to this country to better their condition, or to the rich Americans who spend abroad fortunes amassed by their ancestors at home and whose children are raffled to princelings and coundlets?

These questions present themselves to the careful student of social evolution. Conceding that the stream can not rise above its source, it becomes a grave problem how best to protect the wellsprings of society from contaminating influences. Poverty and illiteracy are doubtless responsible for their share of human misery, and the safety of the republic lies today where it did in the days of Washington, with that sturdy middle class, which is at once above pinching want and tempting wealth. To this class America must look for the elevation of those below it and the regeneration of those above it. The danger to free institutions is greatest from the cultured apes of nobility who spurn honest toil and look with scorn upon the artisan and laborer.

FEARS THAT ARE GROUNDLESS.

The failure of the sundry civil bill to receive the president's signature knocks out every dollar of government aid for the Transmississippi Exposition and makes it necessary to go over the entire subject again in the next congress if it is decided to go on with the enterprise. This action of the president is exceedingly discouraging to the Nebraska representatives who have been working with might and main for months to secure this appropriation. There is a prospect that the matter may be brought up in the coming special session, but as it will be a new congress nobody can even guess what the outcome will be.—Lincoln Journal.

The wish is father to the thought. The Lincoln Journal never fails to exhibit its innate hostility to Omaha, even when Omaha business men give it liberal patronage. Everything that might obstruct or cripple the exposition is hailed by it with malicious delight, not because Lincoln is thereby benefited, but because Omaha may be hurt.

Fortunately the view taken by the Journal rests on baseless assumption. True, the failure of the sundry civil bill carried with it the congressional appropriation for the government building and exhibit at the exposition. Its failure, however, means at the very worst a few weeks' delay in making available the $200,000 pledged by the act of congress approved in June, 1896. That act not merely grants recognition to the Transmississippi and International Exposition and confers upon it all the privileges accorded other international expositions, but expressly commits the government to participation in the exposition. In view of the fact that the sundry civil bill includes appropriations for varied public purposes involving many millions of dollars the bill is sure to receive the immediate attention of the new congress, and its final passage is not likely to be delayed very long. The effect of the bill's failure upon the exposition is of no other moment than the incidental retarding of plans for the government building. As a compensating consequence of this unforeseen delay the chances are more favorable for an increased appropriation.

THE SOUTH AND THE CURRENCY.

A southern planter, in a communication to an eastern paper, points out in a very clear and convincing way the currency requirement of the south and the matter is one of general interest, as well from a political as from a business point of view. There is excellent reason to believe that the free silver sentiment in that section is largely due to the lack there of an adequate supply of currency. This view has been advanced by sound money men in the south and they urge that in order to overcome that sentiment and to win the southern people to the cause of sound money, the financial system must be so changed as to enable the south to obtain a larger supply of currency.

It is stated that the south complains that the present system is not adapted to the wants of a great productive, sparsely settled agricultural region, however well it may answer the demands of densely populated commercial centers. The writer referred to says: "The south wants the best, most stable and potent dollar it can get, having and retaining the greatest purchasing power as to quality, and in quantity equal to and directly responsive to the varying demands for currency as a medium of commercial exchange. It wants a system of banking liberal enough to reach all sections and so adjusted that without impairing its value the volume of currency can be expanded to meet the demands of a vast productive region for the marketing and transportation of its products." These are entirely reasonable wants and they exist in portions of the west as well as in the south. They present a problem that calls for early solution and it will be the duty of the next congress to address itself earnestly to the subject.

In a speech in the house near the close of the last congress, Representative Walker, chairman of the banking and currency committee, strongly assailed the existing banking system as operating most injuriously to the agricultural portions of the country. He declared that "the large cities are relatively profited by the present national banking system of issuing currency, but in every other place it is a blighting curse." He said further that the system amounts practically to a prohibition to the farming interests of some sections of this country as to borrowing money. This may not be a strictly fair arraignment, but it must be confessed that there are defects which urgently call for remedy. The fact that money is congested at the financial centers during much of the time, while in other parts of the country there is continual scarcity, shows a condition that needs correction. If there be a practicable way of correcting it. Obviously the matter is one of very great importance and it should be dealt with as promptly as possible.

Nebraska has a school district suffrage for women who own taxable property or who have children in attendance upon the schools, but the privilege of voting for school officers is exercised by an insignificant fraction of those entitled to it under the law. In Kansas women have for years voted not only at school elections, but at all municipal elections. The outcome in Kansas has been the same as in Nebraska. At first the new voters swarmed to the polls as a matter of curiosity and novelty. Gradually their interest cooled off, except in rare instances, when some special local excitement drew them out. In no case has the expectation of permanent reform in municipal government been realized.

