

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: Daily (Without Sunday), One Year, \$5.00; Daily (With Sunday), One Year, \$6.00; Three Months, \$1.50; Six Months, \$3.00; Single Copies, 5 Cents.

OFFICES: Omaha, The Bee Building, South Omaha, Singer Bldg., Cor. 14th and 15th Sts.; Omaha, The Bee Building, South Omaha, Singer Bldg., Cor. 14th and 15th Sts.; Chicago Office, 701 Chamber of Commerce, New York, Temple Court, Washington, 501 Fourteenth Street.

ADVERTISING: All communications relating to news and editorial matters should be addressed to the Editor. All business letters and remittances should be addressed to The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha, Nebraska, checks, express and postoffice money orders to be made payable to the order of the company.

THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION: For the month of December, 1897, as follows: Total, 62,572; Paid, 21,227; Unpaid, 41,345.

Table with 3 columns: Date, Paid, Unpaid. Rows for Dec 1-31, Total, Paid, Unpaid.

Net total average, 62,572. Not daily rates, \$11.13. Omaha, Nebraska, Dec 31, 1897.

The Commercial club has done much for Omaha, but its period of usefulness is only begun.

Although still \$100,000 behind its revenues, the school board keeps right on increasing expenditures as if it had money to burn.

The increase in Union Pacific earnings is another sign that the people regard the curbing of the receivership as a good thing all around.

The school board's election of a new attorney merely re-emphasizes the query. Why should the school board have a paid attorney at all when the city law department is amply able to attend to all the board's law business?

No man ever got lost who traveled the straight road. There is only one sure way for liquor dealers to guard themselves against having their applications for licenses protested and that is by living up to the letter of the law.

It develops that the estate of the late James G. Fair has shrunk on probate from \$300,000 to \$12,000,000. Had the various claimants only known this in advance they might have saved themselves all that contention and litigation.

The question is, Does the payment of tribute to the police board include the privilege not only of selling liquor without a license but also of selling liquor to the lawbreakers in defiance of the law?

The goodly-gooly deacons and elders of the outlaw police commission went to church Sunday while saloon keepers violated the liquor laws, and then got away the next day by granting liquor licenses to the lawbreakers in defiance of the law.

Emperor William is reported to have betrayed a feeling of shame over his foolish speech at Kiel. This is a bad omen for the German cartoonists. If the emperor can be touched by ridicule the occupation of the cartoonist may become dangerous.

Senator Wolcott's declaration that the late monetary commission's visit to Europe was timed under the most favorable conditions, resembles very much the statement of the physician about the successful operation from which the unfortunate patient died.

The employe of a private corporation who after his discharge persisted in injecting himself into his former place would soon discover that he was making a huge mistake. There ought to be no more difficulty in dealing with a discharged company employe.

As was naturally to have been expected, the Fakery has again joined in with the people with whom it regularly trains in their un-American attack upon Attorney General McKenna in the hope of keeping him off of the bench of the United States supreme court.

As president of a republic sustaining friendly relations with the United States, President Dole is entitled to courtesy while visiting Washington. But the fact that is a president need not sanctify his mission as a lobbyist for a treaty not yet ratified by the senate.

The republican party is the only national organization that goes along winning victories and accomplishing good for the country without being born again every year or two. The populist party has been re-born for this year, and indications are that the democratic party will have to undergo regeneration before entering another campaign.

The necessity for harmonious and united work on the part of all Omaha people in the interest of Omaha and all Omaha enterprises was never greater than at the present time. Because the signs unmistakably indicate reviving business and general prospects were never brighter is no reason for relaxing efforts in behalf of city and state.

Instead of providing that the date for the commencement for congressional terms should be put off until the 30th of April it might be well to move the date up to about the 1st of January. Too long a time now elapses, unless a special session of congress is called, between the time a congressman is elected and the day he gets a chance to do something for his country.

OUTLOOK FOR POOLING LEGISLATION.

The lull in the agitation for legalized railway pooling does not necessarily imply that the subject is to be dropped. Next month the supreme court is expected to render a decision in the case of the Joint Traffic association and the understanding is that the railroads which desire pooling legislation are disposed to delay action until after the decision. Hence nothing is being done by the senate or the house committees upon the subject, pending the clearing of the air.

