

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

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Subscribed and sworn to before me this 21st day of June, 1899. E. J. RUTLEDGE, Notary Public.

Parties Leaving for the Summer: Parties leaving the city for the summer may have The Bee sent to them regularly by notifying The Bee business office, in person or by mail.

Omaha wants no more firetrap school buildings, but on the contrary has several in stock that could be disposed of advantageously.

The cyclone that demolished Herndon came closer to Omaha than any tornado since the mysterious lifting of the Union Pacific bridge.

If a high school means a school that is high up in the air, why not build a new Eiffel tower and locate the school rooms on the top story?

Omaha's new federal building may now be considered open, never to be closed except possibly for repairs in the dim and distant future.

It is an ill wind that blows nobody good. It's a poor storm that does not blow a few more patrons into the laps of the tornado insurance companies.

The incubation of a new cabinet in France is not so fast a process as generally supposed. It is much easier to make a ministry on paper than in reality.

The silver trust is evidently no more philanthropic than any of the other trusts—witness the closing of the smelters in Colorado and the throwing of 3,000 employes out of work.

Property owners are reminded that the day when city taxes become delinquent is rapidly approaching. How to own property without stepping up to the treasurer's office periodically is still the unsolved problem.

Governor Pingle is still in politics and he doesn't care who knows it. The people who are counting on freezing the Michigan governor out of the political arena are evidently counting without their throats.

The Fourteenth regular infantry has demonstrated that the Kansas and Nebraska men are not the only swimmers in the army. Bridges are handy things to have, but their lack cannot stop a regiment of blue coats.

If those bloodhounds imported to aid in the chase of the Wyoming train robbers accomplish their capture no well regulated railroad properly equipped with a bloodhound kennel at every fifth station.

Governor Poynter seems to be giving the War department considerable unnecessary trouble with his repeated inquiries for information as to the return of the First Nebraska from Manila.

The bible commands us not to muzzle the ox when he treadeth out the corn. This may be the principle that has deterred the exposition managers from muzzling their beefing organizer.

The closing of the Sixteenth street viaduct to street railway traffic makes street railway patrons feel the need of a more liberal transfer system.

Admiral Dewey has reached the Straits Settlement, from which he goes to Ceylon, where he is expected to sojourn quite a time in the hills for the benefit of his health.

The arbitration was brought about through the efforts of the United States government, England after years of refusal to arbitrate finally acceding to the urgent representations of this government and only when the situation became so acute as to threaten war.

The treaty by which England agreed to arbitrate the "true division line" between Guatemala and Venezuela was ratified in June, 1897. Since then all the resources of the interested parties have been employed in collecting evidence in the form of maps and old records in Holland, Spain and elsewhere.

The question of the boundary has been threshed out thoroughly, with the result of showing that no definite frontier was ever agreed upon between the Spanish and Dutch, who originally held the regions in dispute, nor by the Ven-

AN AWAKENING AT WASHINGTON.

It appears that the events of the last few days in Luzon have had the effect to awaken the administration to a better realization of the condition of affairs and to somewhat diminish the optimistic feeling that has prevailed here.

Some of the officials, it is said, including the adjutant general of the army, are still confident that General Otis will be able to subdue the insurgents with the force he will have when the troops on the way to Manila and others ordered there shall have reached him.

It is expected, therefore, that the arbitration will result in a compromise. The legal talent on either side is of a very high order and it may safely be expected that ex-President Harrison will not be found wanting in comparison with the eminent British counsel.

The decision of the court will probably not be announced for a year or more.

HONOR THE NEBRASKA VOLUNTEERS.

The return of the gallant First Nebraska regiment will afford an opportunity to the citizens of Omaha and Nebraska to do honor to their fellow citizens who have so heroically maintained the honor of their country and its flag.

Whatever views may be held by individual Nebraskans regarding the policy of annexation or the conquest of the Philippines all Nebraskans are Americans in sentiment and in every fiber of their being.