It is not the initial appropriation for the establishment of a new state institution like the proposed State Normal school at Scotia that makes it a most objectionable burden on the taxpayers, but the fact that it is the foundation for constantly recurring demands for regular biennial appropriations for running expenses. Each new state institution is so much added to the cost of operating the state government. It means so many more employes on the state payroll and so many salaries to be paid out of the state treasury. Still worse, it means so much more encouragement to people in other communities who are periodically offering valuable properties to the state as a bonus for another normal school.

Under the proposed new charter the city of Omaha is required to pay $1,800 a year for a city clerk, $2,000 for a city comptroller and $2,500 for a tax commissioner. But the framers of this charter insist that the salary of commissioners, who manage the affairs of Douglas county and exercise greater powers than the tax commissioner in the fixing of the tax rate, shall be reduced from $1,800 to $1,200 a year. There is no doubt that scores of men are anxious to serve for $1,200, and many be glad to serve without salary, but it is a serious question whether the cheapest men would not be the dearest in the end.

Setting the preliminary hearing of ex-State Treasurer Bartley on the charges of embezzlement of state money preferred against him for April 19, over six weeks hence, and at a time when it is supposed the pending legislative session will have run its course, certainly has a suspicious flavor about it. If Mr. Bartley has any defense he ought to be anxious to have it urged as soon as possible. Does it not look as if we were to be again treated to a case where the offender is to attempt to go unpunished simply by tiring justice out?

The reason why the agreement to drop Mr. Covell and make Mr. Meyers attorney for the school board was broken is now apparent. In consideration of retaining his $500 sinecure Covell promised through Brother-in-law Ransom to fix the law so that the school board would have all the money to spend that it wanted by simply making a demand upon the council. That school board attorneyship always was an expensive luxury for the taxpayers.

An exposition held on ground hemmed in by buildings legitimately occupied will be as free as possible from the side shows and other kindred nuisances which should be kept at the utmost distance from the center of attraction.

Pushing a Good Thing Along.
Globe-Democrat.

Only three members of the Michigan house voted against a bill to pay a bounty of 1 cent a pound on beet sugar. The time is coming when the $100,000,000 spent for foreign sugar will be kept at home.

Triumphs of Public Life.
Detroit Free Press.

President Cleveland leaves the presidency incalculably richer than when he first assumed it. Who can estimate the value of a queenly wife and a trio of happy, charming children?

Cheered on to Success.
Indianapolis Journal.

It is probable that a great majority of the people, regardless of politics, desire the success of the new administration, not so much because they are favorable to the republican party, but because they desire a return of prosperous times and of that feeling of security which is the basis of general prosperity. This is a fortunate condition for the incoming president.

South African Republics.
Philadelphia Ledger.

The diplomacy of the largest nations is not unmindful of the movements of the smallest, and the announcement that President Kruger of the Transvaal is expected to visit President Stein of the Orange Free State, with a view to discussing a closer union of the two republics, is sufficient to excite the attention of both England and Germany. The latter may favor the project, temporarily, because it will be a check to England's advance in South Africa, but the former may be expected to use every means to checkmate the project.

A Golden Nugget.
Philadelphia North American.

Major McKinley gave another illustration of his special ability for expressing the gist of a controverted question in homely, lucid and striking language in his letter to the sound money advocates who banqueted in New York on Saturday night, when he uttered this golden saying: "Poor money cannot make any one rich, and sound money cannot and will not make any one poor." The truth of this strikes home at once and it is more convincing than a long and flowery argument on the advantages of the present monetary standard. The president-elect gave utterance to many such lucid arguments during the campaign, and there can be no doubt that they had a powerful effect in shaping the result. At least, we all know now that the great majority of the masses of this country are of Major McKinley's way of thinking.

Spain Stranded Again.
Boston Globe.

It looks as if the treasury of Spain were going down for the third and last time.

The "popular" loan of $59,000,000 raised last fall has been exhausted, and where is the next lift coming from? The last much-heralded offering of patriotism was largely wrung from the banks and bankers by processes that are not likely to be repeated.

Since the insurrection began money has been raised in Cuba by devices in the way of forced loans that even the most firmly intrenched despots have seldom dared to resort to. Weyler issued $10,000,000 in paper money under the threat that whoever refused to take it should be peremptorily locked up and kept in prison.

