

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, Douglas County, January 1, 1899. The Bee Publishing Company being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of the Omaha Bee, newspaper, printed at Omaha, during the month of January, 1899, was as follows:

1.....	24,605	23,860
2.....	23,200	23,980
3.....	24,600	23,750
4.....	23,620	23,810
5.....	23,680	23,430
6.....	23,710	23,285
7.....	23,710	23,430
8.....	24,050	24,250
9.....	23,300	24,140
10.....	23,440	24,715
11.....	23,640	24,250
12.....	23,807	24,150
Total.....	742,485	
Less unsold and returned copies.....	10,152	
Net total sales.....	732,333	
Net daily average.....	23,623	

GEORGE B. TZSCHUCK.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this
31st day of January, 1899.
(Seal) H. L. PLUMB, Notary Public.The Omaha officials did not bring
Kansas City back with them, but they
wisely owned it while they were
there.It looks as if the state insurance de-
partment of Nebraska took not only the
Palms but also nearly everything else
within grasp.When the beef inquiry board gets to
Omaha it will have an opportunity to
live on meat from the best corn-fed
cattle in the world.It is pleasing to note that the Doug-
las delegation was again in evidence on
the legislative house strect in the race
for introduction of bills.More than two-thirds of the legislative
session has elapsed but it may safely be
predicted that for tangible results the
unexpired part of the session will be the
most important.The situation at Manila is said to be
characterized as critical by General Otis.
The policy of imperialism is likely to be
brought with a series of critical situations
both at home and abroad.In dragging the madam's head into politics
the English liberal party may indicate
that it is hard up for an issue, but it is not the first time skeletons have
been pressed into political service.The activity in railroad circles be-
tokens lively work at railroad building
next summer and Nebraska, Iowa and
neighboring states promise to come in
for the lion's share of the new roads
and improvements.No doubt but that Captain Strudl is
a royal good fellow and Consul Rose
may be the "blatherskite" that Chief
Justice Chambers said he is, but this enthusiastic official may soon regret among
Alabama pines that he ever took this
view of the situation for publication.There is a wholesome provision of law
that says the city council shall not vote
its members any additional salaries or
perquisites to those specified in the
charter, which will effectively prevent
the council from absorbing the compen-
sation belonging to the police board.One of the planks in the republican
state platform is a manifesto against
needless sinecure state offices. Members
of the legislature should not over-
look it when bills are before them cre-
ating all sorts of new jobs to be sup-
ported out of the pockets of the people.That \$16,000 dinner with which New
York democracy will celebrate the birth-
day of Thomas Jefferson may be a fitting
tribute to his memory as a gastronomic
connoisseur, but it is hardly in keeping
with the democratic simplicity that
brought the old gray horse to the capital
feast on one memorable occasion.Snow at this season of the year can be
only beneficial to the farmer by furnish-
ing the moisture necessary to put the soil
in prime condition for early spring op-
erations. With the greater part of Ne-
braska enveloped in a thick coat of snow
the crop prospect for the state is ma-
terially improved.If Don Carlos, Aguilalmo and the duke of
Orleans would only appoint them-
selves a commission to regulate the
proper distribution of thrones there is no
doubt but that all phases of the vexed
question, except getting possession of
the allotments, could be speedily ar-
ranged without the slightest danger of a
revolution.The treachery of Lichty and the investiga-
tions that were made by reason of it are
proving to be the best thing that ever hap-
pened to the populist party in the state of
Nebraska—Nebraska Independent, official
populist organ.Well, this is the best yet. The more
rotteness exposed the better for the
populist party. But then we are sure
that in this the independent does not
speak for any material number of Ne-
braska populists. The rank and file of
the populist party insist upon honesty in
public places and they know that official
dishonesty can never help any political
party.

AMERICAN ENTERPRISE.

An American who resides in England and is now visiting here said to a reporter of this paper that the United States has nothing to gain from annexing the Philippines. He said American tradesmen "are able to compete with those of any other country in the world. Their work is superior and nothing will be gained by the addition of territory." He stated that he has a client in Pennsylvania who is selling the English nation much of its machinery. United States railroad iron is being used all over the world.

That is the fact. American manufacturers are not only furnishing first class grades of goods, but at the same time are underselling Europeans on their own ground. A London paper makes the statement that the locomotives ordered from American firms for the Midland railway will cost from 25 to 30 per cent less than if they were of home manufacture. That paper adds that as the engines ordered are to be of the standard size now in use on the Midland railway an opportunity will be given for the first time to test the English and American types under identical conditions and it expresses the belief that the latter will render equally efficient service. A correspondent of the London Daily Mail, writing from Odessa, states that Americans have captured an order for \$80,000 tons of rails for the Manchurian railway. He says the American price was 28 cents per 36 pounds, which was 8 cents less than the lowest European bid and very much less than the bid of the Russian manufacturers themselves.