They all feel proud pride in the fact that the volunteers of Nebraska have won glory and distinction and rejoice that they will soon return to their homes and families. It is eminently fitting that the return of these heroes to the state's metropolis be made forever memorable by the greatest popular ovation ever accorded to valorous patriots.

To make this reception creditable and historic it must be given an official character and organized under the auspices of our state and city governments.

The initial step is about to be taken by the mayor of Omaha and we have no doubt that his efforts will be seconded by the governor and state officials.

Omaha has a well established reputation that it never does things by halves and it goes without saying that its citizens will not only vie with each other in making the welcome to the First Nebraska the grandest civic and military demonstration ever witnessed west of the Missouri, but will contribute liberally to defray the expense incidental thereto.

The proposed reception of Nebraska's fighting volunteers should, however, not be dwarfed into a purely local affair. Every section of the state has contributed its quota to Nebraska's war contingent and it stands to reason that the patriotic sentiment permeates every town and hamlet.

First and foremost among the citizens who will rejoice in doing honor to the battle-scarred Nebraska boys will be the men who enlisted and served in the Second and Third Nebraska regiments. They also should come in for their due share of the plaudits showered upon the men who volunteered at the call of the nation's executive and rallied around its banners.

While probably six weeks will elapse before the First Nebraska regiment will set foot on Nebraska soil, there is no time to lose in perfecting the arrangements for their reception.

DISMOUNT THE JACKASS BATTERY.

If the managers of the Greater America Exposition desire to forestall disaster to their enterprise they had better dismount the jackass battery that is doing a tremendous amount of damage at the breach while pretending to bombard its alleged enemies.

The double-shotted editorial reproducing a criticism of the Red Oak Express under pretext of refuting and correcting a wrong impression is calculated to undo all that the jackass battery and the Bureau of Publicity may have done in favor of the exposition.

People who read the World-Herald are not all fools. A majority of them at least are intelligent enough to read between the lines and the abuse of Rosewater is not likely to distract from the main points raised by the Iowa paper.

On the contrary, the fact that the Bee is universally known to be devoted to the promotion of every interest that promises to assist in developing the west and in building up Omaha must within itself crush aside the silly charge that its course on any issue is actuated by sinister motives.

Above the braying and din of the jackass battery looms up the fact that The Bee is one of the monumental institutions of Omaha whose fortunes are perpetually linked with those of the city and state.

Up to date The Bee has said nothing and done nothing to prevent the exposition from becoming a great success. It is for the management to convince the world at large that the promises made will be fulfilled and that all failures tending to degrade the enterprise will be rigidly excluded.

The Bee's pretense that disorderly characters were merely a feature of the enterprise was merely a part of The Bee's scheme to carry out Rosewater's threat made soon after his withdrawal that he would "bust" the show—World-Herald.

Inasmuch as Rosewater never made such a threat The Bee has had no scheme to carry out. His impressions concerning the danger to the enterprise from disorderly characters and projected gambling were derived from the selection of the man in charge of the grounds, buildings and guardsmen. In common with all well informed persons in this community we have a vivid recollection of the leniency of the late chief of police to the lawless classes that infested this city last summer.

The only way we can judge what men are likely to do in the future is by what they have been in the past.

The imposture practiced by the reform politicians through the tripartite convention system could not have been better illustrated than by the disclosures of the pending election contest in this county, in which the ballots are being recounted to show the number of votes registered respectively in the three different fusion columns.

From this it appears that in the whole city of Omaha the combined vote of the populists and silver republicans, as recorded under their party emblems, does not exceed 1,500—the silver republican contribution being so insignificant as scarcely to deserve consideration. Yet

PLENTY OF CATTLE IN SIGHT.

Reports of a Shortage in the West Without Substantiation. Denver Post.

For the last few months much has been said and written about the shortage of cattle in the west caused by the losses sustained during the last severe winter, for which many cattle owners had not made or found it impracticable to make adequate preparations.

