

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily Bee (including Sunday), \$5.00 per year in advance.

OFFICES. Omaha: The Bee Building, 20th and N. streets. Chicago: 501 Fourteenth Street, New York: Temple Court.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, County of Douglas. The Bee Publishing Company being duly sworn says that the actual number of copies of this paper published during the month of January, 1899, was as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Date, Number of Copies, Total. Rows include dates from 1/1 to 1/31, with totals for each and a grand total of 742,485.

Net total sales 732,333. Net daily average 23,023. GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK. Subscribed and sworn to before me this 31st day of January, 1899.

From the way the Filipinos keep plugging away at the Americans it is apparent that their manifest destiny is another dose of the Otis brand of benevolent assimilation.

The efficiency of a police system is reflected by the prevalence or absence of serious crime. By that test the Omaha police under its present chief will compare favorably with its predecessors.

With Omaha dry on Sunday and after the midnight hour and Council Bluffs following suit on midnight closing, there appears no longer any good excuse for bibulous individuals missing the last car home.

Iron workers in and around Pittsburg are now making an effort to have the mills shut down one day a week for rest. It has not been so long ago that they were making an effort to find one day a week in which to work.

Seldom has a previous session of congress approached its close with so many important measures demanding action. With only eleven more days there is business enough in sight, if all is to be disposed of, to furnish employment for three months.

The Parisians, having finally realized that there has been an election, will proceed to celebrate the event for a few days by breaking heads and windows, after which they will settle down to their usual occupation of discussing the Dreyfus case.

The investigating committee has discovered that the system of bookkeeping in the auditor's office is very lax and that it is difficult to ascertain just what has been done in the office. This, too, after all the labors of the precious Mutz \$10,000 sniffling committee.

And now we are told there is danger of the rotten wooden blocks continuing to disfigure Capitol avenue indefinitely. It is to be hoped the property owners who have at last signed the paving petition will feel it their duty to avert this calamity from the community.

A French scientist has discovered a method of making glass which renders the product suitable for paving and building purposes and fully as durable as stone. Many people have resided in glass houses, but have heretofore been in constant fear of the return volley. To this class the new invention should be a wonderful boon.

The local popoerate organ, better known as the newspaper fence, is again exhibiting uncontrollable sympathy for the thieves and crooks who have run afoul of police interference with their lawless business. Until it works up its present load of bile the newspaper fence may be expected to throw not less than two epileptic fits daily.

In this country the people get excited, grow red in the face, make all kinds of noises and demonstrations for from three to six months to elect a president and when it is all over settle down with a ripple disturbing the current of national life. In France they elect a president after a three days' campaign and fight over the result for the next six months.

The mayor and council of San Juan in resigning from office have shown themselves unworthy of the glorious privileges they enjoy as American citizens and the fact that they did not want to be kicked out nor passed an ordinance inviting General Hurler to come down from his unconstitutional perch is an unhelpful indication that they will ever become politicians worthy of the United States.

Our country, city and school governments have been drawing on future generations pretty heavily in late years by the issue of bonds of various kinds so that the proposition to fund outstanding school warrants to the extent of another \$150,000 will have to seek some other justification than the duty of the coming body of taxpayers to share the burdens of government imposed upon the present population.

STATES AND THE TRUSTS.

The supreme court of the United States has pointed out that perhaps the most effective way of dealing with the trusts will be found in state legislation. Congress can do something for the representation of these combinations, but its authority in this direction is circumscribed and needs to be supplemented by the exercise of the powers of the states, which are even broader and more comprehensive for this purpose than those of the federal government.

It is a gratifying fact that there appears to be an increasing tendency to invoke the powers of the state against the combinations and it should receive the greatest possible encouragement. It is true that experience with state anti-trust laws has not been altogether satisfactory. Most of them have been found inadequate when brought to the judicial test. But this should not discourage effort in behalf of such legislation, for unless the opinion of our highest judicial tribunal is to be discredited, the states have the power in their hands to strike a death blow to the trust form of monopoly.

