

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas county, ss.: George B. Tschuck, 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 April, 1906, was as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Date, Copies, Total. Rows for various dates in April 1906, ending with a total of 786,586.

Not even the most ardent advocates of war as a means to national prosperity profess to see anything like prosperity in store for Spain.

Congress has officially fixed the date when the war began, but what the people are most interested in now is the date when the war will end.

Every report of the conditions of Nebraska soil with respect to prospects for spring sowing is favorable. Nebraska's crop alone will feed the army.

If the United States had been collecting a tax on railway excursion tickets the past month the question of financing the war might not now be so troublesome.

The Klondike regiment in the volunteer service is yet to be heard from, but it will doubtless make its appearance if the war with Spain lasts long enough.

What can have happened to the congressional pie bakery? Can it be possible that its capacity was exhausted by the one order of the popocratic statesmen from Nebraska?

If the railroads want Governor Holcomb to hold the Nebraska volunteers at Lincoln for still another Sunday excursion they ought not to be bashful about saying the word.

New Orleans set the example by renaming Spain street and calling it Dewey street and now St. Louis no longer has King's highway, but in its stead Dewey boulevard.

The fact that the governor general of the Philippines received positive instructions to hold Manila indicates that the Spanish government feared he might be seized with the insane impulse to drop it.

Let it be borne constantly in mind that whenever the necessity for a war debt becomes imperative, the establishment of a postal savings bank system offers the most popular way of floating a really popular loan.

Now that we are well started in a new war, it ought to be time to put a stop to the practice of passing special bills through congress to remove the charge of desertion from the records of those who failed to get an honorable discharge in the last war.

Let all loyal Americans do their traveling this year in the United States. Next year traveling will be safe and pleasant in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines and American travelers will then find a great many places in Spain's former possessions to interest them.

When a federation of western labor unions was organized in Salt Lake last week a resolution was passed calling upon the people of the west to go into politics. In view of what the western people have been doing for several years this resolution seems a trifle late.

An English literary woman has sued for damages a critic who put her name in a list of authors he "could not take seriously." If he refuses to take her seriously now there may be other ways of bringing him to time. Such critics certainly need disciplining.

The yellow war correspondents are still busily engaged telling the army and navy authorities just how their movements should be directed. The annoying feature of the situation is that the men in actual command do not seem to appreciate the invaluable advice offered by the fakirs.

There is no more excuse for annexing Hawaii as a war measure than there was for annexing it as a peace proposition. And there never was any valid reason why the question of Hawaiian annexation should be seriously entertained for a moment by the people of the United States.

DEALING WITH NEW CONDITIONS.

That the United States is confronted with new conditions of a most important nature is universally recognized. But that this necessarily demands that we shall renounce the traditional policy of the nation and launch the republic upon a new course for which there is no precedent in our history, is not conclusively shown by those who are arguing such a course. The more radical advocates of territorial acquisition, however, do not concern themselves about the constitution and precedents. They are quite prepared to ignore these, together with the precepts of the founders of the government. They affirm that we have reached a new and vital crisis in our national development which neither our constitution makers nor our policy framers have foreseen and therefore we are warranted in striking out into a new path. They admit, as they must do, that while pursuing the course which they would now have the nation abandon the United States has become in wealth and industrial capacity the foremost nation of the world, but instead of seeing in this a most substantial and conclusive reason why we should adhere to the course thus far pursued, they use it to justify the departure they urge. The splendid progress of the nation under a policy that has kept us out of the entanglements and complications of the old world has no weight with the advocates of territorial aggrandizement.

It is declared that we have before us but two alternatives—either to continue our present position of fettered subjection to the leading commercial powers, or to put ourselves in a position of vantage for sharing in the world's commerce equal to that of the foremost nations. "This carries the conclusion," says one advocate of territorial acquisition, "that we must provide ourselves with all the equipments of power that the other commercial powers have found necessary for the expansion and protection of their trade. If we would, we cannot evade the factor in current civilization that foreign commerce must still go hand in hand with the sword and the battleship and if we are not prepared to accept this indispensable condition of progress we must accept the failure of our great destiny as the world's leading commercial power."