Whether the decision in the joint traffic case will clarify the situation to any great extent is not apparent, since it is likely to be in line with the decision of the court in the transmississippi case, that railroads are subject to the anti-trust law. If the joint traffic agreement is sustained it must be on the ground that it does not bind anybody to do anything, not on the ground that the anti-trust law does not apply to railroads.

A decision favorable to the Traffic association would simply mean that such contracts have no binding force upon the parties, while those contracts which do bind will continue to be unlawful under the previous decision of the court. It is highly improbable that the court will directly reverse the decision regarding the application of the anti-trust law to railway combinations, still it is said that some of the railway people feel that the court will make some dicta which will throw light upon the present confused relations between the railroads and the federal authority.

The members of the Interstate Commerce commission are not unanimous in regard to the form of pooling contracts, but all favor some degree of federal regulation. The best-informed opinion is that there is very little chance that a pooling bill can be passed without granting wide powers to the commission in regard to fixing rates. While the railroads probably have power enough in congress to check hostile legislation, they have not power enough to have passed new legislation giving them authority to agree upon rates among themselves without the supervision of any federal authority.

As was said a short time ago by one of the members of the commission, to legalize pooling without any accompanying legislation of an important character is a proposal to take away from the public all the benefits it gets or thinks it gets from the competition of railroad carriers and put nothing in its place and that is the proposition which, irrespective of the personal views of the commission, would never be adopted by either house of congress. Many railway managers recognize this and are willing to accept the conditions, but there are others who would prefer that the existing situation continue to allowing the Interstate Commerce commission the power in regard to fixing rates which it is proposed to give it.

It may be regarded as absolutely certain that no measure to legalize pooling can become law that does not provide for rigid governmental supervision and in view of the strong railway opposition to this the chances of any pooling legislation appear to be rather small.

NO ARMY BUGABOO.

In an effort at sensationalism on the floor of the house, Congressman Lewis of Washington has charged that the United States army is a menace to the liberties of the American people and that if the army is to be reorganized or enlarged the people, that is, the taxpayers, would be justified in asking if it is to be used for breaking down everything that means the freedom of the government. This outbreak, it is believed, will enable Mr. Lewis to retain the confidence of his poplaric constituency despite his declaration that he is not positive whether or not sixteen to one is the panacea for all political ills.

The ultimate foundation of all government is force. While our government is instituted solely to protect the liberties of the people, it cannot fulfill its mission without the power to uphold its authority in case of resistance to the operation of its duly enacted laws. The president of the United States is commander in chief of the United States army and so long as presidents are elected who represent the wishes of the people in the matter of government the army cannot be used to break down "the freedom of the government." The rights of the people have never been menaced by the army under any republican president. While it is true poplarics like Mr. Lewis are scheming to secure a president of a different political creed, it is improbable they will be able to get one who would dare reverse the long maintained republican policy with regard to the use of the army. The danger, if any, lies not in the army, but in those clothed with power to use the army.

They are not permitted to carry weapons, compelled or otherwise, and they have no right to frighten women and children for the purpose of getting something to eat. Tramps are evidently not appreciated in Iowa.

Every reduction in the assessment of a franchised corporation below what it should be proportionately to the assessed valuation of other property means simply so much added to the tax burden of the home-owner and small property owner. Because these corporations have evaded their just share of municipal taxation so long is no good reason why their pleas for continued concessions should be granted.

The situation suggests that American cotton manufacturers should make greater efforts to extend their markets. Our exports in this line of production are not in volume what they should be and the cotton industry must continue to experience periods of depression, due to overproduction, until it shall come to depend less than at present upon the home market.

MUST MEET THE EMERGENCY.

The exposition management has been impelled to appeal to public-spirited citizens for additional contributions and stock subscriptions by the imperative demand for several additional exhibition buildings and the enlargement of buildings already under way. The original exposition project contemplated participation by the transmississippi states only. In the evolution of the exposition it was found desirable to extend invitations to participate to every state in the union, as well as to foreign nations. Many of these states and some of the foreign countries have signified their acceptance and are making active preparations for extensive exhibits. Instead of being an eight-state affair like Atlanta, or a five-state affair like Nashville, the Transmississippi Exposition will have representative exhibits from almost as many states as the Columbian World's fair.