There has been introduced in the legislature of New York an anti-trust bill which is very comprehensive in its character. It provides that any corporation organized under the laws of that or any other state or country for transacting business in that state, or any association of persons whatsoever that shall create, enter into, become a member of or a party to any pool, trust or combination to control, limit, regulate or fix the price of any article of manufacture or merchandise, or shall enter into any agreement or combination to fix or limit the amount or quantity of any article of manufacture or merchandise, shall be deemed and adjudged guilty of a conspiracy to defraud. It further provides that it shall not be lawful for any corporation to issue or to own trust certificates or to enter into any combination the purpose of which is to place the management or control of such combination in the hands of any trustee or trustees. Violations of these provisions by a corporation organized under the laws of the state shall forfeit its corporate rights, while violation by a corporation created by or under the laws of another state shall forfeit its right and privilege thereafter to do any business in New York.

The provisions of this bill seem to meet the suggestions that have been thrown out by the supreme court of the United States. They appear not to go beyond the legitimate police power of the state. Experiment with such legislation would be well worth trying, especially in New York, from which state most of the big trusts do business. They obtain their charters elsewhere, but really make their headquarters in New York and if they can be dislodged from that state they cannot find an equally available foothold elsewhere. It is very much to be hoped that the legislature of New York will enact the proposed legislation, since there would be assured an earnest and honest effort by the present administration of the state to enforce it. Anti-trust legislation is proposed in some other states and the disposition to respond to the popular demand in this respect is as general as to warrant the expectation that within a few years there will be few of the states without anti-trust laws.

NOT A SERIOUS MATTER. The action of the senate in attaching the Nicaragua canal bill to the river and harbor bill seems likely to result in the failure of the latter. Such a result would not be a very serious matter, though it appears to be so regarded by the chairman of the house committee on rivers and harbors, Mr. Burton of Ohio. This measure carries an appropriation of about \$42,000,000 for the canal and added several millions to the bill as it passed the house. This sum exceeds any appropriation ever before made for rivers and harbors. Seventeen years ago, remarks the Baltimore Sun, an appropriation of \$18,000,000 for such objects excited general indignation throughout the country, but such amounts are now little noticed, so prevalent is the fashion of extravagance. The Sun gives the figures of the appropriations for rivers and harbors for the last eight years, the highest amount being in 1891, when it was a little over \$25,000,000. Last year the amount was over \$19,000,000.

There may be some extraordinary reason for the unprecedented appropriation carried by the present bill, but in view of the heavy deficit confronting the national treasury it would seem a most inopportune time to make appropriations for rivers and harbors far in excess of any ever made before. We have not given the matter such consideration as to be able to express a positive opinion, but we think it may fairly be doubted whether there is urgent necessity for appropriating \$42,000,000 for river and harbor improvements. Hence we think the country would not regard the failure of the river and harbor bill as a particularly serious matter.

THE FRENCH SITUATION. If the anti-Loubet demonstrations going on in Paris were in any other country in the world their import would be so serious that they could result in nothing short of revolution, but as the matter stands they should not be taken too seriously. At first the people were stung by the death of President Faure and before they could sufficiently recover to realize the opportunities of the situation an election of President Loubet was an accomplished fact. Naturally, under the circumstances, their chief interest in the success of President Faure was centered in his attitude on revision of the Dreyfus case and inasmuch as M. Loubet has never expressed an opinion in the matter they, with true French characteristics, was a protest against the new administration.

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Obviously under the French system these special committees possess arbitrary powers that might lead to corrupt practices if transplanted into American legislative halls, yet the functions of these committees are not unlike those of our legislative sifting committees created late in the session for the purpose of separating the wheat from the chaff. The efficiency, however, of the eleventh-hour sifting committee, with its logging pretexts, has not proved the shining success that could be wished. American lawmakers certainly need some sort of legislative machinery that will do the work performed by the French committee on parliamentary initiative.

Before it is too late some member of the legislature should introduce a bill making shoplifting or larceny from a building a felony, punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary. Shoplifting has become a source of great loss to the merchants of the large cities of Nebraska. In Omaha, despite police protection and a private detective service maintained at quite an expense, the merchants suffer material losses annually through the operations of shoplifters. The fact that goods of the value

of at least \$35 must be stolen before the offense becomes more than a misdemeanor is itself a strong incentive to criminals. Many other states have wisely made larceny from building a felony with the result that this sort of crime has been almost wholly repressed.

It is easy enough for the officeholders of South Omaha to procure signatures to remonstrances against annexation because few who enjoy favors from them would care to refuse their request. If the question were submitted to a vote of the people, however, there is no question that the overwhelming majority, especially of the South Omaha taxpayers, would favor a union of the two cities that would merge their municipal governments into one. So far as the Douglas delegation in the legislature is concerned their constituency is almost without dissent worth mentioning for the realization of a Greater Omaha before the census of 1900.