There is no doubt that the winter covered to a large extent by the better price obtained during any one of several previous years, but it must be remembered that the number of cattle fed or ranged was also much larger. This is manifest by the fact that the receipts of cattle at the leading eastern markets during last month were nearly 20,000 head larger than during the same period last year.

It had also been feared that fewer corn-fed cattle would come into the market, this spring season, but it has been ascertained that last fall, like the previous year, but this scarcity has not been realized. There is no indication of corralled beefs perceptible in any of the western markets and the prices realized are satisfactory.

The fact of the matter is that the territory in which cattle are raised is so extensive as to preclude the possibility of extending entirely accurate estimates. For the most part cattle have been fed in small bunches throughout the whole territory, and because the bunches were small and few cattle were fed, the small bunches were gathered into the markets as big herds all previous reports were discredited.

THE EMERGENCY FUND.

Disbursement of the First Appropriation. Philadelphia Times.

The emergency fund of \$50,000,000 which was appropriated by congress before the declaration of war with Spain, and which was turned over to the executive to be expended in his discretion for the national defense, will lapse with the close of the current fiscal year, on June 30 next.

There is nothing left of it, however, to cover into the federal treasury, since the allotments made by the president out of the fund amount at the present time to over \$58,000 in excess of the total appropriation. But these allotments have not been taken up, and warrants have not been drawn against them; so that there is still in the treasury to the credit of the fund nearly \$3,000,000—a sum amply sufficient, say the treasury officials, to cover all outstanding claims against it.

It was the creation, and prompt and intelligent disbursement of this large extra appropriation which transformed the nation within a few weeks' time from an inert mass into a tremendous fighting machine.

When the Maine went down she lacked ships, ordnance and powder and had all the material of war; the coast defenses were skeletonized and inadequate, and an alert and well equipped foreign foe might have wrought untold havoc on our borders without fear of disaster or serious loss.

The history of the disbursement of the emergency fund discloses in some degree the quality and extent of the nation's resources in an emergency. Of the fund of \$50,000,000 nearly \$20,000,000 was devoted to the purchase of ships—war vessels, ocean liners, freighters, private yachts, and motor boats.

Nearly \$8,000,000 was used to buy guns and ammunition for the navy, and about \$15,000,000 was given to the War department to buy weapons and munitions of war and to strengthen and fully equip our coast fortifications.

At least \$11,000,000 of the fund at the disposal of the president, while nearly \$19,000,000 was allotted to the War department. The vast appropriations made by congress for carrying on the war against Spain have dwarfed this initial outlay, if regard be had solely to the aggregate of figures. But it was the celerity of official action, rendered possible under the large discretion given to the executive, the speedy demonstration to the world that we lacked none of the sinews of war and the successful and swiftly accomplished re-enforcement and rearmament of our navy under the widest possible latitude of official judgment, that contributed to the early attainment of a vantage ground in the fight which we have since maintained, and from which federal power may continue to grow in larger and more beneficial development.

Whatever may be said of other current items of the federal budget, there can be no doubt that the \$50,000,000 emergency fund was placed where it would do the most good.

GOVERNMENT BY CONTRACT.

Boston Farms Out Municipal Work to Contractors. Baltimore American.

Boston is making an experiment in municipal government that will be watched with interest by her sister municipalities. The plan was evolved by Mayor Quincy and is being put in operation as rapidly as possible. In a few words, it consists of government by contract. So far in the experiment the public street lighting department has been wholly turned over to the contractors, the street cleaning department will be turned over before another week is passed and other departments will rapidly follow in its wake.

To this form of government objections can be raised and at the same time much can be said in its favor. It is a question, therefore, whether the good in it outweighs the bad. The most serious objection to it will, of course, be raised by the politicians, who will naturally be averse to the removal of a source of much remuneration to faithful party workers, if being a foregone conclusion that the contractors will manage the departments on a strictly business basis, with an utter disregard for politics and political considerations.