Such facts indicate what American enterprise is accomplishing and contain the promise of still greater achievement in the future. The great progress that has been made in our exports of manufactures during the last few years is due to conditions which must eventually give this nation commercial supremacy in the world and no territorial acquisition is necessary to the attainment of this. There is no more specious argument for territorial expansion than that which proclaims that we must retain possession of all the Philippines in order to enlarge our trade in that quarter of the world and protect the interests we already have there. So far as commerce with the islands themselves is concerned, nobody now seriously believes that it will ever amount to much. With the open door policy prevailing there American products will have no advantage in that market over the products of any other country, except as they may be better in quality and lower in price. They will compete on equal terms so far as the tariff is concerned and this policy will have to be maintained not for a temporary period but permanently. As to our commercial interests in China, they are not now in any danger and are not likely to be. Besides, it is not necessary to their protection or extension that we shall hold all the Philippines. For that purpose a naval station in the islands is all that is required and this we may have without taking any risks or assuming any grave responsibilities.

American enterprise will in due time win this nation commercial supremacy and it needs no help from territorial expansion in order to accomplish this.

THE KLONDIKE DELUSION.

The report of Captain Ray of the Alaskan relief expedition just sent to congress by Secretary Alger reveals a condition of affairs that should serve as an effective check on the enthusiasm of misguided persons who still imagine colossal wealth awaits them in the Klondike.

MAYOR ENSOR ON ANNEXATION.

Major Ensor of South Omaha has come to the front stating his position on the question of consolidating Omaha and South Omaha. The mayor confirms the general impression that he, as well as the other members of the South Omaha city government, is opposed to any and every scheme of annexation. But he professes to be so confident that the people of South Omaha are behind him that he insists he is ready at a moment's notice to submit the proposal to popular vote. If Mayor Ensor can speak for the city government of South Omaha no clash between the two cities on the annexation question then is to be expected.

At the same time several passages of the mayor's letter indicate that he is not entirely certain the people of South Omaha would vote down an annexation proposition. He is unequivocally opposed to any change in the present law, which practically obstructs consolidation, and wants the majority required for ratification to be a majority of the entire registered vote of each city. Under such a plan, of course, the man who neglects to vote will be counted as voting against annexation and the incentive to pad the registration lists in South Omaha would be almost irresistible. The only fair plan in this, as in other similar cases, is to count only those who cast their votes for or against the proposition submitted.

From this report it is apparent that the entire gold producing district has been staked out chiefly by speculators whose object it is to unload them at fabulous prices on the enthusiastic and unsuspecting newcomer or to use them as the basis of "Klondike companies" of marvelous possibilities in this country. No new discoveries of importance have been or are likely to be made in the near future and the "Klondike" whose unfortunate destiny lures him northward is likely to find himself disappointed and stranded with no better prospects of retrieving his fortunes than cutting wood for the river boats under conditions that will barely enable him to keep body and soul together.

Captain Ray was sent upon this mission expressly for the purpose of gathering information concerning the country for the guidance of our people and his report may be taken as a fair presentation of existing conditions. In the light of the facts disclosed no sane man should think of going on a quest for gold where more than 90 per cent are foredoomed to failure. Even the opportunities for certain kinds of farming that he reports to exist in the lower Yukon valley are not alluring and probably would not prove nearly so remunerative as the same industry conducted with enterprise and intelligence in any of the western states.

The suggestion that The Bee is favoring consolidation out of hostility to South Omaha or from political considerations is entirely unfounded. The Bee is in favor of consolidation because it believes it to be best for the citizens and taxpayers of both cities. As a matter of fact from a political standpoint the move may be regarded as a questionable one so far as the republicans are concerned because it could not help but reduce the republican majority in Omaha. We believe, however, that the advantages to the city as a whole would outweigh any disadvantages of this kind and that public spirit should overcome partisan zeal.

As to Mayor Ensor's proposition for an immediate special election, the cost to be defrayed by private subscription the matter does not demand such haste. When the legislature agrees upon the conditions for submitting the proposal and the question has been thoroughly discussed in all its bearings it will be time to call the election. The only immediate haste is to have all preliminary questions adjusted so that if consolidation is desired it may be effected before the census of 1900.

The feature of special interest to the people of Omaha and Nebraska is the revolt of prominent Missouri democrats, who are airing their views in the St. Louis papers against what they call "the absolute denial of local self-government," which they assert is in direct opposition to their theory of sound democratic policy. While no one will doubt

that these democrats read correctly the principles of democracy, it must seem strange that in Nebraska, when the supreme court of the state stood up for the right of local self-government by declaring unconstitutional a similar law placing the appointment of the Omaha police commission in the hands of the governor and depriving the people of this city of any voice in their selection, the democratic party in its state convention inserted in its platform a plank intended to rebuke the supreme court for sustaining democratic principles.

Whatever may be the outcome of the fight for and against municipal home rule in Missouri, Nebraska people may congratulate themselves that the decision of their supreme court declaring all such legislation unconstitutional will effectively prevent for all time the re-opening of this question.

THE ALASKA BOUNDARY ISSUE.

