

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

P. ROSEWATER, Editor.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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CENSUS AND CIVIL SERVICE.

The present congress will make provision for taking the next decennial census and it is said there is likely to be a sharp contest over the question of applying civil service rules in the appointment of the large number of persons who will be employed in the work.

The enumeration and compilation of the census requires several thousand people and affords opportunity for supplying political favorites with desirable places which the spoilsmen would be pleased to take advantage of.

It is therefore expected that these will make a vigorous fight to have appointments in the census bureau made independently of civil service rules and it is not improbable that they will be successful.

There is no reason why senators any more than representatives should have the privilege of blocking legislation by refusing to vote when present and in that way breaking a quorum, or be permitted to carry on debate indefinitely.

What is a sound and just rule for one is equally so for the other. But as we have said, it is not to be expected that the changes in the rules necessary to improve the senate as a legislative body will be made during the present congress or indeed in the near future.

If such changes are ever made it will be done by practically unanimous consent and that will perhaps be possible only when by popular election senators shall have become more directly responsible to the people.

AN EXPOSITION MEMORIAL. One of the unfortunate features of the plans for the exposition buildings is that they do not contemplate the erection of any permanent structure which shall remain as a memorial of the enterprise after it shall have passed into history.

Could one of the principal buildings have been constructed with a view to its inheritance by the city for a public art gallery or museum, the exposition would draw inspiration for years to come.

Inasmuch as it will avail nothing to weep over spilled milk, we may as well awake to the fact that the only opportunity left for the acquisition of a permanent memorial of the exposition lies in the concurrence of the park board in the suggestion that it erect as part of the city's contribution an arena or gate after some artistic and attractive design.

The main portion of the exposition grounds upon which the park commission will expend its funds will revert to the city as a public park upon the removal of the exposition buildings, and every permanent improvement in this tract will remain public property for all time.

While we are expending so much money to make the exposition a success, failure to put a portion of it into something that will outlive the immediate occasion would certainly be cause of regret in the not distant future.

THE GAMBLING MACHINES GO. Every law-respecting citizen of Omaha will applaud the action of the city authorities in suppressing automatic gambling. Mayor Moores has from the first been opposed to licensing the slot machines and has been persistent in urging the repeal of the ordinance, which was enacted during his absence from the city.

While there never was any excuse for police toleration of this gambling evil and nothing at any time to prevent the police from abating it, now that the various authorities have finally agreed that the lawless practice must stop it is to be hoped no further attempts will be made to commit the city again to such dangerous experiments.

It is not necessary for The Bee to repeat the objections to protected gambling in any and every form which have been stated over and over in its columns. Gambling and lotteries, under whatever name or description, are prohibited by the criminal code by severe penalties and nothing in their nature designed to stimulate the gambling habit among young or old can be convicted in by the police without winking at violation of the law.

The slot machine era has been a costly experience to the community and it has been ended none too soon.

An Iowa judge took occasion the other day to condemn the use of slang in passing sentence upon a young man found guilty of seduction, and his words form a timely lesson in manners and morals that might well be heeded by all. "Her letter, as well as yours," the judge said, addressing the convicted young man, "indicates a loose, careless tendency to slang. This in an age of slang among our young people. Thousands of dollars are spent in our public schools, while other vast sums are spent in fine churches, yet the majority of our young people are using slang and wasting time in idleness, and a certain per cent of them are entering the field of crime. Slang is a gateway to obscenity and vulgarity and many noble girls are on their way to ruin through the gateway of slang. Good morals and good manners, if more thoroughly and fully taught in our common schools, would be more valuable than that our children be stuffed with the learning of books, of the false ideas of modern accomplishments. Again, a vast majority of good parents allow undue liberties and familiarity among the young people."

California fruit growers are much concerned over the report that the olive oil sold in the market in California as well as elsewhere is adulterated with cotton seed oil. There are 2,500,000 olive trees in California and it is estimated that the product of the orchards, if pickled, would make 5,000 carloads, but it is impossible to do business on a paying basis in competition with the product of cotton seed. The State Fruit Growers' association has provided for analysis of cotton seed oil and experiments to show its injurious effects, and a fight is to be made for pure olive oil in the markets.

What has become of the professed intention of Chief of Police Gallagher to keep the police out of politics? The chief is aware that the uncontradicted testimony in the Cox case proves conclusively that one of his subordinates detailed men on the police payroll to report to the fusion campaign managers last spring and perform political work for them at the public expense. He also knows that unless he prefers charges against this subordinate his inaction will be tantamount to approval of this

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