

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Daily Bee (Without Sunday), One Year \$3.00; Daily Bee and Sunday, One Year \$3.50; Six Months \$2.00; Three Months \$1.00; Sunday Bee, One Year \$1.00; Saturday Bee, One Year \$1.00; Weekly Bee, One Year \$1.00.

OFFICES.

Omaha: The Bee Building, South Omaha; Singer Block, Corner N and 24th Streets. Council Bluffs: 10 Pearl Street. Chicago Office: 502 Chamber of Commerce.

New York: Temple Court, Washington: 104 Fourteenth Street.

CORRESPONDENCE.

All communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed to The Editor.

BUSINESS LETTERS.

All business letters and remittances should be addressed to The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha. Drafts, checks, orders and money orders to be made payable to the order of the company.

THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, Douglas County, s.e.c. 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 May, 1898, was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Number of copies and Total. Rows include Daily Bee, Sunday Bee, and various other categories.

Total 974,652. Less returns and unsold copies 22,103. Net daily average 302,727.

GEORGE B. TSCHUCK.

Sworn to before me this day of May, 1898.

N. P. FEILL, Notary Public.

On Nebraska day every Nebraskan must stand up for Nebraska.

Incidentally Hobson's daring deed was a good thing for the fame of Cushing.

Captain Philip of the battleship Texas says that the report of his death was slightly exaggerated.

The war revenue bill is so near to becoming a law that the tax dodgers might as well lay their plans.

Enlistment in the army of volunteers ought not to operate to disfranchise a single American voter.

As the metropolis of Nebraska Omaha should be largely in evidence at the exposition on Nebraska day.

It will be some time before the flag that now flies over Cuba is taken down, and it will not be a Spaniard that will have the job.

A new creamery established in Nebraska is a much better advertisement for the state than the organization of a new poperaotic club.

Ex-Senator Peffer, the prohibitionist candidate for governor of Kansas, denies that he has deserted populism. It is the populist party, so he says, that has strayed away.

The regiments are filling up and men who want to fight for their country are not complaining because all the captains, lieutenants and corporals were selected before they got into the fight.

The experience of the Spaniards in trying to get coal to the navy in the West Indies is not encouraging to those who will be charged with the task of trying to get bacon to the army in Havana.

It is true that the use of the "Remember the Maine" phrase betrays a sentimental motive for prosecuting the war with Spain, but what would be left of the war spirit with the sentiment all taken out?

Tens of thousands of dollars have been expended by property owners in Omaha in repairs and permanent improvements. The mechanics and material supply houses have the exposition to thank for the benefits derived.

The word "morro" used to mean a promontory or headland, but Messrs. Simpson and Schley have been revising the Spanish dictionary and now everybody recognizes that a morro castle is a sham fortification.

The South Dakota ranchers report that the losses of live stock the last year have been very light. Now if the South Dakota people had better facilities for reaching the Omaha market there would be nothing further for them to desire.

The gate receipts the first month of the World's fair were so light that the managers became alarmed. The multitude did not move on the fair in vast numbers till fall. While the daily receipts at the Omaha exposition are not large, they compare favorably with the income at the early stages of other great expositions.

The state of Iowa paid \$68,441.80 to the volunteers in the four regiments before they were allowed to leave the state, and Uncle Sam will take his time in repaying the state. Iowa is much better able to wait for the money than the volunteers, and Iowa people have a right to feel proud of the way the young soldiers were treated by the state.

Congressman Bailey of T. ex, leader of the democratic minority in the house of representatives, says that fusion with the populists and bolting republicans in Oregon was a mistake. "I have always been opposed to fusion," he said, "and the result in Oregon convinces me that while it may win now and then, it does great harm to the democratic party." Now what do the populists think of fusion in Nebraska when it means nothing more than combination for a division of political spoils?

NEBRASKA DAY AT THE EXPOSITION.

On this day, set apart for the dedication of the Nebraska building at the Transmississippi and International Exposition, Nebraskans can proudly stand up for their state and point backward to the monumental achievements of its people.

No state in the union has a more splendid record of material development and progress, in a period of little more than a generation, than Nebraska can show. When created a territory in 1854, only forty-four years ago, Nebraska was a wilderness, the home of the Indian and the buffalo. Its plains had been crossed by explorers and frontiersmen; California gold-seekers and Mormon caravans had passed over its desert lands; but not until it was carved out as a territory did white men make it their habitat. What a wondrous growth this portion of the "Great American desert" has achieved in those brief years; what a magnificent contribution it has made to the wealth of the nation; how splendidly there has been illustrated here the best characteristics of the American people. Where shall we look for a more instructive object lesson in western energy, enterprise and pluck?

