

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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THE BEE ON TRAINS.

All railroad newsboys are entitled with enough BEE 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.

INSIST ON HAVING THE BEE.

These flag bills seem to have been accidentally in process lost in the shuffle. That alleged ship is getting a whole pile of valuable free advertising, no matter what it may be.

Rich and his guaranty bond bills will form one of the biggest chapters in the new volume of Nebraska session laws for 1897.

Howell says he lost twenty pounds during the session of the legislature. It is safe to say, however, that it was not twenty pounds of coal.

The pure elder bill now on the statute books makes it possible for Nebraska consumers to insist on having their Hochheimer made out of real apples.

It is a good thing that the populists of Kansas are washing their own dirty legislative clothes instead of leaving the unpleasant task to be performed by political opponents.

According to the best available information there will be no proposed constitutional amendments submitted for the ratification of the voters at the next general session.

The chief redeeming feature of the Twenty-fifth Nebraska legislature is apparent at this distance is the fact that it is over and past the probability of an extra session.

Having killed the gambling bill the legislature might just as well have carried on the good work by passing the bill for the prevention of a multiplicity of aces in one pack.

Although the mayor-elect of Chicago made his campaign on the issue of opposition to civil service reform, he has fled the city to escape the importunities of the office-seekers.

Trees judiciously distributed and intelligently planted will add to the brightness of Omaha streets, not only during the exposition year, but in constantly increasing measure in years to come.

If there ever was any doubt as to the reason why Frank Ransom was injected into that senate gambling bill investigation the report of his antics in the committee room ought to dispel it effectually.

Because a bad bill is passed by a legislature whose majority is of the same political party as the chief executive is no good reason why the chief executive should be welded. Bad legislation knows no party lines.

When the governor of Nebraska meets the governor of South Dakota to put the finishing touches on the agreed dividing line between the two commonwealths they will have an opportunity to exchange state secrets.

The oratorical effort to which our erudite and patriotic contemporary editorially refers as "John Adams' immortal speech on the Declaration of Independence" may be found in every edition of the public utterances of the late Daniel Webster.

Myron D. Karr, republican candidate for the council from the Sixth ward, was elected to the council last year and took his seat January 1, 1897, or less than four months ago. While he has not been given an opportunity to demonstrate fully his usefulness to his constituents, his course in the council has been generally satisfactory. Mr. Karr certainly deserves re-election.

Frank Ransom, in a fit of poutance, declares his determination to cease reading The Bee. The Bee, however, has read him through and through and exposed him thoroughly to its readers. The chances are good, too, that very next time he hires himself out to defend some thug or murderer he will be around, as usual, to ask as a special favor that in the published reports of the trial his side be given the best of it.

WAS THERE A POOL IN THE SENATE?

There is a generally accepted adage that it is the lid that flutters. During the examination of Richard O'Malley before the senate committee appointed to investigate into the gambling bill scandal a part of the sworn testimony, as reported by the official stenographer, was as follows:

Q—During your investigations were the names of any state senators mentioned in connection with the procurement of the passage of the bill? A—No, sir, all there was mentioned was that there was a pool in the senate.

Q—What do you understand by the term "pool in the senate"? A—I understood that there must have been a pool, that there was a lot of senators in there that were poised to pass bills, or something of that kind.

Q—Did you understand that the pool in the senate meant that they were pooled for the purpose of passing bills for a consideration, on which they were paid money or something equivalent in value to money? A—Well, yes, sir, I guess I did.

Q—Did Mr. Higgin refer to the pool? A—That is all he said, that there was a pool in the senate.

The question is, Was there a pool in the senate? If so, was the senatorial pool engaged by the gamblers' combine to procure the passage of the anti-gambling laws? Inasmuch as the bill to legalize gambling which passed the senate was covertly shovled through both the judiciary and sifting committees, the following table may possibly serve to throw some light on this obscure subject:

Table with 3 columns: Name, Position, Action. Lists names like Metcalf, McGinn, Ransom, Graham, Metz, Metz, Howell.

Further information important in this connection is that Metcalf put up the job and offered the resolution injecting Ransom into the investigating committee for the purpose of having "the other side" represented, and either breaking it up, or, if unsuccessful in that, of tipping off to interested parties the testimony produced. That Ransom was in the chair when the gambling bill was introduced through the senate, and in response to a request for an explanation of its contents boldly used his gavel to hammer the bill into law.