Yet we have achieved commercial power, in which we stand today second among the nations of the world, without the sword and the battleship, and but for a disastrous civil conflict which checked our commercial advance and left us without a merchant marine there can be no question that this country would now be first among commercial powers, as it is first among the nations in wealth and industrial capacity. The history of the growth of the United States in foreign commerce is conclusive evidence that the sword and the battleship are not essential or indispensable to commercial progress.

It will be an evil day for this republic if ever its people shall decide that in order to extend commerce it is necessary to acquire remote territory, for the protection of which great military and naval establishments must be maintained. Once having entered upon such a policy who can foresee where it would end or into what troubles it would lead? If we should ever employ the sword and the battleship as the means of extending trade we should certainly find other nations ready to give us every opportunity to keep them well occupied. We believe the sober and conservative judgment of the American people can be trusted to prevent a departure in national policy that would be a menace to our peace and to the perpetuity of our political system.

FRENCH UNFRIENDLINESS.

The unfriendliness toward the United States manifested by a large portion of the press and people of France is not inappreciable, yet in view of the long period of cordial relations between the two countries and the fact that both are republics, many Americans find it difficult to understand why at this juncture Frenchmen should so unparalytically denounce the United States and ardently sympathize with Spain. Racial ties have much to do with this. A prominent French writer recently said: "We are the purest blooded, the most civilized and the most numerous representatives of the Latin race. For that reason we must watch everything that concerns the future of that race. The war now waged by the Anglo-Saxons of America against the Latins of Spain marks another step in the struggle which has existed for so many centuries between the two races. This undoubtedly reflects the nearly universal feeling in France—race interest and race prejudice. Frenchmen generally cannot have any admiration for Spain's form of government, but that does not prevent them from extending sympathy to a people of a common race who are also neighbors.

Another explanation of French sympathy with Spain is less creditable, because distinctly mercenary. French capital is invested to a very large amount in Spanish bonds and also in various industrial and other enterprises of Spain. These French investors are influential and they have spared no effort to create a public sentiment hostile to this country. They are able to use a notoriously venal press for this purpose and to otherwise influence public sentiment. Another thing that helps to make French feeling against us is the friendly attitude of England, toward which country Frenchmen entertain almost as hearty a hatred as they do toward Germany. Then there is the fact that our present tariff law has somewhat reduced French trade with the United States, making us enemies in industrial quarters.

Putting these things together the attitude of the French people is not difficult to understand, yet Americans may justly complain of the unfairness and injustice which characterize much of the opinion and comment made in France in regard to the course and policy of this government. We may not blame Frenchmen for feeling unfriendly, but we have the right to expect from them fairness and candor. That we shall not get this, however, seems assured. So far as the French government is concerned it has done its duty. It

promptly announced an attitude of strict neutrality and this will undoubtedly be maintained to the end. But the great majority of the French people are antagonistic and will remain so—a regrettable fact, but one which the American people can regard without resentment. So long as the government faithfully performs its international duty, as it appears fully disposed to do, little heed need be given to popular criticism or clamor.

A CONTROLLER NEXT.

The directors of the Transmississippi Exposition have acted wisely in creating the position of general manager, on whom shall devolve the supervision of employees in and about the exposition grounds and buildings. In this they have cast no reflection upon the executive committee, but have only followed out the example of every other great exposition. The action would have been taken months ago but for the disinclination of the directors to run counter to the expressed wishes of a majority of the executive committee, who, for reasons not yet explained, have sought to continue a mode of administration manifestly impractical.

Now that the question of the creation of the general manager's office has been disposed of, the next thing imperatively demanded is the creation of the office of comptroller. As at present organized the functions of secretary, treasurer and comptroller are centered in one and the same man. The secretary receives and receipts for money and signs the vouchers that are cashed on presentation to the treasurer without any other check. In reality, therefore, the treasurer acts merely as a depository which receives the exhibition funds on deposit and pays them out on order of the secretary. The so-called auditors of the exposition have never been anything but bookkeepers, acting under direction of the secretary. The assurance that the exhibition books have been balanced from time to time by the so-called auditor, therefore, counts for nothing. It simply certifies to the fact that the credits and debits as recorded in the books equal one another. It is an entirely different matter to have each voucher scrutinized by an officer independently responsible and in no way subordinate to either the secretary or treasurer.