In 1860 the population of the territory of Nebraska was 28,000. The territory was admitted to statehood in 1876; thirty-one years ago. In 1870 the population was 122,000, less by nearly 20,000 than the population of Omaha in 1870. In a quarter of a century, or since 1843, the population of the state has grown from 150,000 to 1,200,000—an eight-fold increase. But progress in the material development has been even greater than in population. From a most uninviting and unpromising region forty years ago, Nebraska has become one of the leading agricultural states, with a community of skilled and industrious farmers whose labor adds tens of millions of dollars annually to the national wealth. We will not present here dry statistics to show how great this development of the resources of Nebraska's soil has been. Suffice it to say that careful and conservative estimates place the value of the farm products of Nebraska in 1897 at upwards of \$160,000,000. In manufactured products the estimated value for 1897 is \$150,000,000. An annual production valued at more than \$300,000,000 of a state only thirty-one years old is something which its people may justly point to with pride and gratification. In all other respects Nebraska is in the front line of progress. Every condition and requirement that makes for the enlightenment, the elevation and the happiness of a people are here.

The Transmississippi and International Exposition is distinctly a Nebraska enterprise and it bears the highest possible testimony to the public spirit, energy and liberality of our people. We would disparage no other community or commonwealth, but we may be permitted to doubt whether any state could have carried out so vast an undertaking, in the period of little more than a year, more successfully than Nebraskans have accomplished the great enterprise.

The Bee extends a cordial welcome to those who attend the dedication of the Nebraska building and hopes that the occasion will leave with them none but the pleasantest memories.

THE REFORM PRESS.

Many delegates of the National Reform Press association, in annual convention here, will combine pleasure with business. They come from all parts of the country and the impressions they carry away will bear good or evil for Omaha. Representing as they do millions of American citizens in every section of the country, they exercise potential force, not merely in the domain of politics, but in social and commercial circles. While radically at variance with some of the policies advocated by the reform press, notably on the financial and currency questions, The Bee is in accord with what its party calls the common enemy on such vital issues as the suppression of trusts, the regulation of public carriers, the postal telegraph, and last, but not least, the postal savings banks. All these have been advocated by The Bee for more than a quarter of a century. Any rational plan to bring about these reforms will in the future, as in the past, have its active and cordial support. It is not for The Bee, however, to make suggestions or seek to force its views of methods by which the irrepressible conflict with monopoly shall be presented. Suffice it to say that we extend hearty welcome to the men who have come to Omaha to discuss the problems of the hour and trust that they may be able to solve them as effectively as existing conditions will permit, always having in view the well being of the whole country and not simply the promotion of partisan ends looking solely for a division of party spoils.

PREMIER FOREIGN MARKETS.

An exaggerated importance has been made to attach to certain temporary conditions favoring the foreign market for American farm products, minor which the annual total of agricultural exports has been increased to more than \$800,000,000 from about half that amount in three or four years. Many causes have contributed to this increase and some of the most important are far removed from wheat corners, droughts or the demands of war. There has been a natural as well as an unnatural increase in this export trade.

But laying aside all controversy over the cause of the increase it is well to take a square look at the situation as indicating the possibility of permanently retaining a large share of this increased business. Especial efforts have been put forth under direction of the secretary of agriculture to extend our market abroad for butter, corn and horses. There has been a great increase in the volume of exports of all kinds of breadstuffs, including corn and cornmeal, and undoubtedly a great many people have within the last year become familiar for the first time with cornmeal as a food. Of the 200,000,000 bushels of corn now going abroad annually a large part of it must be used as food for human beings. Naturally they will continue to use it as a food and by their example induce others to do the same. The foreign market for corn seems to have become established.

American meats and packing house products are also going into markets where they were never known before and it is reasonable to presume that people who become familiar with good American beef and pork may be easily induced to try good American butter and cheese.

The new markets for American farm produce in all parts of the world may be retained wholly or in part by the exercise of prudent business enterprise. No matter what may be the reason for the consumption of American food products where they have not before been known, the producers of other lands will have to put forth some effort to regain this market, and the American producers ought to be able to permanently profit by their advantage.

STAND UP FOR THE POLITICAL HUCKSTERS.