That Howell, although too cowardly to introduce the gambling bill in his own name, was its real sponsor, and not only admitted as much, but asserted that he expected to vote for it again.

Another effort is to be made by this government to induce the British government to enter into an arrangement for the better protection of the seal in Bering sea. It appears that the president and secretary of the treasury have taken a very great interest in this matter and propose to make an earnest effort to secure some practical result.

The concluding installment of the testimony in the gambling bill investigation which appears in this issue of The Bee brings Senator Howell out more sharply in his character of trickster and liar. Not only does he contradict his own testimony, given when first called, but he is forced to confess to playing a bunco game upon the committee. When cornered Howell discloses the fact that he was trying to palm off as an extract from the report of a grand jury of 1892 two or three paragraphs taken from reports of different grand juries which he had cleverly dove-tailed together. Further, he convicts himself of having taken one-half of a sentence out of the middle of an editorial in The Bee and sought to make the committee believe that it was in itself a complete sentence and editorially expressing the sentiment of the members. In fact The Bee expressed vigorous opposition to open gambling, or precisely the opposite of what Howell originally testified. The return made by the sergeant-at-arms, who had been commissioned to serve subpoenas on the gamblers who put up the investigation fund, shows why the investigation closed as it did. If any one can find anything in the testimony published in full in The Bee to justify the committee's whitewash of the hoodlums or the senate's censure of this paper he will be welcome to his discovery.

The attachment of the effects of Representative Hull for unpaid Lancaster county taxes just as he was about to return home after the adjournment of the legislature is a proceeding that calls for outspoken rebuke. The constitution makers intended to assure members of the legislature freedom from arrest and the execution of civil process while engaged in legislative business. This freedom includes a reasonable time to go to and return from the state capital. If the legislative exemption protected Representative Hull against this attachment during the session it certainly extended to the time that he should reach home. Holding back the service until he was on the point of departure makes it savor altogether too much of questionable action.

It is not the bills passed by the Twenty-fifth legislature of Nebraska that the people are interested in, but the new laws that have been added to the statute book. It requires the approval of the governor, expressed or implied, to make a bill a law, and Governor Holcomb has still several days in which to kill some of the vicious measures passed during the closing hours of the session. No one can enumerate all the new laws until that time shall have expired.

Minnesota is in the field with a new corporation with \$2,000,000 of capital stock to take up the culture of sugar beets and the erection of beet sugar factories. Nebraska leads the west as pioneer in the best sugar industry and its neighbors are now to share in the benefits of its experience.

The fusion legislature enacted a new charter for the city of Lincoln with the idea that that was all that was necessary to insure the election of a fusion city ticket. The first election under the new Lincoln charter took place last week and the republican candidate

was unforunately victorious. The Omaha charter bill was passed by the legislature under similar misapprehensions, as will be shown when the returns of the impending Omaha city election are gathered in.

Latest dispatches are to the effect that the Peruvian government has just ordered a suspension of the further coinage of silver, and has also issued a prohibition against the importation of silver coins after May next. Is this the crimo of 1897?

The Test to Come Later. Chicago Record. Now, if that beautiful new battleship, the one after another, is being run upon a sandbar of sinking or blowing up some of her machinery, the public will be willing to believe all the good things that have been said about her.

A Humiliating Confession. The statement in Senator Eikins' speech that the people of this country pay at the rate of \$500,000 a day in ocean freights to foreign ship owners for carrying what they and most unthinking material, so far as their own country is concerned, to make every patriotic American hang his head in shame for the incompetence of American statesmanship.

American Boats in England. London Figaro. The remarkable feature of the American boats which have now established themselves among us, and have evidently come to stay, is the extraordinary flexibility of the leather of which the soles are made. These boots and shoes are completed on the wrong side, and are afterward turned inside out in a manner that must astonish some of our bootmakers who appear to think that the human foot should be shod in the strict sense of the word, and that it is the sole of the foot that is in contact with the ground.

The Senate and the Tariff. The country is anxious to learn what changes the finance committee is going to make in the tariff bill. The republican members of that body are experienced and able servants of the people, and it is to be hoped that they will have great weight with the party. They are now engaged in a study of the representatives of conflicting interests that will have great weight with the party. They are now engaged in a study of the representatives of conflicting interests that will have great weight with the party.

