

THE OMAHA DAILY 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...

Sworn to before me and subscribed in my presence this 2nd day of December, 1888. N. P. FEIL, Notary Public.

The election of H. J. Penfold to the presidency of the Board of Education is a merited compliment for faithful and efficient service.

Now that the legislature is duly organized the senatorial contest is on and for the next two or three weeks will monopolize popular interest.

The Board of Education has made a good start in the election of its officers and it is to be hoped its selection of committees will be equally commendable.

The Burlington and Northwestern fast mail race is not a circumstance when compared to the Burlington and Northwestern races on the senatorial skating rink.

If the farmers do not secure what they desire from the present legislature it will be their own fault, for they have a clear majority over all in its membership.

Eastern railroad men will have to take another hitch in their trousers if they propose to keep up with the imperial west. The west is big, but when it sets out to annihilate distance it comes pretty near doing it.

Cuban resentment over the refusal to allow them to participate in the surrender of Havana does not appear to have been very deep-seated. The announcement that the officers would be given to them had a wonderful sedative effect.

Exhibitors at the proposed Greater America Exposition cannot even wait until the company is thoroughly organized to get in their applications for space. They know a good thing when they see it and do not have to wait to be told.

A careful reading of Governor Roosevelt's inaugural address will convince anyone that he proposes to be governor in fact as well as in name. His predecessor started out with much the same announced policy, but Black is not Roosevelt by many a day's journey.

The Kansas legislature has levied a 2 per cent tax on the gross receipts for premiums on life and fire insurance collected in that state. The question is, Who will pay this tax? Will the insurance companies let it back against the policyholders by raising their rates or will they charge it up to their stockholders?

The relic-hunting craze has grown to such proportions that Admiral Dewey is compelled to answer requests by saying that he has given away so much in that line that he is now short of buttons for his clothing. The admiral should remember his boyhood expeditions and make liberal use of honey locust thorns and shingle nails.

The biographies of the members of the legislature indicate that the great majority of them are men who in private life have not been given to wasting their time. If they were as well by the state and make the present a short, business session they will have earned the gratitude of the people and set a mark for their successors.

The Business Men's association at Grand Island has resolved to petition the legislature to make no appropriation for the Greater America Exposition. Inasmuch as the promoters of the Greater America Exposition do not propose to ask any aid from the state of Nebraska by legislation or otherwise the petition would appear to be a waste of energy.

THE LEGISLATURE.

The proceedings of the legislature which has just entered upon its biennial session will be watched with intense interest by the people of Nebraska in general and Nebraska republicans in particular. It is to be hoped that the legislature will constantly keep in view the fact that the interests of the state are paramount to the interests of any party or any individual.

The republicans of Nebraska are vitally concerned both in the conduct of each republican member of this legislature and the record he makes individually or collectively. Being in control of both branches of the legislature the republican party will be justly held responsible for every political misstep or crime as well as for every departure from the platform pledges made in the campaign of 1898.

Congress will reassemble today and it is announced that the president will probably transmit the treaty of peace to the senate at once. It is stated that Mr. McKinley has decided not to send with the treaty a message containing any recommendations, but will leave to the friends of the treaty in the senate the duty of presenting its merits.

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Two months of the session remain, which is ample time in which to accomplish all necessary legislation. The appropriation bills are well advanced and there is nothing else that makes an urgent demand upon the present congress.

It is gratifying information that the people of Havana are manifesting complete contentment with the new conditions and gladly accept American rule. This spirit on the part of the native population of the chief city of Cuba will exert a wholesome influence throughout the island and if maintained, as there seems good reason to expect it will, will render the work of pacification easy and the aid to be given the Cubans in forming an independent government free from serious difficulties.

The Iowa state treasury has certainly had a prosperous year. The state started in the year 1898 with a debt of \$471,321.30 and succeeded in wiping out all but \$78,510.49 of it. About one-quarter of the net reduction is credited to the Board of Control law, which places all state institutions under the control of one board. A large portion of the remainder of the amount can be charged to better times and consequent prompt payment of taxes.

For the first time in the history of Nebraska the presiding officers of both houses of the legislature hail from Lancaster county. Whether this generous concession was made with a view to barring Lancaster out of the senatorial race, or whether it is a straw that indicates the bent of the legislature to heap all honors upon Lancaster county this year, remains to be seen.

Pursuant to custom the judges of the district bench have agreed upon the assignments of dockets for the ensuing year. It is said the number of cases awaiting trial is much larger than that of a year ago, so that the machinery of

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