In a word, the exposition needs a comptroller, without whose endorsement no vouchers shall be good. This officer is the more necessary now when the exhibition is about to issue hundreds of thousands of dollars in warrants and bonds and who probably more than \$1,000,000 will be turned in from gate receipts and concessions. No corporation doing such a large business would think of permitting one man to receive, handle and pay out its revenue without intermediate check. This is particularly true of public corporations or quasi-public organizations like the exposition. It is not a question of confidence in the present officers, but simply requiring that strict business methods shall be pursued by the exposition.

QUESTIONS WITH CANADA.

If the Canadian government is really anxious for a settlement of matters in controversy with the United States undoubtedly our government will be found disposed to enter into negotiations at the first favorable opportunity, but the present would hardly seem to be an auspicious time for doing so. Announcement was made a short time ago, that the Canadian government had appointed a commissioner to go to Washington and if possible arrange for another conference on the questions in controversy, but there are obvious reasons why nothing is likely to be done at least pending the completion of war preparations.

The questions to be settled are numerous and important and their early adjustment is certainly to be desired. They include the perplexing controversy in regard to the seals, the problem of reciprocity, the complicated one as to the fisheries and some lesser matters concerning immigration, labor interests and kindred subjects. Then there is the more recent question regarding property rights, mining tax and police service in the Klondike, which have already imposed a serious strain upon the forbearance of both governments. There can be no doubt that these questions can all be amicably and honorably adjusted if they are dealt with in the proper spirit—if a disposition is manifested on both sides to make fair and reasonable concessions. The greatest difficulty, perhaps, will be found with the question of reciprocity, which the Canadian government has shown a desire to make paramount, the settlement of the other matters to depend on this. It may not now be disposed, however, to insist upon this.

THE RED CROSS IN CUBA.

The fear that the Red Cross society will not be able to operate in Cuba to alleviate the sufferings of the victims of war has no other foundation than the reputation of the Spaniards for cruelty and inhumanity and the threats of irresponsible Spanish bragrants. The officers and agents of the American society withdrew from Cuba with the American consuls because they were engaged in helping the poor people who have been forced by Spanish officers to leave their homes and remain in the cities to starve, and this method of opposing the insurgents is regarded by Spain as legitimate warfare.

But the Spanish government is bound by treaty to recognize the neutrality of the Red Cross and to give protection to persons working under authority from that society. While there is properly no international Red Cross, all of the same basis and under the treaty drawn up at Geneva in 1863, afterward remodeled and improved and signed by twenty-five nations. The American Red Cross has been more conspicuous in relief work throughout the world than any other. Should there be any prolonged campaign of the American armies in Cuba the American Red Cross volunteers will be found with the armies attending to the sick and wounded and giving food and shelter to all who are suffering.

The president of the American society is quoted as saying that the Red Cross agents engaged in distributing food to the people of Matanzas and other cities

of Cuba were treated with uniform respect by the Spanish authorities. When they left the island the supplies not yet distributed were turned over to the British consuls. Some of the food and clothing may have been stolen, but it is probable that nearly all of the supplies ultimately went to persons who deserved them. Even if the Spanish armies are disposed to carry on the war in old baronous ways, giving no quarter and asking none, shutting out all considerations of humanity, the Spanish government cannot afford to permit such warfare, since all the Christian nations of the earth are interested in maintaining the agreements entered into for recognition of the Red Cross work.

GROWTH OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

The latest of all the English dictionaries defines more than 500,000 words and phrases, nearly all of which are in use or might be used properly by a person writing or speaking the English language. Only a few years ago the best dictionaries treated of hardly half as many words and the first of the English dictionaries printed only 280 years ago defined only 5,000 words. It is true that but a small proportion of the 500,000 words listed as fully incorporated into the English language are actually used by the people in their daily intercourse, yet the new ones are being taken into the language more rapidly than the old ones are dropped.