A Nebraska Deedism Commended. Philadelphia Press. The supreme court in a recent decision has abolished in that state the absurd and oppressive rule of the common law which requires a tenant to pay rent to the end of a building, which is burned down. That old rule, proper enough in the day and land of its origin, is out of harmony with present conditions. It is a rule which has not had the foresight to secure in his lease exemption from liability for rent in case of destruction of the building, but full rent for the ash heap to the end of his term, though his landlord has received the entire net proceeds of the insurance.

Protests Against the Dingley Bill. Chicago Post. It is stated that in their diplomatic notes Germany, Italy and the Netherlands try to convey distinct threats of systematic retaliation. This is an absurd and idle as it is ungrateful. The United States does not care to retaliate, but it is willing to accord them. It expects them to legislate for their own people and interests. It does not expect that the high tariff policies of Germany, Italy and the Netherlands will be maintained in case of destruction of the building, but full rent for the ash heap to the end of his term, though his landlord has received the entire net proceeds of the insurance.

Hotel Keepers' Trust. Chicago Tribune. Twenty-eight hotel proprietors have formed the Chicago Hotel Keepers' Trust for the purpose of making a concentrated effort to increase the number of visitors to the city and prevent any cutting of rates, because of the fact that the hotel industry will be able to make a more effective bid for the holding of conventions of societies and national organizations in this city. This is a worthy plan, but for their other purpose to combine for the purpose of keeping up rates and not doing what is in the best interests of the city, it is not to be commended.

A Hummer on Water. Chicago News. The battleship Iowa developed a high rate of speed, and was more remarkable, the speed was developed in moving along a horizontal, not a perpendicular, line. Chicago Record. There is practically no other test than that of speed by which to judge the battleships, though the real test of their efficiency would come when battleship No. 10 is put to the test. The British Campaigner, on the coast of Crete, lately demonstrated its remarkable efficiency in dropping a bomb on a Turkish gunboat.

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LOCAL CAMPAIGN CHATTER. It was down at Lincoln only a few weeks ago. Alexander Charlton and Register of Deeds Peter Blasse were sitting together at the table and the conversation naturally drifted toward politics and the probability of the nomination of Senator Howell as the democratic ticket.

"Howell has a cinch on the nomination," suggested Blasse. "But can he be elected?" asked Charlton. "Why don't you run yourself, Blasse?" "Why don't I run for mayor?" came the response. "Why, I couldn't be elected if I did."

All the corporations have it in for me, Charlton said. In the council, but Howell stands all right with them. I tell you, if we nominate Howell for mayor, he will get every corporation vote in Omaha.

Chairmen of poperaic meetings will hereafter see to it that no one is called on to speak whose sentiments are not known in advance. The Howellites say that one experience with a novel Frank Moores speech like that of Dr. Seville of last Saturday in a meeting supposed to be in the interest of Howell is quite enough for them.

Manager Hitchcock of the Department of Promotion is now playing the scapegoat act for his friends, Howell and Ransom, by telling people that the responsibility rests solely on him for cutting down the exposition appropriation from \$350,000 to \$100,000 and knocking off the Howellites.

Garbage Contractor MacDonald is out shouting for Howell and the fusion ticket. Howell, as a councillor, voted for the ordinance that gave MacDonald his garbage monopoly and authorized him to arrest every body caught hauling his own refuse or manure. Howell is good enough for MacDonald, notwithstanding the fake anti-garbage plank in the fusion city platform.

Would-be City Attorney Ransom said in the gambling investigating committee that he did not know any of the gamblers whose names were brought out in connection with the \$3,000 bundle plot, and asserted that he had not even heard of such a man as Boss Gamberlino living in Omaha. Ransom's ingratitude is equalled only by his incoherence when the cook worked and Peter denied the Master three times.

George E. Gibson, the fusion candidate for the important office of tax commissioner, was formerly a justice of the peace and was succeeded by Justice Cockrell. The records of the court for the two years during which Gibson presided indicate what sort of a tax list would be compiled if he should chance to be elected. The docket during Gibson's term is incomplete in almost every detail.

The records preserved by law are almost entirely absent in dozens of cases and if these cases should be called into question there is absolutely no record to depend on. A few cases may be cited as examples of the carelessness with which the business of the court was transacted. Docket 8-161 is the case of the Grand Island Cigar Manufacturing company against Frank Billigan. Here the costs were taxed, but there is no record whatever to show that a petition was filed or summons issued or returned. There is also no record of the trial of the case, the swearing of witnesses or of a judgment rendered.