The people of Douglas county voted \$100,000 in bonds to the exposition. The bonds were sold at a premium of over \$4,000, making in all \$104,000 that was intended to be placed at the disposal of the exposition as a contribution toward the enormous outlay for exposition buildings and embellishment of grounds. Instead of paying over the whole amount as contemplated by the people of Douglas county, the commissioners are withholding \$12,000 for a so-called Douglas county exhibit, which is out of place in an international exposition and instead of being a great advertisement bolittes the entire enterprise. While it is too late now to undo the foolishness, it is not too late for the county commissioners to restrain the political truck gardeners who are bounding them to the death with schemes to spend every penny of the \$13,000 exposition money yet remaining in the treasury. These people ought to be given to understand that the paramount purpose of the bond issue was to aid the exposition. If anybody had thought or suspected last November that any part of this bond issue would be squandered on political hucksters the chances of the bonds carrying by a two-thirds majority would have been very slim indeed.

WAR AND INDUSTRIES.

That one result of the war will be to broaden the markets for American products seems a safe proposition. That the extension of our markets is greatly to be desired will not be questioned by any one familiar with the industrial situation. It is a familiar fact that industrial development in the United States has gone far beyond the capacity of our own people for consuming the products of our industries when operated at their full capacity. This relative excess of production, remarks a leading financial journal, has produced an altogether unprecedented fall in prices, a large relative excess of manufacturing plants and suffering among manufacturers, especially those whose means have not enabled them to keep pace with the simultaneous rapid march of mechanical improvement.

As a consequence a considerable proportion of manufacturers have during the last four or five years been forced to curtail production or suspend operations and while there has been a considerable revival of industrial activity within the past year, still as a whole American industries are not employed up to the normal capacity and not all the investment in manufactures is profitable. The remedy for this condition is to be found in enlarged foreign markets and the enterprise of our manufacturers is being directed to the attainment of this, with good though as yet not entirely satisfactory results.

Thus within a period of nine years exports of manufactures have increased more than 100 per cent, amounting for the year 1897 to nearly \$300,000,000. This is fair progress, but the total value of the exports of manufactures is far below what it must be in order to enable our industries to be kept in operation to their full capacity. We should now be exporting at least double the amount of manufactured products that were sent to foreign markets in the past twelve months and exports to that extent would still leave an abundant supply for the home market.

With the liberation of Cuba and the establishment of a government that will foster the development of the island there can be no doubt that our Cuban trade will speedily attain larger proportions than it has ever known. It is to be expected that American capital will be extensively invested there and that American enterprise and methods will exert a dominating influence in developing Cuba. This means the building of railroads, the improvement of cities, the utilization of all the resources of the island and progress on every line. The prestige this country will have acquired through war in the far east cannot fail to be of commercial advantage to us in that quarter of the world, whether or not we permanently hold territory there. Indeed, we do not believe it to be at all necessary to the extension of our Asiatic trade that we shall permanently occupy the Philippines or even a small part of them, for we do not think there will be any danger to our commerce in China or elsewhere in that quarter from the European powers that are seeking trade opportunities there. We shall be in a position after the war to protect our interests in China, should they be assailed, without possessing a foot of Asiatic territory and we shall be all the better able to do this if we remain isolated from the policies and the machinations of the European powers.

Undoubtedly one result of the war will be to broaden our markets, to give us enlarged foreign outlets for the surplus products of our industries. This will in time compensate for the cost of the struggle, if we do not commit the mistake of becoming involved in affairs that will compel us to keep constantly prepared for other possible conflicts.

Hundreds of men have rendered valued service to the exposition for which they cannot receive, nor do they expect, direct adequate returns in dollars and cents. The work they have done and are doing is contributed to and for the general good of the city and surrounding country. Their failure to secure season passes into the exposition is not chargeable to the managers of the exposition, who are charged with the responsible duty of making the daily income equal the outlay, if possible. The men who are supporting the enterprise want it to prove a financial success from

THE ONE POLITICAL COLONEL.

Francis Characterization of Poperaotic Nebraska Third Regiment.

New York Sun.

The Third regiment of Nebraska volunteers is commanded by Colonel William J. Bryan of Lincoln. Its services were formally offered to the United States government on Monday by the populist governor, Holcomb, at the instance of the populist senator, Allen.

It is right that the plan truth should be told about this business.

When the eminent Thespian who played the part of a presidential candidate in 1896 made up his mind to attempt in 1898 the role of a military leader and hero, his determination put President McKinley in an embarrassing position. The president must either accept or reject Mr. Bryan's widely and noisily advertised proposal. If he accepted it, he was obviously lending aid to an enterprise of political advertisement, and admitting into the organization of our volunteer army influences and considerations up to this time avoided. If he rejected it, the president might seem to be lacking in courtesy to the most popular competitor for the office he holds. He was sure to be accused of questioning the integrity of Mr. Bryan's motives in deciding to become a soldier and even to be charged with persecuting him.