The silver service which the people of the state of Washington will present to Admiral Dewey's flagship, the Olympia, is unusually massive and beautiful. The service consists of twenty-seven pieces, including punch bowl and tray, candelabra, loving cups, wine cooler, platters and various vegetable and silver dishes. The design for the service is entirely original and of a simple and pleasing outline, and the decorative embellishment is the oak leaf and the acorn, symbolic of the rank of commander. On many of the pieces will be special etchings of Washington scenes. On the large tray will be the view of Seattle, a view of engraving which will embrace a portrait of Dewey and no less than 19,825 letters. Each piece will bear a medallion consisting of a reproduction surrounded by the words "State of Washington." This is to be made at the mint in Philadelphia.

"Some men," writes Stephen Bonsal in McClure's, "not counting those who are born fools, come into the world and pass through without ever having had an experience of physical fear; but these men, even when you include the fools, are not a majority or even a considerable minority of mankind." He is describing the gallant advance through the jungle and up the heights of San Juan under a withering fire of bullets. It was a novel and a trying experience; men were livid with fear, but determined to do their duty.

A young officer, whom Bonsal knew, was so changed in the expression of his face that he recognized him, and he recognized him. "His company had been halted for a minute by the little hillock behind which I lay in almost perfect security, and where there was security for others, too. But he had to go on, leading the hundred men who would either right up to the enemy's lines, or, cowardly flight of the field, just as he said, just as he led. Seeing my anxiety at the suffering I had witnessed in his face, he said, 'I'm sweating blood with fear; but I will go ahead all right, and keep my men in line, too, never fear.' 'He went on, and by force of character and unwavering devotion to duty, carried his weak and protesting body into the zone of fire.

The esteemed Nicaraguans are advised to follow the advice of Captain Cutler and fire their history and when they find Admiral Walker in 1854 pitching some shells into Greytown for a less offense than the seizure of an American vessel to make a note of it.

Agate's Reliable Ally. Chicago Times-Herald. The Filipinos, armed or unarmed, are comparatively harmless, but they have a brand of climate that is expected to get in its deadly work from now on.

ECHOES OF THE WAR.

Colonel Frederic Funston, who led the three companies of the Kansas regiment in their gallant charge against the Filipinos, on the 28th of July, a native of Kansas, from whose state his father was formerly a congressman. He graduated from the Kansas State university and became a newspaper man at Fort Smith. There he saw big fighting with Indians and went with the troops on the 25th of July to the Philippines. He went to Death Valley, California, on a commission from the government, where he stayed for two years. Later he resigned the position of assistant secretary for the Topinka & Santa Fe railway and entered the Cuban army as a private. He rose rapidly, and was soon in command of all the artillery forces east of Havana. He was in twenty-three battles, was wounded in the arm, in the left leg and in the leg, and was ill ten months with the fever. He was captured by the Spanish and condemned to die, but escaped. He was married the day he left San Francisco for the Philippines to a beautiful California girl whom he had met six weeks before.

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Unanimously Approved. St. Louis Republic. Perhaps the only question which the American people have been completely unprepared since the Declaration of Independence was the bestowal of the title of admiral on Dewey.

Greedy Works a Clash. Indianapolis Journal. That is a lovely trait of the human character which causes instant advantage to be taken of man's suffering and necessities by raising the prices of food and fuel in emergencies like the recent cold spell. Love for one's neighbor has varied manifestations.

History's Verdict. Louisville Courier-Journal. The worst thing that history will probably say of President Faure is that he was a traitor. The French generals who sought in the Dreyfus agitation an opportunity for a coup d'etat. The Chamber of Deputies and the Senate must share this disgrace with him. A stronger hand would have controlled the army and made the military subordinate to the civil power.

Britain's Dominant Motive. Springfield Republican. No one can blame England for so fervently egging us on in the paths of Oriental empire. Her policy is consistently selfish. Her entire empire has been built up on selfishness. Every extension of territory in her case has had the material rather than the humanitarian reason dominant. Americans, however, should understand the situation and not be misled by the attitude Great Britain has assumed. That country is still the old England at heart, and in case her interests and ours happen in the future to follow diverse lines, who will ever blame the old England for its protection of the interests of the British realm.