Forcing the people to take "green goods" in payment for solid values can be made to go at prison doors and at the point of the bayonet, but the limit must finally be reached. Spain has gone ashore financially, and it is most unlikely that she can ever again score a "popular outburst" or pad Cuban credit with any more worthless paper.

No wonder her rulers, who understand the desperate financial straits in which the kingdom finds itself, are adopting a conciliatory course.

They have no relish for more war—particularly war with the United States. What could that mean to Spain but financial ruin and national humiliation?

THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS.

Wise and Fitting Suggestions.
St. Paul Pioneer Press (rep.)

The new president's inaugural address has the especial merit of being short, but it is pregnant with wise and fitting suggestions on these various topics, in which he sketches in broad outline the main features of the policy of his administration.

The Man for the Emergency.
Minneapolis Journal (rep.)

Dignity with humility, confidence with modesty, courage with caution, are the impressions conveyed by the first utterances of our new president. In this speech, perhaps more than in any other which he has ever delivered, he justifies the hope that he is the man for the emergency.

Temperate and Sensible.
Minneapolis Times (ind. dem.)

The tone of the entire message is temperate, sensible and reassuring. There is no doubt that it is the deliverance of a man who profoundly realizes the magnitude and solemnity of the responsibilities he has assumed, and is inspired by a lofty purpose to discharge the great trust with absolute fidelity.

A Good Tempered Address.
Denver Republican (sil.)

The message as a whole is a well-written, good-tempered address, such as might naturally be expected from a conservative man upon assuming an office of such vast responsibility as the presidency, but even the warmest supporters of the new administration can hardly regard it as a great state paper when compared with many of the best that have gone before it.

Frank and Clear.
Indianapolis Journal (rep.)

His first official utterance as president will confirm public opinion as to his eminent soundness on these questions, and his forecasting of policies will undoubtedly contribute to the growth of confidence. He speaks strongly and unequivocally for monetary reform, tariff reform, increased revenue, protection and reciprocity. He regards these as prime requisites to the restoration of prosperity and declares himself without reserve in favor of each and every one of them. His treatment of these question is characteristically frank and clear, and much as they have been discussed, he turns a new light on some of them.

Peace and Prosperity.
Chicago Times-Herald.

We do not know how the president's words will be construed by the firebrands in congress. But they should reflect that Mr. McKinley comes direct from the people and that his lofty advocacy of peace is in a sense the expression of the will of a vast majority of his fellow citizens. To all who have watched the progress of events at Washington with apprehension his utterances are a reassuring sign that under his administration the government of this country will not forsake the policy of dignified self-control, upon which so much of its strength and influence depends.

McKinley spells peace as well as prosperity.

A Tone of Confidence.
New York Times (dem.)

There is nothing boastful in the inaugural address of President McKinley, but it is pervaded with a note of confidence that the one thing needed to restore prosperity and happiness to the country is a return to the policy of the republican party in dealing with questions that affect the material interests of the people. The tone of the utterances in the address, while not boastful, is certainly optimistic. A large increase of revenue is demanded as a preliminary to any effort to deal with the currency question, but the revenue must be raised by a tariff on imported goods, and the tariff must be adjusted to the protection of American industry.

Open to Criticism.
St. Paul Globe (dem.)

Contrasting portions of the message picture to us the man of strong prepossessions, of a policy heretofore limited to a single idea, of views somewhat crude, but all beginning already to be tempered and broadened by the heaviest responsibility that can come to man. The saving grace is the note of fidelity to duty, of a desire to serve the people well. Despite the criticism to which the message is open, we catch in much of it, and especially in the simplicity and strength of its closing sentences, glimpses of a man who, if he have strength to follow duty even when it divides ways with party, may not be unequal to the wonderful opportunity that at last lays it demands and its dangers at his feet.

Characteristic of the Man.
Cleveland Plain Dealer (pop.)

President McKinley's inaugural is characteristic of the man—a plain, unpretentious statement of his views as to the policy that should be pursued on matters of present national importance. There is little attempt to enforce those views with argument and no embellishment with oratorical effects. These are his opinions and beliefs. Those are his suggestions to congress. Whether they are adopted or not, he has discharged his duty in that regard to the people who elected him and to the country whose affairs he has been called upon to direct within certain limitations. In any case he will enforce the laws as he finds them, and do all he can for the welfare of the whole people. Knowing the man, we have full faith in his sincerity of purpose.

Trust in the Most High.
Denver News (pop.)