Much of this growth of the English language has taken place within the present century and it is due more to the commercial, political or military achievements of the Anglo-Saxons than to bold literary conquests. The process by which the English language grows is well illustrated by the reception accorded a batch of useful new words brought out by the Cuban troubles. "Machete" is a Spanish word just adopted by the people of the United States and its meaning broadened. There is a good prospect that in like manner "reconocido" and "incomunicado" will be Anglicized, especially since the last named word fills a gap in the English language. The usefulness of "trocha" was early recognized and now "immunes" is seen frequently where no other word could be substituted there. These have all come directly from Cuba. Another batch may be expected any day from the Philippines.

A language that is now in daily use by over 150,000,000 persons scattered over all the continents and the islands of the earth, a language used alongside nearly every other living language and itself a composite of many other languages, such a language grows naturally and rapidly. It is by no means an idle dream to expect that some time not so very remote the English language will become practically the universal language.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL ARMY.

President McKinley's conditional promise to review the annual parade of the Brooklyn Sunday schoolers later in the present month is an attestation of the recognized importance of the work being done for the young people of the United States in the Sunday schools and by various church clubs and societies. In this Brooklyn parade it is expected there will be at least 90,000 children. This goodly army is but a comparatively small section of the grander army of Sunday school children, numbering millions, marching once each week to lessons in churches and mission houses. The value of this work among the young people is not questioned. A few days ago the International Sunday School Lesson committee met in Chicago and mapped out the lessons for the first six years of the twentieth century, and the line of study indicated by this committee will be followed not alone in the thousands of Sunday schools of the United States, but in many other thousands in all parts of the world.

Closely related to the Sunday schools are the Christian Endeavor, Epworth league and other societies of young people, numbering millions and rapidly growing in numbers and influence. Whatever the statistics may show about the condition of the churches, the American Sunday school army is vigorous, aggressive and growing in size.

It will be well if President McKinley is able to turn aside from public duties for a day to review an army of Sunday school children. It will show to the world that the greatness of the United States is not alone in power to strike effective blows at the rule of a degenerate kingdom. More important still, it will show to the children of America that while the nation looks to armies of warriors for defense from physical dangers, the hope of the nation lies as ever in the hosts of young people, in whose hearts virtue, honor and respect for law are deeply implanted.

Saturday morning the front page of the Bakery was ornamented with a placard in stud horse type, announcing "a big scoop." The big scoop is claimed to have been the first and only authentic announcement of the Nebraska paper that the Cape Verde fleet is on this side of the Atlantic. This claim would be interesting if it were true, but it is a fake like most everything else that emanates from that source. An examination of the regular morning edition of The Bee of Friday reveals that the authentic news of the arrival of the Spanish fleet at Martinique was given prominence on its first page.

Of course Mr. Belmont, who offered his steam yacht to the government on condition that he should be its commander, did not intend to engage in privateering, but the authorities at Washington were doubtless fully justified in rejecting the offer to preserve appearances. The United States government is keeping in the straight and narrow path of modern international law while conducting this war.

One of the peculiar aspects of the situation is the sight of the men who have been bowling for more stringent restrictions upon the admission of European immigrants into the United States hardly able to restrain themselves in their desire to annex by force a few millions of illiterate black, white and

yellow inhabitants of ownerless islands scattered around three different seas. The few persons who have continued under the spell of the Klondike fever have been informed that spring-time is nearly due in Alaska and that the Yukon river will soon be again open for traffic. But the transportation lines from Pacific coast cities to Fort M'Chael have already recognized the fact that the Klondike boom is a matter of history.

An Honest Confession.

When we are 50 years old we do not propose to make ourselves ridiculous by telling around that we feel as young as we ever did.

A Related Decision.

The supreme court of the United States has discovered that the Iowa liquor law is invalid—thus affirming the decision handed out daily by Apothecary J. from behind every prescription case in the state.

Liable to Explode.