Too Busy to Write. J. Steeghs, Boston Conservative. A story is current to the effect that a New York newspaper offered Admiral Dewey the sum of \$5,000 for an article, and that the response which came back by the cable was: "Thank, I am too busy." If the story is true, it occurs to one that the saying amounts to an epigram, and has quite as much value, both as a literary effort for the edification of the men of to-day, and as a monument to mark to our posterity the high of some of our public employees at the end of this century.

Ditching the Canal. Buffalo Express: The Nicaragua canal proposition is probably killed for this session. Minds will be less excited when the next congress meets and the members will be better disposed to be guided by reason, rather than impulse.

Philadelphia Record: A good day's work was done in the house of representatives in the defeat of the effort to attach the Nicaragua canal bill to the sundry civil bill as a rider. The need of an isthmian canal is not so urgent that an ill-digested scheme, the carrying out of which would involve the expenditure of hundreds of millions, should be whipped through congress with indecent haste, nor is the purse of Uncle Sam suffering from a plethora which requires relief lest it burst from the strain. We have enough hundred-million-dollar jobs on our hands to keep us busy for a year or two.

Milwaukee Wisconsin: The tremendous appropriations required for the army and navy in the time of peace have virtually killed the Nicaragua canal bill, at least for the present. The effort of Hepburn of Iowa to tack on the canal bill as a government work to the sundry civil bill was defeated by a vote of 127 to 109, or 18 majority against the amendment. There is no money in the treasury to go on with this enterprise, and it is madness to proceed and borrow money for this purpose when the debt of the country is \$175,000,000. The canal will have to wait for a more favorable time and for a modification of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty.

Local Government and Imperialism. Indianapolis News. Mr. A. L. Mason's paper on the "Development of Local Government in Indiana," read before the State Board of Commerce, was an interesting and valuable contribution to the study of the subject. It is devoted to the subject of municipal and local government probably more time and attention than any other man in the community. He does not exaggerate the vital and intimate importance of the methods he advocates.

The unattractive field of local government is far more important to our people than the alluring subject of imperial dominion and foreign conquest. I say here and now that the quality of justice which is dispensed in the humble office of a justice of the peace is more important to the destiny of the republic than the erection of a military empire in the Philippines. I affirm that the administration of our country schools, the construction and repair of roads and bridges, the guardianship of our dependent poor, the restriction of our local tax levies to economic standards, the expenditure of county and township funds honestly and wisely, are the things of real importance to the people of this state. There are the things on which the greatness, glory and prosperity of this commonwealth must rest.

BEE LINES.

A good story has just reached this country from the French possessions in the Pacific. These far away islands do not get news of the outside world until it is months old and sometimes when it does reach them it is highly embellished. In such a condition came the news of the Anglo-French nabobship of Tahiti that their country was being a terrible struggle with England. The transport Anne being in port, a council of war was held by its commander and the governor, with the result that a new fort was started at once in a pouring rain, the ship's guns were lighted ashore and the work of carting provisions into the country began. About that time a ship was seen signaling in the offing. Feeling certain that the English were upon them, the women, children and non-combatants took to the woods, carrying their valuables with them, while the shore batteries were manned and the Anne taken out into the channel and made ready to be sunk. To add to the consternation, a shrewd old Yankee skipper and a French privateer came into port at that juncture, and staid up the situation, created a ready demand for his timber at a fabulous price by dropping a few shrewd but unobtrusive remarks as to the probable whereabouts of the hostile British fleet. This news was sent by courier after the refugees, who at last accounts were hastening night and day farther into the interior. In the meantime preparations for defense went rapidly on, until a vessel finally succeeded in getting into the harbor and being fired on, bringing the news that there was not only no war but no likelihood of one. But in the meantime the Yankee skipper, who objected to being caught in a blockaded port, had sailed, perhaps never to return.

The Boston courts have settled the question as to the constitutionality of the ordinance against spitting in street cars and public buildings by imposing a fine on the offender and in default of payment sending him to jail. The decision is altogether right and it is a pity that a similar law is not better observed in Omaha. A lot of young Arabs are in the habit of congregating in the postoffice at night and amusing themselves in getting into the floor with all kinds of quaint designs in tobacco juice, while unmistakable evidence that the same filthy habit prevails elsewhere is afforded in nearly every public building in the city.

The father of the university student injured in the Charter day exercises displayed a spirit of independent manhood all too uncommon in these days. The commonly accepted belief is that anything which can be secured from the public treasury is legitimate, whether the means which the student is able to bear the burden himself or not.