It remains for the exposition management to provide the structures in which ample accommodations will be furnished for all the exhibits. That involves an outlay of more than \$100,000 above the amount originally set apart for building purposes. To find the necessary means the management must invoke further generous support from the men who have already contributed and prompt responses from those who have heretofore failed to answer their appeals. It certainly is not asking too much of the latter class to come forward at this juncture to identify themselves with the most important and promising enterprise Omaha has ever undertaken.

Many of the laggards have up to this time put off their subscriptions on the plea that they would contribute their shares when the money should be needed. The emergency is now at hand and such excuses can no longer be valid. There is no time to be lost. Whatever buildings are to be erected should be contracted for at once, but before this can be done the managers must have the funds in sight for defraying the expense.

HAWAIIAN SUGAR COMPETITION.

Secretary of Agriculture Wilson has informed the senate that in his opinion Hawaii will not seriously compete with sugar producers in the United States and it is to be presumed that the annexationists will derive no little comfort from his view. But it is by no means conclusive. It is true that Hawaii now sends to this country less than one-tenth of our annual importations of sugar, but the sugar producing capacity of the islands has not been fully developed and under the stimulus which annexation would give it is not improbable that the production of sugar would at least be doubled. And its production will be by cheap coolie labor—a class of labor which our laws shut out of the United States.

But after all the question of Hawaiian sugar competition is not the most important consideration with those who oppose annexation. It is an altogether secondary matter. The objection to annexing that remote territory is founded upon sound policy and those wise principles in respect to territorial acquisition which have had the approval of the greatest American statesmen of the past. The same valid reasons against the annexation of those islands exist today as at the time when Garfield declared that to extend our possessions into the tropical belt would weaken the power of our people and government. The sugar question is worthy of consideration as affecting the interests of American sugar growers, but of infinitely greater importance is the question whether this nation shall embark upon a policy of territorial aggrandizement.

Senator Wolcott is not alone in his belief that before anything can be done toward bringing about an international agreement in regard to the coinage of silver the 16 to 1 ratio will have to be abandoned. His suggestion that with 20 to 1 as a ratio the free coinage cause might be urged with greater hope of success will strike a sympathetic chord with a considerable number of honest-intentioned silverites.

Famines are as costly as wars and equally deplorable. The recent famine in India imposed a draft on the charitably inclined people of the world aggregating \$9,000,000, and the Indian government sustained a loss of not less than \$5,000,000, only a part of which can ever be recovered. The immense sums spent to prevent the possibility of famine in India are not considered in this reckoning.

Notwithstanding the sympathy that has been wasted on tramps in recent years they find that under the new Iowa code their rights and privileges have been greatly curtailed. It is no longer lawful for tramps to sleep in the school houses or to enter the same for the purpose of keeping warm at the expense of the school district, as they have been doing. They are not permitted to carry weapons, compelled or otherwise, and they have no right to frighten women and children for the purpose of getting something to eat. Tramps are evidently not appreciated in Iowa.

Every reduction in the assessment of a franchised corporation below what it should be proportionately to the assessed valuation of other property means simply so much added to the tax burden of the home-owner and small property owner. Because these corporations have evaded their just share of municipal taxation so long is no good reason why their pleas for continued concessions should be granted.

The man who tried to commit suicide yesterday by jumping into the Chicago river from Dock street was a stranger from Omaha.

A Waiting Game. Washington Star. Mr. McKenna will doubtless be patient and remember that the senate never misses an opportunity to investigate and that it seldom finds out anything which it does.

Missouri Must Be There. Globe-Tribune. The greatest transmississippi state—which, of course, as Missouri will be represented at the Transmississippi Exposition at Omaha by two buildings, one for state visitors, the other for an exhibit. Now the people of Missouri show what they can place on exhibition to prove their leadership in the vast region west of the famous river.

One Lucky Man. Norfolk News. There is a man in Buffalo who has just come out of a French prison. A man is fortunate who can sleep two years under a democratic administration and who wakes up just in time to get into the procession of a new government. Nebraska's building and exhibit will cost \$100,000, that of Illinois \$45,000, Wyoming \$30,000, and so on. With the resources in hand and in sight the prospect of making the preparations for grounds and construction of buildings, being assisted by a directory of fifty members and various bureaus in charge of experts, is a financial way at least, may perhaps be considered probable, in view of the results attained at Atlanta and Nashville. This is a large country and we have hundreds of thousands of citizens who are combining instruction with their usual summer trip, will go almost any distance to see a well-advised exposition. Omaha, it is estimated, will attract 1,000,000 people to the fair west and visitors will expect to find there features wanting to the east and south. The exposition is the first of the kind ever held in the west and it will appeal strongly to a local patronage which is not yet surfeited with exposition sights.

