

The Omaha Sunday Bee.

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BUSINESS LETTERS. All business letters and remittances should be addressed to The Bee Publishing Company.

STATE OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, etc. George H. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of the Daily Bee, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of September, 1897, was as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Number of copies, Total, and Net daily average. Rows include various circulation categories like 'Total', 'Returned and unsold copies', etc.

THE BEE ON TRAINS. All railroad newsboys are supplied with enough Bee to accommodate every passenger who wants to read a newspaper.

Business pointers all point one way—the way of permanent prosperity.

Over 528,000 railroad employes in the United States. The railroad employes are and ought to be an important element in the laboring circles of the country.

Coin Harvey is another of the quondam silver apostles who is apparently oblivious of the fact that a political campaign is in progress in a large part of the United States.

It is to be noted that the states where the popovers set out to make silver the issue at the election are just the states where the victory of the republican candidates is all but conceded by their opponents.

Each of the four leading candidates for mayor of New York is convinced that the fight is between himself and one of the other fellows. Politics affects the line of vision of most people in a most peculiar way.

From the renewed activity of the Hawaiian annexationists the inference is unavoidable that the ratification of the annexation treaty is not such a cocksure event as they would have the public believe.

Florida is to have a tobacco fair, where home grown imported tobacco will be exhibited and the most experienced connoisseur challenged to tell the difference. America is a great country and there are none like it.

The State university student who wants to win the prize offered by William J. Bryan for the best essay on the science of government should read Mr. Bryan's speeches on that subject for examples to be avoided.

The presidency of the new Union Pacific is an important thing, but before the president can be named we must know who the new owners of the road are to be. There is many a slip between the cup and lip.

A court decision just rendered holds that no one can hold an exclusive right to the name of a town as a trademark. The only way to patent a town name is to take out a trademark first and then build a town by the same name.

The new election laws must not be overlooked by the men in charge of the party machinery. Nobody should be disfranchised by technical neglect because of ignorance of what changes the late legislature incorporated into the statutes.

A resolution adopted by one of the New York labor organizations refers to the backers of Henry George as "a combination of political freaks and queer people." It is plain that no section of the country has a corner on political craziness.

American exhibitors at the Brussels International Exposition captured a good share of the awards in their respective classes. Foreign nations are gradually becoming accustomed to see America take the prize in nearly every open competition.

President McKinley is to attend a banquet at Cincinnati with the understanding that he is not to be assigned a place on the speakers' list. Did any one ever hear of Bryan attaching such a condition to the acceptance of a banquet invitation?

It is to be hoped that the information to the effect that reports of the Irish famine have been grossly exaggerated may prove to be true. The people of Ireland are perhaps less able to endure crop failure unaided than those of any other agricultural section of Europe and should the threatened famine be less severe than at first feared it will mean that the unfortunates will be spared much actual physical suffering.

A NON-PARTISAN SCHOOL BOARD.

With a profound conviction that the public schools should be kept divorced from politics, The Bee has steadily advocated the election of members of the Board of Education without regard to party affiliations. On March 2, 1872, when the Board of Education system under which the public schools of Omaha are conducted was about to be inaugurated the position of The Bee was enunciated as follows:

Recent developments in certain quarters leave no room for doubt that parties are already scheming to control the new educational system which is to be inaugurated in Omaha this spring. While we are not yet quite clear as to the motives which impel those who seek positions of honor without profit as members of the new board, we can hardly be mistaken about the design of others who are already hatching, even before the children have had an opportunity to lay their eggs. We have taken great pains to encourage the establishment of a uniform system of education based on the experience of the best modern educators, a system free from all sectarianism and partisanship, which would inspire respect and confidence in all our citizens, irrespective of creed, nationality or political party. Our citizens will therefore take heed not to introduce the seed of discord and fanaticism into the Board of Education by endorsing and furthering the plans of any individual or clique, however plausible. In rearranging the present educational system and laying the foundation for the future all personal preferences should be disregarded. The main object being to secure the services of gentlemen thoroughly trained for this difficult task. Let us select a board unpartisan and untrammelled by any ties which could bind them to the cart wheel of any religious, political or literary zealot.