The most serious objection to it, however, will be found in the opening that it gives for fraud. The contractors will be animated by a desire to make his while the contract lasts, at the expense of the taxpayers. The enormous sums of money that will be involved offer an opportunity to widespread corruption of public officials, in the interest of the contractors. But this objection may be overcome by a rigid system of inspection of the work performed, payment according to the service and the award of contracts by a strictly non-partisan board, composed of men whose integrity is unquestionable.

As for the advantages offered by the system, it is a foregone conclusion that the first objection stated above will be the scheme's strongest recommendation. While the politicians will strenuously object to the cancellation of their prerogatives for political rewards, the taxpayers will rejoice. So long as the various departments of municipal government are the tools of politicians—the offices the rightful reward for political service—the resultant expense upon the taxpayers is bound to be heavier. This is true to such a degree that the director of the Bureau of Gas of Philadelphia, while in office, city owned the gas plant, once declared that if he could run the department free from political influences he could sell gas at \$1 per 1,000 cubic feet and turn \$1,000,000 net profit into the city treasury every year. As it was, he was making nothing on his gas plant.

Street lighting and street cleaning departments are the prey of the politicians. Under the management of contractors, with payment based upon the actual work performed, the work could be done at a much smaller expense to the present. If the system is proven by Boston to be a money saver it will have strong recommendations for its adoption in the other large cities.

Working the Farmer.

Sioux City Tribune.

A year or two ago, when the farmer was not enjoying his present degree of prosperity, the manufacturers of agricultural machinery were busy organizing trusts and increasing the price of their goods; the farmer did not have money then and it was not thought worth while to "work" him. But no sooner does he become solidly prosperous than it occurs to the manufacturers of farm machinery that it would be a good thing to increase their profits 25 per cent.

How to End Feuds.

Chicago News.

That Howard Baker feud down in old Kentucky has just counted one more victim and the Kentucky militia is being called out to go many miles from the center of Omaha to find some of the finest political fossils that nature has turned out since the Jurassic era.

Rich Land of Political Fossils.

Minneapolis Journal.

The Union Pacific road has sent out from Omaha a train of political fossils, and paleontologists throughout the country to join in a free excursion of sixty days to study the recent fossil finds in the Wyoming wonderland. The professors of the various large colleges throughout the country are especially invited. The party will not have to go many miles from the center of Omaha to find some of the finest political fossils that nature has turned out since the Jurassic era.

THE LINCOLN JOURNAL.

The Lincoln Journal, which never loses an opportunity to sneer and jeer at Omaha, professes to be terribly shocked at the proposed vandalism which aims to replace Omaha's antiquated fire-trap High school building with a modern, safe and substantial structure. It holds up the projected improvement as a raid of voracious contractors in collusion with school board members upon the school treasury.

This is only another illustration of the adage about the difference it makes whose ox is gored. When the time comes to pull down the dingy and unhealthy state house which graces, or rather disgraces, the Nebraska capital and substitute for it a monumental edifice that will at once afford convenient quarters for the transaction of public business and be a credit to a progressive commonwealth all Lincoln will promptly second the motion and considerations of sentiment for the preservation of an historic landmark will cut no more figure than the fact that the money needed thus to beautify Lincoln will have to come from the taxpayers of the entire state.

If the bicycle lamp ordinance is here to stay, as it seems to be, the sooner the wheelmen adjust themselves to its conditions the better for all concerned. Everybody admits that it provides simply the same reasonable regulation that is enforced in every other city of metropolitan pretensions and that the precaution is necessary for the protection not only of the public, but of the riders themselves. Why should it be necessary to wait for some serious or fatal accident to wake the wheelmen up to a realization of the fact that they have more by far to gain by complying with the lamp ordinance than by saving the price of a lamp even if they were several times more expensive than they are?