Lord Bessford, who is now in this country, visited Honolulu thirty years ago as a midshipman. One night while on shore leave his lordship decided that it would be immense fun to remove the British consul's sign and place it over a butcher shop. The project was performed with great success and he was just beginning to enjoy the fun when the commander of the ship walked up to him and ordered him to take down the sign and replace it over the consulate, which he did, to the great delight of the assembled crowd.

The general makeup of the 1899 sea serpent is not materially different from the styles of other seasons and is thus described by one Lorenzo Woodbury, who deplores and says that he saw him with his head in the air, his tail in the air and his body in his favor by mail, spirituous or vinous refreshments: "A long, scaly, barnacled body of whitish appearance, with a head like a seal, gleaming eyes, huge fangs and sizzling breath." Of course the story is largely untrue, even though Mr. Woodbury was on the Maine coast when the discovery was made, were it not for the "sizzling breath," which would indicate that his serpent's temperature, perhaps, forced him to make a premature appearance to prevent spontaneous combustion.

The last issue concludes the first year of the Sary County Herald and in commenting on that fact Editor Beedle says: "I thought the Herald might be attacked by the grip just as it was preparing to close in a fiercely fought oratorical contest over the question as to whether Napoleon or Caesar was the greater man. At this time it would, of course, be untimely to express my opinion on this issue, but it is earnestly hoped the incident will mark the beginning of its grip at an early day and that the champions may be able to show up in fighting trim at the next regular meeting. Next to the school and Editor Leonard's poetry the literary society is the best educational institution in the state and as such deserves every encouragement.

North Coleman has a literary society that is only equalled by that of Bradshaw and it is with the profound regret that its friends will witness it was attacked by the grip just as it was preparing to close in a fiercely fought oratorical contest over the question as to whether Napoleon or Caesar was the greater man. At this time it would, of course, be untimely to express my opinion on this issue, but it is earnestly hoped the incident will mark the beginning of its grip at an early day and that the champions may be able to show up in fighting trim at the next regular meeting. Next to the school and Editor Leonard's poetry the literary society is the best educational institution in the state and as such deserves every encouragement.

Hereafter no man can enter the Monte Carlo Casino with turned-up trousers. This looks like a case bell, and of course England will declare war at once. John Rowe, who has just died in Nanticoke, Pa., served throughout the civil war and was one of the men who broke in the doors of Liberty prison and carried the prisoners out. The intimate relations of Japan and the United States are illustrated in the formation of a Harvard club in the capital of the Orient. At the organization there were twenty-four Harvard men present—twelve Japanese and twelve Americans.

When the time came for passing the hat for subscriptions for the Detroit exposition the hat passers encountered an early frost and threw up their hands when the Town by the Falls will now celebrate the first year of the new century in some cheaper way. A scientist has discovered that all alcoholic liquors teem with curious bacteria, which have weak, crooked legs and no eyes. This will probably account for the 3 o'clock apparition sometimes discovered in a dark less but earnest effort to unlock the front door with a corkcreeper.

It is recalled that General Miles is not the only commander of the army who has been called a liar by subordinate. Ninety years ago General Winfield Scott, who was then a captain in the army, was tried by court-martial for having said at a public

THE GOD OF WAR.

A demon, rising from that pit Where host souls weep but do not pray, Masked by a friend's deceitful wit, Approached our camp and sought to slay. He looked where happy humans strayed, He gazed on perfect womanhood, On mortals weak but unafraid, All unprepared for such a god, He found a maiden undoffed, A maiden fair and kind, As trusting as a little child, And, more's the pity, just as blind, He chose this virgin as his bride. For he was wise, as demons are; Her name was Patriotic Pride. The mother of the god of war.

He high-sooled, just, maternal care, Restrains his anger, and his hand, His father's diabolic glare, Sends him a terror, through the land, Winside, Neb. BELLE WILLEY GUE.

with us always provides special advantages to buy some lines of clothing at figures that are really very moderate. We don't carry over old stock. It loses in value whenever it is packed or stored away, and we prefer to sell it the season it is made for, and are willing to stand considerable loss to do so. There are several lines we want to close at once to make room before the winter goods are replaced by the spring goods. There are plain blue and black chevots and fancy chevots, in round and straight cut, sack suits, that have sold all season at \$8.50 and \$10, and to sell them now and not be obliged to carry them over, we make a very low price. Your choice for \$5.00. See these suits in our show windows.

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HOUSE CLEANING.

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