The most striking feature of President McKinley's inaugural is the deep reverence for God and the firm reliance upon divine help declared by its author. "I assume the arduous duties of president of the United States," said the newly-inducted president, "relying on the support of my countrymen and invoking the guidance of Almighty God."

Ordinarily presidents in their first addresses have been content with a simple invocation of the Deity and an expression of reliance upon divine assistance. This is the formula Mr. McKinley followed in the sentences quoted, but he was not satisfied with this—he was constrained to leave no doubt upon the mind of the country as to the deeply reverential manner in which he assumed the great responsibilities of his office.

Favorable Impressions.
New York Sun (dem.)

Rigid economy in government expenditures, debt-paying instead of debt-making management of our finances, revenue adequate to the public needs and chiefly from a protective tariff on imports, the revival of Blaine's reciprocity, American ships again on the ocean, an American policy for the honor of the flag and the protection of American citizens, a respectful and friendly attitude on the part of the executive toward the legislative department of the government and unity and good feeling between north and south—such is the McKinley program as announced Thursday. There is the framework of an administration which can satisfy the country and restore prosperity to its citizens. To the majority of readers Thursday's inaugural address will be interesting as a sort of personal introduction to a new man and a new mind. The impression created by the document, we are sure, will be mainly favorable.

A Great Disappointment.
Kansas City Star (ind. dem.)

The president's treatment of the tariff is a great disappointment. Not that his position was wholly unexpected, but because of the hope that he might be lifted by the grandeur of his office above the narrow idea which has dominated his whole public career. There is, in this feature of his address, little consolation for the thousands and thousands of unselfish and patriotic voters who, in the face of their bitter hostility to protection, voted for Mr. McKinley under spur of the conviction that by this sacrifice alone would it be possible to protect the credit of the nation. It is incredible that, in the verdict which was made possible and emphasized by the voice of the sound money democracy, Mr. McKinley should recognize an indorsement of a protective tariff. This may not be a willful indignity to the element of the democratic party which was responsible for the president's election, but it cannot fail to seriously modify the cordial good will which that class of voters was ready to extend to the new administration, and it is certain that this early declaration of war on a more liberal commercial policy will not encourage the independent democrats to think of co-operating permanently with the republicans.

MISPLACED PUBLIC CONFIDENCE.

Norfolk Journal: If Joe Bartley knows where the missing state funds are he ought to be willing to tell. And if he isn't willing to tell, he ought to be made to.

Hastings Tribune: If ex-Auditor Moore has used the people's money in speculating in gold or silver mines or for any purpose not laid down by the law he ought to be punished.

Humboldt Standard: Let there be no unnecessary delay in the cases against ex-Treasurer Bartley and ex-Auditor Moore. Let the finances of the state be placed on some basis at once. The people are entitled to know how they stand.

Holdrege Progress: We believe in giving the devil his dues and in this connection take occasion to commend the few republican papers of the state which are honest and fearless enough to denounce members of the party who have looted the state treasury.

Albion News: Ex-Treasurer Bartley and and ex-Auditor Moore are both under arrest for stealing state money. We hope they will be prosecuted vigilantly, and if found guilty, sent to the penitentiary for good long terms. There is no excuse for either of them.

Osmond Republican: The two defaulting officers, Bartley and Moore, should be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. All loyal republicans in the state regret the state of affairs, but since these officials have betrayed their trust they are no better than common criminals.

Gordon Journal: There is a rumor that Joe Bartley, ex-treasurer, will embark in the banking business in Lincoln. It is also rumored that if he don't cough up about $500,000 of the state's funds, he will spend the remainder of his days in Lincoln, but it will be behind the bars of the penitentiary.

Sterling Eagle: Joseph Bartley, ex-state treasurer, and Eugene Moore, ex-state auditor, are under arrest charged with the embezzlement of funds belonging to the state. What the outcome will be is hard to state. One thing is sure, these fellows made a private snap out of a public office and are now suffering the consequences.

Wahoo New Era: To add to the general embarrassment, intelligence reached the state house Saturday that Dr. Armstrong, republican ex-superintendent of the Asylum for Feeble Minded at Beatrice, has been found $4,500 short in money received from counties for care of wards and has thus far been able to make good but $1,000 of it.

Burt County Herald: The criminal cases against ex-Auditor Moore and ex-Treasurer Bartley should not lag but both should be prosecuted to the limit of the law. The people of Nebraska will tolerate nothing less. They are weary of seeing those who steal thousands of public money turned free while the penitentiary is crowded with smaller offenders.