These views, expressed a quarter of a century ago, are applicable to present conditions. In selecting members of the Board of Education the citizens of Omaha should be actuated solely by a desire to improve the public school system and free its management of partisanship and sectarian machinations. Each candidate on the respective school board tickets should stand for himself and by himself and not on his claims to recognition for political services rendered or to be rendered.

ENGLAND WILL COOPER.

The American State department has suggested a seal conference in accordance with the terms of Lord Salisbury's agreement, as he construed it, that is between experts of Great Britain, the United States and Canada. Salisbury was bound in good faith to accept the suggestion and the proposed conference will be held. There will also be a conference in which the United States, Russia and Japan will join. Thus the question of a meeting of experts to discuss seal conditions is finally settled, and the English and American people may exchange hearty congratulations over the fact. The negotiations leading to this result caused some little irritation, not perhaps, in official circles of either country, but in the public mind. The British press has found occasion in it to say unkind things about the American secretary of state, whose plain way of stating things, somewhat out of the line of diplomatic usage, was displeasing, while there has been some indignant growl in criticism of the course of Lord Salisbury. All feeling of this kind it is to be presumed, will now disappear and the amicable sentiment which it should be the aim of both peoples to cultivate will resume sway. So far as the American people are concerned they have the right to feel that their government has secured something of a victory in inducing the British government to participate in a conference under any conditions.

But the question naturally suggests itself, what practical results are likely to come from them? It is hardly to be expected that the English and Canadian experts will be persuaded to relinquish any of the claims they have already expressed and it is equally probable that the American experts will steadily adhere to the position they have taken. In that case the situation after the conference will be simply what it is at present. So far as the conference in which Russia and Japan will participate is concerned it is merely a side matter, which can have little bearing or influence in any direction. However, it is at least an amicable way of discussing a perplexing question and can do no harm if it accomplishes no good.

NO NEW DEPARTMENT.

The effort will be renewed at the next session of congress to create a new executive department of the government, as proposed in the bill introduced by Senator Frye in the last congress. The matter was discussed before the convention of boards of trade in New York last week by Mr. Nimmo, formerly chief of the Bureau of Statistics, making an argument in favor of establishing a department of commerce, whose head should be a member of the cabinet. He urged that the existing bureaus of statistics, life-saving, navigation, steamship inspection, fish house, coast survey and marine hospital should be transferred from the Treasury department to a new department, saying that by this means legislation in regard to commerce would be facilitated. "Ofentimes a single legislative inquiry," said Mr. Nimmo, "embraces questions referred to two or more of the offices which would properly compose such a department. Many questions also arise in the conduct of the executive branch of the government which would naturally be referred to the chief of the department of commerce and thus the danger of error be averted."

All this, together with the idea that the proposed department would serve to foster a wider and more systematic development of our foreign and domestic commerce and of the various industrial interests throughout the country, sounds plausible, but is not conclusive. The authors of the project admit that the new department would be hardly more than a consolidation under one head of certain offices already in existence and as it probably would not be allowed to act decisively in any important matter without the authority or consent of congress, it is difficult to see what practical end would be served by its establishment. On the opposite hand, another executive department would mean another

member of the cabinet, a body already sufficiently large for harmonious councils and action. It is a question with many whether any good object was promoted when the bureau of agriculture was raised to a department, though probably that department is now growing in popular regard. Of course every public desirous to see the interests of commerce and industries advanced, but the success of those, so far as the government can influence them, depends chiefly upon sound financial and economic policies and upon the energy and enterprise of our people. American trade and industry have developed marvelously in the absence of a special paternalistic oversight at Washington and they will doubtless continue to do so under like conditions in the future.

It is impossible to say what disposition will be shown in congress with reference to the proposed new department. In behalf of which a very influential pressure is likely to be brought to bear, but we do not believe a project for which there is no urgent necessity and which would inevitably increase expenditures, will have popular approval.

GERALDINE NOT INDISPENSABLE.

The only excuse offered for retaining Dion Geraldine at a salary of \$500 a month on the pay roll of the exposition is that his services are indispensable. If this assertion were true it would be most damaging to the exposition to have it so understood by contractors, concessionaires and employees. If Geraldine is indispensable he can ride rough shod over everybody, levy tribute on contractors and distribute jobs and contracts right and left.