If Captain General Blanco, still persisting in his determination to conquer or die, ever falls into the hands of the Americans, he should be confined for his own good, in the refrigerator ship Illinois until his temperature is reduced, if reduced it can be, to a normal degree. In his present inflammable and infuriating condition he is liable to burn himself and all Havana.

A Discouraging Prospect.

If this Daughters and Sons of the American Revolution craze continues, what are we to expect in the next century? The newspapers of 100 years hence will doubtless be burdened with numerous items about the Daughters of the Spanish War, the Sons of the Hispano-American War, Nephews of Cuba Libre, Nieces of the Order of Manila, Knights of Dewey and the like.

Mark the Difference.

Note the contrast between the American and Spanish methods of conducting the war. The Spaniards are daily issuing frantic and frantic manifestos. Blanco's absurd "reports" are being published right and left, and the government at Madrid is giving out hysterical statements as to Spanish prowess and American incompetence. In the meantime the government at Washington is going about its business, carrying out its plans, saying nothing and doing everything it sets itself to do.

Globe Trotter Westward Bound.

It is quite probable that the war will do more good than harm to the Transmississippi Exposition at Omaha, which opens June 1. So many residents of the Atlantic states will go westward this summer, instead of going to Europe, that the exposition may safely count on a much larger share of patronage from them than it would have under ordinary circumstances; while the large amount of money that is being disbursed in payment for war supplies will also be felt in the receipts of the exhibition. Omaha has worked hard for this event. It deserves success, and it will doubtless have it.

Spain's Upsilon Ships.

The truth about the reserve armada at Cadiz is out at last. It is useless as much because of lack of officers as deficiency of armament. The big ocean steamships Normania and Columbia are almost converted into auxiliary cruisers, but there can be found no commanders capable of handling vessels of the type of these Atlantic greyhounds. The rest of the reserve fleet is said to be little better than paper, and while fatuously brave crews might be found to venture out in the antiquated hulks they would be as much at the mercy of any American ships now afloat as their brethren were in Manila bay.

PORTO RICO.

One of the fairest and richest of the Antilles. A more fitting location for a fountain of youth could hardly be found than the island of Porto Rico. It is considered the most beautiful and healthful of Antilles. There abounds in tropical abundance all things necessary for man's comfort and happiness. The climate is delightful, the verdure tropical in its luxuriance and undeveloped deposits of precious metals are known to exist. Animal life is abundant and varied. Cattle swarm over the lowland plains and in the more temperate mountain districts the noted Porto Rican horses are bred. Sugar, coffee and tobacco are the chief staples, besides which are the fruits and woods of the tropics. All in all, no spot on the globe is better equipped by nature to support a happy and industrious population.

Porto Rico has an area of 3,550 square miles. It is 100 miles long and thirty-seven miles wide. It is larger than Connecticut, twice the size of Rhode Island and might be dropped into the space of Custer county, Nebraska, without much of it breaking over the lines. The population is about 800,000, nearly one-half of whom are whites of un-mixed blood and about 80,000 negroes or mulattoes. Of the "mixed" population quite 200,000 are the Jebaros, an uncommon people said to be of Spanish stock with drops of the five Indian blood in them. They are small farmers and laborers. The race is a fine one, showing the regular features and small feet of the Europeans. The Jebaros are revolutionists to a man. The people have the qualities of an industrious and highly civilized race—and yet the island's resources remain mostly undeveloped, and three-quarters of a million of white and Jebaro inhabitants, less than 100,000 can read and write.

There are two fine old cities in Porto Rico—San Juan, the capital and principal port, and Ponce, the largest city, several miles inland. The city of San Juan is an ornamental standing out into the sea. The entrance to the bay is narrow, but the water is navigable to vessels of large tonnage. The city is surrounded with walls and a reef of half sunken rocks, extending over about two-thirds of the whole circumference, makes another barrier. The walls are solid, but would very easily yield to modern ordnance. Until early in last year the only battery of any consequence was a new one placed toward the east coast, designed apparently to protect the city from an anticipated attack on the land side. The battery mounts several Krupp guns of medium caliber. It is believed several more of these were mounted in Morro castle, at the other end of the town. The remainder of the ordnance in San Juan along the walls until very recently was of obsolete pattern and quite unserviceable.