Are Preachers Overpaid? Louisville Courier-Journal. Dr. John Hall, the famous New York divine, who has just resigned his pastorate after thirty years' service, was a well paid man. He was not a minister of the gospel in another profession would have been content with the \$15,000 salary he received. A lawyer or physician of equal reputation and ability would have received an income of \$50,000 to \$100,000. Clergymen are not overpaid anywhere.

Polley of Ice and Tale. Clothed in a broad-brimmed sombrero, a statesman's suit of clothes, a white cravat, a diamond pin, and other patriotic habiliments, a man in a military uniform, such as in Minneapolis and said to an awestricken reporter: "What I want more than anything else is a good bill from former customer. Mr. Bryan should be more generous. He should give us as well as take."

Mexican Prosperity Exaggerated. Kansas City Star. In view of the talk about Mexico's great prosperity and the amount of foreign capital pouring into the country, it is actually true that Mexico's railroad securities quoted in London are lower now than they were a year ago, while there has been a general decline in the prices of American railroad stocks and bonds during the year. Mexican national bonds are only a small fraction higher than they were a year ago, while the price of the gold standard is higher. These comparisons suggest that the reports of large foreign investments in Mexico are considerably exaggerated.

Governor Shaw's Inaugural Address. Boston Transcript. We are glad to note that Governor Shaw of Iowa, in his inaugural address, did not touch upon the matter of the annexation of Hawaii, but it is to be presumed that the annexationists will derive no little comfort from his view. But it is by no means conclusive. It is true that Hawaii now sends to this country less than one-tenth of our annual importations of sugar, but the sugar producing capacity of the islands has not been fully developed and under the stimulus which annexation would give it is not improbable that the production of sugar would at least be doubled. And its production will be by cheap coolie labor—a class of labor which our laws shut out of the United States.

Evidence of Betterment Visible on All Sides. St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Evidence of business improvements are visible on all hands. "No year since 1887," says the Railway Age, "has shown so few roads or so small mileage confessing insolvency as 1897, while compared with the record of any one of the five years preceding 1897 the list of new receiverships in the last year is surprisingly small in respect to the number of companies and the mileage involved." In 1893 seventy-four companies, 23,240 miles of road and \$1,751,000,000 of bonds and stock defaulted in their obligations to creditors. In 1894, 1895 and 1896 a mileage of 1,537 and a capitalization of \$53,000,000, did this. In other equally important respects the railroad situation improved in 1897. The number of receiverships in 1897 was the largest ever gained and the shares of almost all of them advanced to figures not reached in previous years since the panic of 1893.

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THE BREAK IN THE LINE. One Lone Organ of the Sacred Ratio Gives Up the Fight. Detroit Free Press (Dem.). The defection of the New York Journal from the ranks of Bryan's newspaper supporters—if the printing of a three-column contribution from its leading editorial writer condemning the policy of Bryan may be accepted as a defection—will hardly strike the public as extraordinary. It becomes an event through the pronouncement of Mr. Hearst's newspaper and the intensity of its devotion to Mr. Bryan and his crusade for silver in a section of the country that was, in now and evermore shall be against both. It is the only newspaper in the country which has a paper friend in "the enemy's country" now withdraws its helping hand.

THE HEAT PLAGUE OF AUGUST, 1896. Mrs. Pinkham's Explanation of the Unusual Number of Deaths and Prostrations Among Women. The great heat plague of August, 1896, was not without its lesson. One could not fail to notice in long lists of the victims were women in their thirties, and women between forty-five and fifty. The women who succumbed to the protracted heat were women whose energies were exhausted by sufferings peculiar to their sex; women who, taking no thought of themselves, or who, attaching no importance to first symptoms, allowed their female system to become run down.

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THE EXPOSITION.