Fortunately Dion Geraldine is not indispensable. He is a mechanical mountebank who claims to be a born genius and mastered all trades and professions, when in fact he is an expert in none. During his first residence in Omaha he acted as agent for an agricultural implement house. Within a few years he blossomed out into a general nigger machine, and yet he has done nothing for the exposition except costly experimenting and tampering with plans made by sewerage engineers, landscape architects, hydraulic engineers and other professional experts specially engaged by the exposition management. All that he has done could easily have been better performed by any one of a score of Omaha men at less than half the salary. What remains to be done by the superintendent of grounds and buildings can be done by any man of executive force and mechanical training.

Not only any number of competent men be found in this vicinity to take Geraldine's place, but the exposition will fare better without him than with him. It is not only generally believed but established beyond reasonable doubt that Geraldine can not be trusted either to tell the truth or to deal honestly with the exposition. He has pursued a course of systematic deception and double-dealing with his superiors, carried on intrigues with contractors and foisted useless favorites on the pay rolls as employees. He has rendered himself offensive to the great body of workmen and arrayed against the exposition public sentiment which should and would be in hearty sympathy with it. In this he is but repeating his World's fair career, which was abruptly terminated to promote the interest of the exposition.

A FULL GROWN INDUSTRY.

The growth of the iron and steel industry of the United States and the fact that American manufacturers are not only invading the world's markets, but underselling British manufacturers in their own markets, attests more strongly than anything else, unless it be the growth of the tin industry, the superiority of American enterprise and ingenuity under the stimulating influence of the protective policy. Japan comes to this country for most of the steel rails for her projected lines of railroad, finding that American rails are better than those made in England and cost no more, or even less. It was not long since reported that the London & North-western Railway company was negotiating with American manufacturers for the delivery of 100,000 tons of steel rails and a company at Cleveland, O., recently received the contract to supply the rails for the new underground electric railway in London, while the award of a large contract to American manufacturers for steel rails for British India, made a few months ago, caused no little commotion among the steel rail makers of England, who were outbid by the Americans. In a recent competition for supplying a large quantity of cast-iron piping to the gas company of Glasgow, Scotland, an American firm outbid local firms to the amount of \$5 a ton, to the great surprise of the Glasgow ironmasters.

It appears from the returns of our foreign trade for the last fiscal year that in steel rails alone there was an increase over 1896 in the quantity exported from 24,283 tons to 107,891 tons, while the value, which in 1896 was \$540,757, reached in the fiscal year ending last June, the amount of \$2,482,298. Nearly one-tenth of the total production of steel rails by American mills for the year was sent abroad. But this is only a small part of our exports of the manufactures of steel, the total value of which for the fiscal year 1897 was in round numbers \$23,000,000, an increase of nearly \$12,000,000, or 55 per cent. In two years, while the annual increase in the exports of manufactures of steel by England has hardly averaged 7 per cent for some years, and of late has been as low as 4 per cent. It is not surprising, therefore, as a leading trade journal observes, that the competition of the United States in the products of the iron and steel industry should be exciting a great deal of anxiety in the United Kingdom and that no danger that has threatened England's economic supremacy during the last half century should be regarded as so serious or so likely to be permanent.

It seems to be no longer questionable that steel can be made as cheaply in this country as anywhere else in the world and the cases which have been opened iron and steel production are still at work. There is a practically unlimited supply of Bessemer ore on Lake Su-

perior, much of it lying at or near the surface, which can be mined at a merely nominal cost. The average richness of this ore is said to be considerably greater than that of England and Germany. Abundant capital is now engaged in developing these mines and in devising plans for still further cheapening the cost of transporting the ore and of making its products.

This great industry has been built up by the protective policy, until it has reached a point where, in the opinion of those qualified to judge, it can maintain itself even with all protection withdrawn. Indeed, it seems certain that in any event it must continue to grow, making the United States, in the not remote future, master of the world's markets in the products of iron and steel.

RECORD BREAKERS.

Queen Victoria is reported to have lately expressed gratitude for the stability of the American republic. The situation in Ireland and the industrial war still nearer the British coast, that the world's progress like charity, might properly begin at home.

WHERE ARE THE SMITHS?