Crete Vidette: It does seem as if ex-Treasurer Bartley owes it to himself and his party to make a frank statement showing where the public funds are deposited. If he can present certificates for the alleged deficiency, the public will feel more like sympathizing with him in his trouble. We do not believe he has been using the public funds in a private enterprise, but if he has the people should know it.

Ashland Gazette: The ex-treasurer of the state, Joseph S. Bartley, has been arrested and will have to face a charge of embezzlement. Let justice be done. There has been no disposition manifested to unnecessarily press this matter and when the accused refuses to tell where the money is, the presumption is clear that leniency in his case would be only wasted.

Pierce Call: Ex-Auditor Eugene Moore was arrested at Lincoln last week on the charge of appropriating the state's money to his own use. He furnished a satisfactory bond and was released on bail. Bartley has also been arrested for embezzlement. Their shortage is a hard blow to the republican party of Nebraska. This is what the party gets in return for the confidence imposed in these men.

Battle Creek Republican: Ex-State Treasurer Joseph S. Bartley was arrested last Saturday upon the charge of embezzling $537,762.93 of the state's funds. His preliminary hearing was held yesterday, but we have not learned the result. From the way matters are now adjusting themselves it looks as if Bartley and Moore would both get their just deserts, which is right and proper.

Sutton Advertiser: It is now ex-Treasurer Bartley's turn, and he has been placed under bonds to answer charges of embezzling state funds amounting to over $500,000. Mr. Bartley claims that this money was placed in the smaller banks of the state and to call it in would ruin the banks. That may have been very kind of Mr. Bartley, but is a method of business that will ruin the man who practices it.

McCook Tribune: The proposed effort to prove ex-State Treasurer Bartley's bond invalid upon a mere, silly technicality is little short of infamous. Indications are not lacking that an effort is organizing for the purpose of relieving Bartley's bondsmen from any and all liability, and this must cause the thoughtful citizen to fear that Nebraska is in grave danger of losing a cool half million dollars. If by any means the ex-treasurer's bond shall be declared void, what the state gets out of the vast sum involved, after Bartley and his numerous high-priced attorneys are squared won't wad a gun. We remember Mosher and weep for the blind(?) goddess's failing vision.

Alma Record: The "watch dog of the treasury" and that splendid man, Joseph Bartley, who are under arrest charged with stealing state funds, are out on bail. There is a great deal of secrecy and peculiar moves are being made in their behalf, that the people are not permitted to know anything about. Bartley is now trying to set up that his bondsmen are not liable because his bond was not approved on the exact day designated by the law, and further sets up that he was never legally installed into office. The next thing we may expect Bartley will claim he was never even elected, but there seems to be no question about him having gotten away with $500,000 of the people's good, old, hard-earned money.

Valentine Republican: Republican papers should not attempt to excuse or defend the rotten rascality of certain state officers that has been unearthed. They owe it to their readers, the republican party and the citizens of Nebraska generally, to assist in condemning such outrages and to purge the party from such corrupt officials and party leaders. Thin out the rascals as party leaders and then, but not until then, can the republican party expect or retain the confidence of the people. Some things are getting almost too rotten to bear probing in the least, for fear that the prober be submerged by the offensive odor, as a result of the probing process. While this is a fact republican newspapers should do their duty unflinchingly, without fear or favor and hasten the day of a return to the party's time-honored purity and honesty.

St. Paul Phonograph: Eugene Moore and Joe Bartley, the embezzling ex-state officers, have been arrested, it is said. The "arrest" is, however, only a nominal one, as the two prisoners are still as free as the birds of the air, the only manacles imposed being a nominal bond fixed by the county judge of Lancaster. In this connection it is interesting to observe the unwritten law of this country, which decrees that the maximum punishment shall be inflicted upon him who steals the least and gradually diminish as the size of the theft grows. The man who steals $1 is given the heaviest punishment; if he steals $1,000 the punishment is considerably lighter; if he steals $100,000 the authorities deal very leniently with him, and if he can increase the theft to $1,000,000 then his pardon is assured. This is the graduated scale of punishment beginning at the other end.