At the same time President McKinley knew that every man in the United States knows, and what Bryan himself must know, namely, that the regiment commanded by this purely political colonel will be subject to the risks and perils involved in incompetent and absolutely inexperienced leadership.

Now the War department will deal with the difficult question thus presented remains to be seen. Meanwhile the political part of the business has been studiously and elaborately prepared at Lincoln. The regiment is known in advance as the "Silver Battalion." For a time it was intended to be named the "Cavalry Battalion" because there was reason to hope that Mr. Bryan could not carry his company for captain. The program was cut down. The populist governor issued to Mr. Bryan a colonel's commission, and the political colonel thus created was photographed for the purposes of history and future political campaign in the act of receiving his commission from the governor's hands. Some say that he posed on that occasion before a kitescope machine. Knowing his abilities as a Thespian, we are quite sure that even Lieutenant Colonel Jim Ham Lewis himself could not have struck a more nobly martial attitude in the face of the camera.

The populist governor completed the organization of the Bryan Silver Battalion by offering the regiment with approved sixteen-to-one warriors. When questioned about the political character of these commissions Governor Holcomb replies that he has "no apology to make." Colonel Bryan has been named for Monday that he is to be "studying tactics for several weeks." And now the political colonel, the only individual in the United States, he it noticed to be foisted on the Federal army without a redeeming streak of previous military experience, and his political regiment is accordingly to be sent to the front to fight the greenback battery.

We wish to observe that it is an entirely discreditable thing to attempt to carry to the front the politics of partisanship, and of that discreditable attempt Mr. William J. Bryan has been the industrious promoter and is the intended beneficiary.

If he is by the United States, Colonel Bryan and his politico-thespian regiment ought to be detailed to guard the Carson City mint till the war is over.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

Today is flag day.

Since the enlistments under the first call began more volunteers have died from pneumonia than the navy has lost in battle.

A. Hylen, said to be the only cameo cutter in America, has just finished an excellent portrait of President McKinley and intends to present it to Mrs. McKinley.

Hon. Thomas J. Coeledge of Boston last week presented to the Massachusetts Historical society a collection of upward of 5,000 autograph letters written by Thomas Jefferson.

Secretary Long is suffering from inflammatory rheumatism to such an extent that he is compelled to hobble on crutches. He may be relied on to put his foot down at the right time for all that.

The hopes of the men of Roosevelt's Rough Riders that they may soon see active service and fierce fighting will now find a heartier echo among stay-at-home sufferers on the announcement that there is a poet in the troop.

When General Wheeler ("Fighting Joe") is troubled with insomnia he always gets relief by drinking a mug of beer, into which has been stirred a little salt. "After that," says he, "the next thing I hear is the breakfast bell."

The miners in Colorado are changing the names of many of their plants to those of famous men of the present war.

One of the best paying copper mines is called Sigbee. It is claimed that it never paid until now.

W. J. Arkell of Judge, who failed the other day, is an enterprising man, but he sometimes takes rather large risks. For instance, on the day McKinley was elected for president Mr. Arkell offered to bet Clark Howell all his publications against the Atlantic Constitution that McKinley would be elected.

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THE ROLL OF HONOR.

New York Sun.

The country is proud of Richmond Pearson Hobson as an American and the north is particularly glad that the hero of the Merrimac happens to be a southerner.

Globe-Democrat: Lieutenant Hobson had to contend against the elements, against the Spanish batteries, against the destruction of his own vessel, against sharks, and against the hostility of his capturers. There was only one desperate chance in a thousand that he would survive the perilous undertaking, but he accepted it and won.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: There were 4,000 men who wanted to do what was done by Hobson and his men. There were 4,000 men who were willing to take the risk by undertaking which Hobson and his men have won undying fame. There were 4,000 potential heroes who stood ready to "cast their lot" in any performance for country. This is one of the grandest things about the whole grand incident.

St. Louis Republic: The deliberate sinking of the Merrimac in the harbor of Santiago is attracting wide attention among European powers. In discussing the matter the Italian Militaire says: "This affair has great importance. We must recognize in the American boldness and exceptional cleverness." The probabilities are we will give Europe a good many pointers before we are through with Spain.