It is true that the iron trade of Pennsylvania is going to build a colossal statue to Tubal Cain, inventor of the iron. It will be much encouraged. To be sure, the honor comes somewhat late, but when it comes it will be a noble one. We should have anticipated, however, that not the workers in iron and brass, but the world-girdling and universal Smith family would have been the proper persons to erect a memorial of Tubal Cain.

VERBAGE IN LEGAL DOCUMENTS.

The ordinary legal document, whatever it may be, is usually a mass of verbiage which is not only useless for any practical effect, but is simply ridiculous. And still the courts are so constituted as to give precedence to the crabbed and senseless forms of centuries now dead, in an age of brevity, of strict economy and of incomparable haste. Empty phrases seem to have a magic power and his ink horn invented the duplication of these phrases a few hundred years ago to fill his scanty purse.

WEAKNESS OF THE JURY SYSTEM.

The jury system, which has been handed down to us from our English ancestors has been fondly cherished as the palladium of our liberties and the foundation of our individual rights. It is not, however, as many today who believe the system should be maintained, if not entirely abolished. Theoretically a jury trial will always secure justice, but in practice it is often a mockery and a nuisance. Influencing of juries has become so notorious a custom that the whole system has gained disrepute and suspicion in the public mind.

SECRETARY WILSON'S PLANS.

Secretary Wilson's plan for the department of Agriculture, if properly supported by congressional appropriation, will greatly enlarge the scope and usefulness of that branch of the government. It will include the operations of the weather bureau should be extended by the establishment of additional observation stations; that the bureau of animal industry should be enlarged and reorganized more efficient; and that an agricultural college should be established for each of our embassies and legations in Europe. These suggestions are practical and will greatly benefit the business-like policy which Secretary Wilson has instituted in the department, and if approved by congress they would unquestionably result in substantial benefits to American trade and agriculture.

DOMESTIC BEET SUGAR.

The much talked sugar schedule of the Dingley tariff law holds the possibility of causing this country to grow all the sugar it consumes instead of paying about \$100,000,000 for its importations. The beet sugar industry may be developed, but there are scattered evidences that the farmers here and there are awakening to the possibilities of this establishment in Nebraska is regarded as permanent.

Some figures in a recent report from Grand Island, where this year over 10,000 acres were planted with sugar beets, are of great interest. The estimate is 100,000 tons, or ten tons to the acre. Delivered at the factory beets averaging 12 per cent sugar 70 per cent purity, bring \$4 a ton, the price ranging downward on an established scale for saccharine strength and purity to \$2.50 a ton. But the growers who are still to be seen are getting a 4 a ton for their entire crop. Land values have risen greatly. Farms near the factory that were worth only \$20 an acre three years ago now command \$100 an acre. It is reported that the Grand Island factory will this year produce 100,000 pounds of standard granulated sugar.

As was well said during the tariff debate, a far clearer industry in every country should have a beet sugar factory. The sugar trust have a beet sugar factory in every country, but the sugar trust have not a beet sugar factory in this country. The sugar trust have a beet sugar factory in every country, but the sugar trust have not a beet sugar factory in this country.

NEW ERA IN HOUSEKEEPING.

More is going forward in domestic science and household reform than appears on the surface of affairs. The most active movements in this direction relate to servants regularly educated, to co-operative housekeeping and to the teaching of cookery in the schools. A new organization of prominent women in Boston, called the Women's Educational and Industrial Union, will open its ranks to all women who desire practical training. The studies comprise information concerning every part of the house, methods of caring for it, foods, economical buying and the teaching of the branches which are devoted to keeping a house clean and its appliances in the best possible condition. A course in sanitation will be given and also a course in domestic science. The graduates will go into service, but will not be called a servant. She will be an employee, and lifted in the social scale as a result of her training. Let our employers be reached by this new system and the household will be a better mutual understanding as to work and privilege.