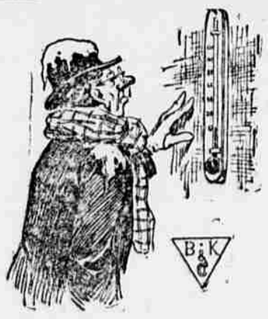
Fremont Tribune: Ex-Treasurer Bartley is now under arrest charged with having embezzled $530,000 of state funds. It is at present more difficult to state with the same degree of certainty the status of Bartley's case than it is with reference to ex-Auditor Moore. The latter confesses his guilt, but vaguely promises restitution. He was not a custodian of funds and hence should never have had a penny in his hands for peculation and speculation. Bartley was custodian of all public funds. That it should be difficult to immediately produce all the funds for which he is responsible, is not surprising when the condition of financial affairs is taken into consideration. Whether he can produce it all if given time remains to be seen. The Tribune has no confidence in his doing so. It has had little faith in his official integrity for two years. It has believed he was endeavoring to enrich himself at the expense of the state. In all his recent difficulty he has shown a spirit of bravado and sublime impudence that would have given added laurels to Boss Tweed when he was in his glory and when he wanted to know what the people were going to do about it? Perhaps before Mr. Bartley gets through with his settlement he will at least be willing to disclose in what banks of deposit he is keeping the funds belonging to the state. We hope this treasury investigation will probe deeply, that it will result in a squaring of the books and that no guilty man, high or low, republican or not, will go unwhipped of justice.

Ord Journal: It is a matter of regret to all that the worst fears in reference to the condition of the state's finances is proving true. Nearly a half million of dollars are tied up in suspended deposit banks, some of which the governor refused to approve their bonds, but ex-Treasurer Bartley put money on deposit with them just the same on the approval of the republican members of the board alone. Some of these banks closed their doors almost immediately after getting the state money. There will be a large loss there. The ex-treasurer is still short in turning over the cash not in depositories to the amount of as much more. Ex-Auditor Moore appropriated $23,000 more to his own use that has not been turned over to his successor. Both he and Bartley have been placed under arrest for embezzlement, and are out under bonds for appearance in the district court to answer to the charge. There is said to be something rotten in the other offices and investigations will be made.

Superior Journal: Honest, self-respecting republicans can scarce finds words to express their disgust over the disclosures which the transfer of the books from the hands of Treasurer Bartley and Auditor Moore to the hands of their successors has brought forth. For years republicanism has been weighted down by this rotten state house gang, and now to cap it all, men who were generally regarded as being at least honest turn out to be self-confessed embezzlers of the state funds. We have no desire to judge Mr. Bartley harshly, but his impudence, his insolence in delaying by all means possible his settlement with Mr. Meserve is unbearable. 'Gene Moore has not even the shadow of the excuse for his delay that Mr. Bartley presents, but stands today with a criminal action pending against him, while $23,000 of the state's money is permanently invested in a hole in the ground out in Colorado, as a result of this man's weakness or wickedness.

Nebraska City Press: Confidence was misplaced by the elevation to office of Eugene Moore and Joseph S. Bartley, ex-auditor and ex-treasurer, respectively, of Nebraska by a majority of the people. Their admissions since their retirement from office implicate them beyond all question as criminals and violators of the great trust imposed upon them. Technicalities and the ingenious efforts of able attorneys may defeat the intent of the law, but the cold fact of utilizing public funds for private purposes will place each of them in a conspicuous position in the eyes of the people. Being under arrest for defalcation, they are entitled to a fair trial for the crime with which they stand charged, yet with the total amount of nearly $600,000 yet unaccounted for, it is fair to presume that the taxpayers of Nebraska will not tolerate any boys' play. If found guilty a punishment should be inflicted under the law commensurate with the crime committed.

Tecumseh Chieftain: The arrest of ex-State Treasurer Bartley last Saturday on the charge of embezzlement of state funds occasioned but little surprise, for the events of the previous two weeks had indicated such a finale. The amount of Bartley's shortage is said to be $537,762.93, the whole of which has been taken from the state's educational funds. The court had decided that the depository law did not apply to the educational funds and so Mr. Bartley was free to place them where he pleased. Of the very large sum which is missing many thousands of dollars of it have been lost in bursted banks. Had it all gone that way Mr. Bartley could make a very respectable showing so far as the imputations against his honesty are concerned. But the indications are that other very large amounts, running into the hundreds of thousands of dollars, have been lost through private speculation and through means which are impossible of defense. We don't like to pass judgment on a man before he has had opportunity to defend himself, but certainly the circumstances all point to the assumption that J. S. Bartley is an embezzler, a common thief, and no excuse can be made for his crime. When, on trial, the full measure of his guilt is determined he should be punished to the full extent of the law. We regret that there are any men of that character in the republican party and still more do we deplore that occasionally one of them worms his way into public office. It may be argued that Mr. Bartley was all



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