Courier-Journal: The sinking of the Merrimac by Lieutenant Hobson and his men was a deed of wonderful daring and may well attract the attention of the world, but it was not so remarkable as the fact that there were 4,000 volunteers for the perilous undertaking. Against a navy composed of such heroes as these, united with the highest technical skill and the most complete equipment, what hope is there for the rotting power of Spain?

Washington Post: The splendid behavior of the enlisted men of the navy in this war is a matter of common knowledge. The established traditions of the service. It may be possible to excel the devotion, the patriotism, the heroism of the sailors of the union in former wars, but it settled beyond doubt that the crews of our modern ships are equal to any emergency, are unsurpassed in bravery and efficiency by the best of their predecessors in the United States service, or any of their contemporaries under other flags.

Chicago Chronicle: The ship was sacrificed. The officers and crew were prisoners. Then the Spaniards removed the obstruction, with all the losses to us and all the gains to them! Is this war? It is not even a simile—but it is only a step removed. It is ridiculous. How long shall it continue before common sense comes to say military genius will conduct the strategy and the movements of the brave men who are fighting the battle of the country?

Chicago Tribune: The south is carrying off its full share of the honors in the war with Spain. The Nashville made the first capture of the war and the erratic Texas is making good on Monday that he is to be "studying tactics for several weeks." And now the political colonel, the only individual in the United States, he it noticed to be foisted on the Federal army without a redeeming streak of previous military experience, and his political regiment is accordingly to be sent to the front to fight the greenback battery.

The remarkably candid confession of Governor Holcomb emphasizes a disgraceful incident of the present war. Among the believers in free silver at the ratio of sixteen to one there are men just as brave and patriotic as those who are fighting anywhere in the nation. Silverites are fighting today at Santiago and at Manila, or are waiting, full of eagerness to fight, at Tampa, at Chickamauga, and at Hempstead. We honor them, as the country honors them, for their patriotism. But they are fighting, or waiting to fight, as Americans under the American flag, not as silverites under the banner of Bryanism. There is no more room for a silver battalion in the army of the United States than there is for a tariff reform brigade or an irredeemable greenback battery. We wish to observe that it is an entirely discreditable thing to attempt to carry to the front the politics of partisanship, and of that discreditable attempt Mr. William J. Bryan has been the industrious promoter and is the intended beneficiary.

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LIVES OF VOLUNTEERS IMPERILED BY POLITICIAN OFFICERS.

Kansas City Star.

The abuse of political patronage in connection with army commissions is not limited to the appointment of Henry S. Julian as a major in the Fifth Missouri regiment, nor the investment of Mr. William J. Bryan with the rank of colonel in a Nebraska regiment. These examples have attracted attention by reason of their conspicuous absurdity, and because of their local interest, but there are many others.

In the case of the Fifth regiment, the appointment was made by Stephens after Julian had been repudiated by an almost unanimous vote of the volunteers. The governor had the hardihood to foist upon a regiment of Missouri soldiers a partisan favorite who was a distinct failure as chief of police in Kansas City, who was obnoxious to the volunteers over whom he has been given command, and who lacks all the qualifications which a man in his place ought to possess. It was a case of interference, which, under the circumstances, was infamous. It simply proved that the governor of Missouri is not too small to trifle with the lives of men brave enough to sacrifice everything for their country if he can thereby give a greater show of importance to his own petty personality.

The Bryan commission was equally ridiculous, and was purely in the nature of a political sop. To gratify the vanity of an inflated charlatan, the governor of Nebraska places in command of a regiment of volunteers a man who knows no more about war nor military discipline than a 10-year-old boy.

Thus a lot of pennut politicians make bold to actually speculate with the lives of American soldiers and, for the most part, without ignominy, subject them to needless danger. Nothing could be more disgraceful or even criminal, to the man who leaves his home and family to face the hazards of war for the honor of his country is entitled to every consideration which the nation can give him. His merits, first of all, the protection which can be afforded by competent and experienced officers and to all of the help which are possible through the exercise of wise precautions in the camp, on the march and in the field. It is obvious that he cannot have these under political commanders. A captain or a lieutenant in the regular army who has never attended a war primary is much better fitted to command a regiment than even an ex-presidential candidate who is a complete novice in war.

In obtaining regimental and brigade officers for volunteer troops, the available material in the regular army should be first exhausted, and then a requisition should be made on the soldiers of the civil war. Under no circumstances should a civilian be given a regimental commission. Public sentiment should record such a protest against the iniquity of playing the huckster with army appointments as to bring that scandalous practice to a speedy close.

POINTED REMARKS.

Detroit Journal: "But doctors have reduced the death rate, don't you think?" In the sense that it costs one less to die than