English newspapers are quite naturally displeased with the refusal of the American members of the joint high commission to make the concessions in regard to the Alaska boundary asked by the British commissioners and charge this country with inconsistency in declining the proposal for arbitration. This is not without plausibility, in view of the fact that the United States has been foremost in urging arbitration for the settlement of international disputes, but we see no good reason for inferring from our declination to submit the boundary issue to an umpire any lack of sincerity in American friendship for England.

The fact is that the concession asked by the British commissioners involves a surrender of Alaskan territory and our commissioners knew that a treaty requiring this would not be approved by the senate or the country. The Canadian government is desirous of obtaining possession of the port of Skagway, at the head of the Lynn canal in Alaska. It asks this concession ostensibly for the purpose of facilitating the free export and import of merchandise in transit to and from the Dominion; but really, it is believed, with a view to converting the place into a fortified stronghold. At all events, a surrender of Alaskan territory was asked and when that became known there was a most earnest protest from the Pacific northwest against making any such concession. The press of that section and the commercial bodies vigorously opposed it and remonstrances were sent to Washington. Eastern newspapers also declared against any surrender of territory in Alaska, pronouncing the request of the British commissioners utterly preposterous. There is no doubt that this is the feeling of all who are familiar with the question.

The American commissioners were willing to make concessions that did not require a relinquishment of territory, but this was not satisfactory to the other side. They would accept nothing less than a part of the head of the Lynn canal.

Thus our system of checking baggage is gradually taking the place abroad of the chalc marks and the advantages of the American locomotive and palace car are becoming realized in a manner that will soon make it impossible for the old conservative element over there to enjoy the inconveniences of travel fastened onto their railroads fifty years ago.

Fifty people, half of whom pay no general property taxes, pass resolutions in the name of the taxpayers of Omaha, but will not even insist that she shall deliver the goods.

WHERE ARE THE GOODS?

Philadelphia Ledger. As the case stands now Uncle Sam will pay Spain \$20,000,000 for the Philippines and will not even insist that she shall deliver the goods.

YELL, OH, CONGRESSES.

Chicago Record. Mother's congresses are conducted on progressive modern lines. Fathers' congresses will still be held in the woodshed in the old-fashioned way, with a slender whip.

SHRINKING HOME DUTIES.

Springfield Republican. Fifty percent of whom pay no general property taxes, pass resolutions in the name of the taxpayers of Omaha, but will not even insist that she shall deliver the goods.

A TIMELY WARNING.

Leslie's Weekly. Our government is spending about \$150,000,000 a year more than it takes in. Of course this includes heavy and unusual expenditures this year, but who shall say whether congress or the progress of events will not be compelled to reduce our expenditures in years to come? At present we are doing well. His resignation should be immediately demanded by the governor and every effort made to make him pay the proper penalty for his misdeemeanor.

FREMONT TRIBUNE (POP.).

Insurance Examiners Palm and Gillan wrote many letters to Auditor Cornell showing their constant desire to remember him with a "take-off." Maybe when the possibilities of feathering his nest were first revealed to the auditor he felt some compunctions of conscience about doing so, but he has permitted the examiners to continue corresponding with him on the subject until he apparently felt no shock to his moral nature.

CEDAR BLUFFS STANDARD (POP.).

There are lots of people in the world who cannot stand prosperity and in the light of the recent developments going on in the capital we should infer that Auditor Cornell was supposed to be, should at once proceed to follow in the footsteps of a criminal predecessor. A public office is a great many men seem to think.

GENEVA SIGNAL (POP.).

The legislative committee that is now engaged in investigating the auditor's office has secured some very damaging testimony in regard to the auditor's connection with the examinations of insurance companies and the use of railroads by agents to reduce our expenditures in years to come? At present we are doing well. His resignation should be immediately demanded by the governor and every effort made to make him pay the proper penalty for his misdeemeanor.

A TIMELY WARNING.

Hastings Record (Pop.). The investigation into the affairs of Auditor Cornell leads one to believe that he was knowing all the time that he was to hold up the holdup methods of Examiner Palm. The letters written to Cornell, in which Mr. Palm says he had hoped to hold up a certain insurance company for \$300 and that in case they could do that he and Gillan contemplated making Cornell a present, showed the intention of working for these matters written to the auditor by his examiners. The report of the committee will be awaited with a good deal of curiosity.

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Count De Cassini, Russian ambassador at Washington, is by far the most democratic of the foreign nobility at the national capital.

The great king of Siam presented a beautiful gold thimble to one of his wives. For some days at least the old man's buttons will be seen in the light of one instance where a Spanish shell found an American war ship. This was sent into the Texas while that battleship was bombarding the Soape batteries.

"One night while the American battleship kept up a continuous shelling of one of the attacking ships was found by the searchlights of the battery. The Spanish fire on it, but instead of hitting the vessel, the Iowa, which lay under cover of darkness, was struck by the shell from the Spanish howitzer.

"Great must have been the fear of the American officers when on taking charge of Morro they found that the cannon operated against them by the Spanish forces. The dates of 1603 and 1718. Part of these howitzers were found loaded as the Americans took charge. The officers who charged ordered them to be fired and found to their great surprise that the longest distance from which these shots could traverse was 800 yards.