If the rumor that John C. Sprecher is to resign as deputy oil inspector should prove true more music may be expected in the populist camp. The alleged reason for his contemplated resignation is dissatisfaction with the way the state administration is conducting things. Mr. Sprecher has a way of speaking out his mind at times which is decidedly refreshing. In the past he has refused to be a party to any jobs or deals and should be break loose some of the spoils-gathering reformers now absorbing the fat of the land are likely to see visions of a future famine.

From the testimony brought out before the Interstate Commerce commission relative to discriminations against the millers it is difficult to tell which are the greatest offenders, the railroads or the warehousemen. If the inquiry were only carried back still further it would possibly be developed that the farmers who produce the wheat have a few grievances, too, in which the millers do not figure entirely as innocent parties.

Neighbors' Courtesy.

Minneapolis Journal.

Colonel Henderson expressing his birth in a former address, found that he was not consulted on the matter. Too many parents neglect these little courtesies in their families.

Every Pug Has His Day.

Springfield Republican.

"All men meet with their betters some day," says the defeated pugilist. The great man here speaks a great truth. No one is quite so large and important in the world as he thinks he is.

Crises While You Wait.

The resignation of the French cabinet calls to mind the story of the man who went into a Paris book store and asked for a copy of the French constitution. "We do not deal in serials," was the proud reply of the owner of the shop.

Engines Seeking a New Perch.

Globe-Democrat.

In order to strengthen his gold market the Bank of England is buying all the American eagles it can find in the reserve. Uncle Sam views the proceeding with composure, well knowing that the proud birds will eventually return to the home perch.

Where, Oh Where?

Springfield Republican.

Hawaii will import 7,000 more Japanese laborers during the current year, according to Yokohama advices. That will increase the Japanese and Chinese population to about 65,000, as compared with 31,000 Hawaiian natives and 3,000 Americans. Where will the American farmer or laborer come in?

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THE PENALTY OF GREEDINESS.

The penalties of greediness are not always confined to the great patriotic parents, animated by sentiments of lofty admiration, who take up some of the heroes and cheerfully put it on their offspring. Probably a majority of the American babes of the year bear the name of some war hero. The practice is carried to greater extremes among the Cubans, many officials prominent in the administration of the war being honored by doing deeds and mammas in the liberated island. At a recent baptism in Cuba a girl baby was given the name of Clara Barton, while a boy received the appellation of William McKinley Zabaizagoiri Canariaras, and another boy was christened Rodrigo Melchior Haynes Fernandez y Perez Benavente.

The military genius who swings the blue pencil over news dispatches at Manila makes good use of his sword in sharpening his pen. Here is a specimen of his work, as related by a correspondent of the London Chronicle: "The American newspaper reports invariably state, 'enemy's losses exceed,' but exact figures unobtainable, because the dead were removed in order to prevent a knowledge of his work, as is because the censor has made me put it into my telegrams sometimes."

Reports from the pension office at Washington show that about 16,000 applications for pensions have been filed and by survivors of the 100-day war with Spain. Most of them are based on disability caused by malaria, smallpox and yellow fever, a few for wounds received in action and a small number for survivors of camp life. Applications from the ravages of the Filipino war have not yet begun to come in, but the pension commissioner expects to hear from that quarter as soon as the volunteers return. It is estimated that the new claimants will materially swell the pension roll for some years to come.