In the public school system of the country a study of cookery has been made considerable headway, especially in the large cities of the east. New York provides manual training, with workshops in various mechanical branches for the boys, and for the girls, cooking and sewing. The cookery classes in the Philadelphia public schools started off this year with an enrollment of 100 girls in eight different classes. The system was established ten years ago and has become popular. Eight school kitchens are distributed throughout the city. While one kitchen is to show the importance of home duties and the dignity of domestic life, the lessons are practical, and pupils make certain dishes under the supervision of instructors. The arrangement of tables and etiquette of meals are not overlooked. But cookery as a study is not confined to public schools. Some large and noted hotels of New York are giving attention to this and other kinds of domestic science. Co-operative housekeeping makes rather slow progress considering the immense number of arguments that have been advanced in support of a theory. Of course wash days should be banished from the home, but it is still there, consuming two days of each week or 104 days of the year. Co-operative buying, cooking, heating and light should save a great deal of money, yet experiments to prove it usually fall through defective or inefficient management. But there are some successes. A co-operative cooking society has flourished in Grenoble, France for forty-five years, and the food is either delivered at the residence of subscribers or served at a central restaurant. An average of 1,800 meals a day is called for. A quart of soup costs one cent, four and a half ounces of cooked meat, five ounces of bread, 1 cent; a plate of vegetables, 2 cents, and dessert the same. At least four soups are served daily and more than that many kinds of meat. The accounts are in charge of a committee of 100 subscribers selected from time to time. A pension fund of \$3,000 for old and failing members has been accumulated. Co-operative housekeeping is by no means a dream. Persistence and brains in time will turn it to account.

telegraph owned and operated by the government when the people wake up to the economy of its possession.

WOMAN'S DEADLY WEAPON.

A Nebraska young man did something to annoy his neighbor the other day and he promptly impaled his ribs on her hat pin. The illustration of the wonderful versatility of the sex.

HAS TROUBLES OF HER OWN.

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BLASTS FROM RAIN'S HORN.

The pig would rather have skill than power. Marrying for money is an expensive investment. The man who has a hobby will never lack for exercise.

What the fox lacks in legs he has to make up in cunning. A large head may be as empty as a fast year's riding.

Why be troubled about the trouble that may never happen. The world takes off its hat to the man who is the leader in his profession.

The devil roars with laughter when professed Christians fly at each other's throats.

SECTARIAN SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.

Davenport Republican: The laymen of the Methodist church want to have a large voice in the management of affairs. Simply to the "amen" to the preacher's remarks no longer excites them. They have been to St. Louis Republic: It isn't strange that a St. Louis clergyman should have gotten Jonah and the whale mixed up in his sermon.

Washington Post: Even if the pulpit when it speaks itself to the political arena would do so with every intention, working to elevate political thought and methods to higher planes, there would still be a Methodist position which would be denied by the movement, for there is a deep and widespread conviction that the clergy, in the conduct of church services and in their preaching, ought to call the minds of their hearers away from the turmoil and strife of parties rather than plunge therein themselves.

Chicago Chronicle: Bishop Merrill's declaration that Methodist preachers do not believe in Methodism ought to get out of the church is entirely unjustified. A clergyman no more likely to style himself a Methodist than he would to preach Unitarianism, than he would to preach Buddhism or the doctrine of Mohammed while remaining in the Methodist pulpit. The question of one of dying false colors, and not applicable to all creeds. If there were more intellectual honesty among clergymen there would be fewer heresy trials.

SHERMAN TO SALISBURY.

Chicago Tribune: Secretary Sherman has read the marquis of Salisbury's note declining to participate in a conference on the seal question with Japan and Russia. Of course this notice is purely polite and formal. As a matter of fact, this government was not at all astonished by the marquis's refusal to participate in the conference. It was expected. Nothing that could be mean or treacherous coming from Great Britain would astonish this government.

Kansas City Star: The reply of Secretary of State Sherman to the recent note of Lord Salisbury, embodying the declaration of the British government to unite in a conference on the seal question with Japan and Russia, is a matter of fact, this government was not at all astonished by the marquis's refusal to participate in the conference. It was expected. Nothing that could be mean or treacherous coming from Great Britain would astonish this government.

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Chicago Tribune: "You ought to see Mrs. Kuyper's home. She keeps it so clean you can't see a speck of dirt on the wall." "Huh! She keeps it so clean that her husband has to eat off the top of the wardrobe." "Oh, the shed five or six weeks every summer."

Cleveland Leader: "Harris—And so Prof. Dullwich has asked you to marry him, has he?" "Harris—(sighing and blushing)—Yes—nearly before now."

Chicago Record: "Brown—I am satisfied, judging from my own experience, that married life is only a long and tedious dream." "Myers—How long have you been married?" "Brown—Since last Wednesday."

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