An examination of the files discloses a memorandum attached to the papers which indicates that a judgment had been rendered. The facts are exactly the same in numerous other cases, among which are: Hoffinger & Co. against Dumack, docket 8-162; Consolidated Coffee company against Saunders, docket 8-163; Kennard against Benson, docket 8-193; and Lester against Metcalf, docket 8-274. In these cases there is no legal record whatever except that which shows that various amounts of costs were taxed up. There is nothing to show what the costs were charged for or whether they are legal or otherwise. In some cases there is a partial record, but as a rule the docket is not signed by Gibson and it therefore is without value from a legal standpoint.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE. Senator Pugh of Alabama is the champion boxer of the state. It is estimated that 1,000 towns in the Mississippi valley are under water. Considering the fickleness of the weather, Senator Pugh appears decidedly fresh. Ambassador John Hay has decided to forego the poetry habit while abroad. He does not propose continuing Austin's title to the laurel wreath.

April is the month poetically credited with smiling through its tears. There are some smiles now, but they are monopolized by the vendors of cough and rheumatic dopes. Ex-Senator John Kasson says that he is going to give his populist paper along conservative lines, as he "has learned that his work is too big for one man to recite it."

An obscure Kentuckian was recently fined \$50 for carrying a concealed weapon. In a Philadelphia hotel the other day a stout member of the legislature and an official of that body threatened each other with deadly weapons and justice was alone blind to the spectacle.

Said an English officer at Canea, the other day to a Russian officer: "I should like to sink this island and wash off the whole lot of you, Creoles, Turks and Greeks." "Yes," replied the Russian, "and when the island came up again you would like to plant the British flag on the top."

Pat is learning how to handle a municipal franchise. It will allow a company to build forty-five miles of railway through its streets at a cost of \$400,000, the fare to be collected to be used to pay the interest on the thirty-five years the city will take possession of the entire property without paying a cent.

A reduction of 5 cents per annum in the price of gas in New York City until \$1 is reached is the result of the agitation for legislative action. The companies preferred gradual reduction, fearing a radical cut at once would be a dangerous shock to consumers. Lopping off one-third of a gas bill without previous warning is an experience as rare as to imperil one's breath.

Citizen George Francis Train saved the life of a woman who attempted suicide in Madison Square, New York, last Wednesday. The woman had drained a vial of greenish liquid and fell to the walk. Suicide, by joy! said Citizen Train, signing a policeman and rushing to the woman's side. An emetic of salt and water was quickly administered and her life saved. The woman was sent to an hospital and the citizen returned to his bench and his book.

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LOCAL CAMPAIGN CHATTER.

It was down at Lincoln only a few weeks ago. Alexander Charlton and Register of Deeds Peter Blasse were sitting together at the table and the conversation naturally drifted toward politics and the probability of the nomination of Senator Howell as the democratic ticket.

"Howell has a cinch on the nomination," suggested Blasse. "But can he be elected?" asked Charlton. "Why don't you run yourself, Blasse?" "Why don't I run for mayor?" came the response. "Why, I couldn't be elected if I did."

All the corporations have it in for me, Charlton said. In the council, but Howell stands all right with them. I tell you, if we nominate Howell for mayor, he will get every corporation vote in Omaha.

Chairmen of poperaic meetings will hereafter see to it that no one is called on to speak whose sentiments are not known in advance. The Howellites say that one experience with a novel Frank Moores speech like that of Dr. Seville of last Saturday in a meeting supposed to be in the interest of Howell is quite enough for them.

Manager Hitchcock of the Department of Promotion is now playing the scapegoat act for his friends, Howell and Ransom, by telling people that the responsibility rests solely on him for cutting down the exposition appropriation from \$350,000 to \$100,000 and knocking off the Howellites.

Garbage Contractor MacDonald is out shouting for Howell and the fusion ticket. Howell, as a councillor, voted for the ordinance that gave MacDonald his garbage monopoly and authorized him to arrest every body caught hauling his own refuse or manure. Howell is good enough for MacDonald, notwithstanding the fake anti-garbage plank in the fusion city platform.

Would-be City Attorney Ransom said in the gambling investigating committee that he did not know any of the gamblers whose names were brought out in connection with the \$3,000 bundle plot, and asserted that he had not even heard of such a man as Boss Gamberlino living in Omaha. Ransom's ingratitude is equalled only by his incoherence when the cook worked and Peter denied the Master three times.

George E. Gibson, the fusion candidate for the important office of tax commissioner, was formerly a justice of the peace and was succeeded by Justice Cockrell. The records of the court for the two years during which Gibson pres