At Omaha, Neb., on June 1 of this year, an exhibition known as the Transmississippi and International Exposition will be opened and will continue till November 1. The general character of the exposition is that of a national exposition in this country since the Columbian exposition at Chicago in 1893, far surpassing the Atlanta exposition in 1885 and the Nashville exposition in 1897. As respects the area devoted to exhibits it will be, it is stated by the Manufacturer, about two-thirds as large as that of the Chicago exposition. The main buildings, which are grouped about "a lake half a mile long and 150 feet wide," will be those of the United States government, Agriculture, Administration, Mines, Machinery, Art, Auditorium, Liberal Arts, Boys and Girls and Manufactures. There are to be "side" attractions, such as the Capitol, Mammoth Cave, Indian camps, a negro village, Cripple Creek Mining camp and Sherman's umbrella—a sort of monster merry-go-round, which carries passengers around a circle of 250 feet at a height of 100 yards. Much space will be given also to the Forestry, Horticulture, Dairy, Apiary, Poultry and Music buildings and to the various buildings of which there will be a considerable number. All the buildings will be of "stiff," colored to represent old marble.

Assigned to give the exposition an international character, the State department has extended invitations to foreign countries to participate and favorable replies have been received from many. The Congress has appropriated \$200,000 for this government's building and exhibit. The secretary of agriculture promises to assist with his display and the postmaster general will cooperate with an issue of stamps to commemorate the exposition. These stamps, our philatelists will wish to see, are in the denominations of two, five, ten, and one dollar. Thirty-two states of the union, including in the list nearly all the states west of the Mississippi, have signified their intention to make an exhibit. The works of wonder of the transmississippi section of the union are to be fully emphasized with illustrative exhibits. Among these will be irrigation exhibits, alfalfa fields, sugar beet fields, agricultural implements and live stock. There will be, of course, the usual attractions of a national exposition, such as military bands and "congresses" of various kinds, from binetalmist to theosophy.

As respects the financial organization, the committee in charge has incorporated a body with a capital of \$1,000,000. In addition to stock subscriptions of about \$500,000, revenues are thought to be assured from various sources to an amount aggregating about \$1,000,000. The building and exhibit will cost \$100,000, that of Illinois \$45,000, Wyoming \$30,000, and so on. With the resources in hand and in sight the prospect of making the preparations for grounds and construction of buildings, being assisted by a directory of fifty members and various bureaus in charge of experts, is a financial way at least, may perhaps be considered probable, in view of the results attained at Atlanta and Nashville. This is a large country and we have hundreds of thousands of citizens who are combining instruction with their usual summer trip, will go almost any distance to see a well-advised exposition. Omaha, it is estimated, will attract 1,000,000 people to the fair west and visitors will expect to find there features wanting to the east and south. The exposition is the first of the kind ever held in the west and it will appeal strongly to a local patronage which is not yet surfeited with exposition sights.

MISSOURI AT THE EXPOSITION. Proposed Exhibit to Be a Credit to the State. Kansas City Star. The Missouri commission after visiting Omaha and looking over the ground, joined in the concluding that Missouri invest \$100,000—very sensibly divided into \$10,000 for a building and \$90,000 for the exhibit—and, in accordance with this determination, the commission will call for bids in Iowa for the sum of \$50,000 should be raised with cities as Missouri, a state with two such cities as St. Louis and Kansas City and many smaller cities and towns, and an enormously wealthy agricultural country besides. Then a handsome and commodious structure should be completed for \$100,000, and the remaining \$40,000 should put in shape for exhibiting the most remarkable show of products, natural and artificial, ever put together by a state of this union.

Missouri, when called on for a show, always makes a creditable one, but has never yet done her best. Missouri, it should be remembered, can be better than any other state in the union. It has the alphabet from a to z for its size. Missouri will be the great contributing state to the Omaha exposition, and should appear there first in the line.

It may be urged that Omaha is too near home, and that the people who will gather at Omaha will know all about Missouri, but the same is true of the Kansas and the Kansas do not know of the native resources of Missouri, and they know less of the extent to which these resources have been developed. The same is true of the Missouri, Missourians. An exhibition in which Missouri should fully show herself to herself would be of inestimable value. Missouri, a state with two such cities as St. Louis and Kansas City and many smaller cities and towns, and an enormously wealthy agricultural country besides. Then a handsome and commodious structure should be completed for \$100,000, and the remaining \$40,000 should put in shape for exhibiting the most remarkable show of products, natural and artificial, ever put together by a state of this union.

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