The government of the island is characteristically Spanish—oppressive, vindictive and arrogant. The dons consider themselves superior people, and act on the principle that the natives owe them a living. Some 35,000 of them, all holding from Spain, comprise the governing class, into which a native cannot break without a revolution. These alien officeholders drain the colony of its public money. Their domineering manners and high-handed actions have brought upon them the hatred of natives. They come to the province with the single object of making money and their venality has corrupted the public service to such an extent that bribery is now necessary in procuring a decision in every court of justice.

The taxes, which are burdensome, are raised by duties on exports, as well as imports, and by a series of petty personal taxes, such as none but a spiritless people would willingly stand. These include stamped paper, a toll on railroad passengers and freight, and even on the consumption of food.

The total revenue collected in a year from this little island is \$3,247,875. Of this, \$3,257,255 goes directly for maintaining the standing army and navy, whose sole purpose is to keep in subjection the people who sup-

port them. Of the remaining \$850,000, but a small share is devoted to public purposes that will benefit the people of the island, as the largest portion goes to employes of the public works, all of whom are Spaniards. The regular military force in Porto Rico, under the command of the captain general, numbers 4,500 men, including two batteries of artillery and two squadrons of cavalry. They are well armed and disciplined, and were recruited in Spain. There is also a corps of 500 police and fourteen battalions of volunteers, containing about 8,000 men. The volunteers are not natives of the island. Since the last uprising, when a battalion of Porto Ricans went over to the insurgents, the natives have not been called upon to serve.

The Porto Ricans struggled for independence long before Cuba was illumined by the torch of liberty. Several abortive attempts have been made to drive the Spaniards from the island, the first being in 1820 and the last in 1868. The revolutionary feeling is strong at the present time, and will undoubtedly manifest itself should the United States determine to annihilate Spanish power on the island.

BLASTS FROM RAM'S HORN.

Theology is not religion. Truth is the secret of deceptions. Forgiveness is the key that opens heaven. The best known remedy for laziness is to go to work. The rich man who don't give will always remain poor. There are few sermons neither too long nor too short. Gray hairs and wrinkles won't mean anything in heaven. If good resolutions could furnish wings, everybody would fly. The gift of silence is often more valuable than the gift of speech. You cannot tell by the size of the tree how the apples will taste.

DOMESTIC IDYLS.

Chicago News: "Timothy wouldn't marry that rich widow when he found out she was dead." "What difference would that make?" "All the neighbors would hear him when he asked her for money." Chicago Post: "It seems like a dream," he said in speaking of his courtship. "My boy," replied the veteran, "when you wake up after marriage you will find that that is just exactly what it is—nothing but a dream." Chicago Record: "Before we were married you told me you were a dreamer—an idle dreamer." "Well, what of it?" "And now I have to sit up with you at night because you have insomnia." Detroit Journal: "Impoverished," she moaned, agonizingly. "Don't get red-headed!" implored her father. "But how could her hair possibly remain auburn with her income fallen from \$50,000 a month to \$500 a year?" Brooklyn Life: Johnson—Just see how hard Johnson is working at beating that clock! Mrs. Johnson—Yes, Mrs. Dobson sets him at work at something of the kind just after he has given her the news in the paper. Harper's Bazar: "These gloves are too small," said pretty little Miss Digley to Mr. Wilkins, who kept a department store. "They squeeze my hands like iron." "Which shows that they are very sensible gloves, eh?" suggested Mr. Wilkins.

HOUSE CLEANING.

Somerville Journal. The coal host's in the parlor. The sofa's in the shed. The chamber chairs together are piled upon the bed. The children all are keeping As quiet as a mouse. Oh, it's no time for fooling, For Dolly's cleaning house! Cold victuals are the order; Pa gets his meals in town. For me, says every cobweb is going to come down. And Bridget every corner Will sweep soaks will souse. Oh, living is a burden, For Dolly's cleaning house!

Advertisement for Browning, King & Co., featuring the slogan "There are occasions when it is undoubtedly better to incur loss than to make gain" and listing various suits for sale at discounted prices.