Nearly every thrifty Filipino, relates a letter in Leslie's Weekly, puts his savings, not in a Manila bank, but in a strong box. The box is usually a fancy iron chest of small dimensions, but is secured by locks and bolts enough to defy Chinese locksmiths. The outer keyhole is the first secret of the box, and is usually hidden under some moving iron band that embellishes the chest. After raising the first lid there is one or two more that must be opened, and the locks are not so simple as they appear. In most cases simple to the ingenuity of the Yankee soldier. The whole contrivance is a relic of Spanish feudalism, and as a place of safety is an easily-solved toy to the ingenious American. The Filipino, however, finds it necessary while under Spanish fealty to create their savings from the watchful eyes of the official and priest. It was the custom to bury the box under a tree near their houses. When our soldiers swept over the country and villages around Manila hundreds of these strong boxes were unearthed. In most cases the natives had anticipated the soldier and fled with his earnings, but it was often the case that time was too short under our rapid advance to unearth and unlock the strong boxes, so that when our troops had driven out the insurgents many of the boxes were found above ground, but on account of the intricate system of locks, time was not sufficient for the Filipino to withdraw the money. Some ranging to \$100 to \$2,500 were found. I met a soldier one day hurrying to the rear after we had taken a village north of Manila.

"What is your rush?" I asked.

"I guess you would rush," he said, "if you found \$400 in Spanish gold."

"What are you going to do with it?" I said.

"Well, I'm going to buy a mother on New York and send it to my draft, and I'm going to do it just as fast as my legs will carry me. Goodbye."

And off he went, and I didn't question the propriety of the act. For he was one of many I had heard of, and I doubt if all of the "finds" served such a good purpose.

A letter from Manila relates an instance of the curious effect of a Mauser bullet which sought to impede the circulation of one of the fighting Americans there. Private H. E. Redmond, Company C, First Colorado volunteers, stuttered so badly when he enlisted that the recruiting officer came near leaving him out of the ranks. Redmond was wounded in the battle of Mariquina on March 31. Now his wound is healed and he stutters no more.

A Mauser bullet struck him in the face, passed diagonally downward through his mouth and made its exit near the back of the neck. It was considered a frightful wound by the surgeons, but Redmond proceeded to recover even faster than patients with less painful injuries. Now all that can be seen of the wound is a small, livid spot to the left of the nose and above the lower lip. Redmond chews hard to keep the greatest zest and tells stories he has not been able to finish in years on account of his halting speech. He insists that the Mauser bullet carried away his vocal impediment.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

The mayor of Hays City, Kan., is 22 years old, the president of the council is 22 and the oldest man in the municipal government is 29.

The private of a Colorado regiment at Manila has been cured of stuttering by being shot through the throat by a Mauser bullet, but the remedy is a little too heroic for general application.

Lord Curzon and the Amer of Afghanistan are intimate friends and have been exchanging letters for ten years past. The Amer once told Lord Curzon that he found it necessary to excruciate 1,000 persons a year to suppress treason.

Emperor William is about to receive from eastern Africa two young elephants, which will be kept at his summer residence near Potsdam. In great parades one will carry the big drum and the other the tambour major of the guard.

A new story about Robert Browning has got into print. It was when his son was beginning his public career as a painter, and Browning was anxious about his future exhibition. "People expect much from him, poor fellow," he said, "because he had a clever mother."

A friend recently remarked to General Wheeler upon the small stature of most prominent southerners. "I once said the same thing to a gaunt old 'nacker,'" remarked the general, "and he said it was because they had to be raised mostly on prayer and hickory."

Some idea of what would happen to Admiral Dewey in the way of ovations on his way home, if he would only let it, may be gathered from the claim aid to him by other nations. The French insist, for instance, that he is descended from a Huguenot family named De Huoy, and the Belgians declare that he is one of their De Weys.

It is declared by employees of the capital that no speaker ever up to his desk more thoroughly with the gavel than did Mr. Reed, with the possible exception of Samuel J. Randall. During the forty-fourth congress, when the electoral vote was counted and Hayes was declared president, Speaker Randall pounded the top of his desk out of shape three times.

Henry Proboscio of Cincinnati is a millionaire who has for some years acted on the Carnegie saying that to die rich is to die disgraced. He made a fortune in the hardware business and has expended some \$100,000 on the city of Cincinnati in philanthropic and charitable activities. He once lived in a fine and pretentious residence, but has now come down to a small house, which he rents.

ECHOES OF THE WAR.

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