

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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

Office: The Bee Building, South Omaha, City Hall Building, Twenty-fifth and N. Streets.

Business letters and remittances should be addressed to The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. Table with columns for date, total circulation, and less unsold and returned copies.

Not total sales 748,174. Net daily average 24,000. G. W. T. SCHUCK, Gen. Sec.

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.

All eyes in Nebraska are now turned on San Francisco.

Bishop Potter has a plan for averting strikes. So have several other well disposed people, but—

Admiral Dewey is in a bad way. He has commenced denying stories culled from Europe by fakirs.

According to latest advices from Chicago July oats has been cornered, but the corn trade ignores the cold wave.

Officials at Washington think Dewey has been misquoted. Advices from Trieste indicate that Dewey has been misquoted.

The prince of Wales and the duke of Richmond will not speak as they pass, but Mrs. Langtry is willing to salute both from the stage or in the open.

The international peace conference has disbanded and the British lion is purring while bracing his haunches for a ferocious leap at the embattled Transvaal Dutchman.

The mayor of St. Louis has served official notice on the mayor of Chicago that he will not permit him to float his tobacco quid into a St. Louis spittoon through the drainage canal. Snoutraze.

If there is any good reason why the entire appropriation of \$6,000 voted by the county commissioners for a Douglas county exhibit in the G. A. Exposition should be expended we hope somebody will present it to the taxpayers.

The judges of the district court have boxed the scale of justice prior to entering upon their annual vacations. In the meantime they will keep their eyes peeled and watch the political sky for flash lightning and approaching thunder storms.

Omaha clearing house returns for the past week show a gain of 23 per cent over the corresponding week of last year when the Transmississippi Exposition was in full blast and the town was crowded with visitors from all parts of the country.

The Illinois Central is gradually being extended across Iowa toward Omaha and its locomotives will be heard on the banks of the Missouri before snow flies. The advent of this great traffic artery will mean much for Omaha as a distributing center.

Does the fact that a judge is a member of Edelweiss club debar him from hearing the case to be brought to test the right of that club to sell liquor without a license? That is the momentous question which just now is agitating Greater Chicago from center to circumference.

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HOLCOMB'S DEFENSE.

Ex-Governor Holcomb has at last ventured to explain his record in connection with the vouchers drawn upon the state treasury for the payment of house rent during his term of office as governor.

From the lawyer's standpoint it is a plea in confession and avoidance. The governor admits the charge, but seeks to justify his lawless acts on the plea that they all do it. Mr. Holcomb points with satisfaction to the fact that a republican legislature appropriated \$2,000 for two years' house rent for the governor in 1889 and that Governor Thayer had drawn out the entire appropriation a few days after the legislature had adjourned.

But Governor Holcomb forgets that he was elected to rebuke extravagance and official dishonesty in the state house and he refuses to remember that he was pledged by his party and personally to inaugurate reform, enforce economy and a strict compliance with the laws and the constitution.

The ex-governor admits that his immediate predecessor, or Governor Crouse, had vetoed the house rent appropriation on the ground that it was a palpable violation of the provision of the constitution that prohibits executive officers from receiving any greater compensation or emolument, directly or indirectly, than that specified for their salary.

He knows that for fourteen years after the adoption of the present constitution no governor received a dollar's allowance for house rent, household furniture or repairs of his residence at the state capital. Mr. Holcomb is a very capable lawyer and he must know that two wrongs do not make a right.

Grant that Thayer and Boyd have drawn house rent illegally, does that exonerate him for violating the constitution? Would Treasurer Moserve be justified in farming out school money among bankrupt banks and gambling away the state funds in his custody because Joe Bartley had done so?

The worst feature of Mr. Holcomb's case is not so much the drawing of the rent after the legislature had voted the money, but giving official sanction of the lawless appropriation which he should have vetoed, and the drawing of vouchers for rent that was never paid. Granting that the state was obligated to pay house rent for the governor, the state certainly was not obligated to pay for house repairs, alterations or household furniture.

The assertion that the senate investigating committee had no authority to take the testimony which disclosed the discrepancy between the amount of rent paid and the rent vouchers can have no bearing upon the verdict which the supreme court of public opinion will render in this case.

While it may be premature to grapple with this question, it may be in order to give the subject consideration, with a view to making final action conform with public sentiment. It may not be known to everybody that the city now owns one-half of the tract covered by the lagoon and the embankment that surrounds it.

That portion has been dedicated as a public park and will be maintained by the park commission for that specific purpose. The remaining half of the lagoon is the property of Herman Kountze. Under the contract between Mr. Kountze and the Transmississippi Exposition the excavated part of the ground owned by him and now filled with water will have to be restored to its original condition.

In other words, the exposition is bound by a contract to fill the excavation to its original level whenever the ground is abandoned by it, unless, indeed, the city shall acquire the ground and the park commission should decide to retain the lagoon feature in Kountze park.

It is to be hoped that Mr. Kountze may see his way clear to making a donation of his half of the lagoon tract to the city for park purposes. In conjunction with the bluff tract, which ought to be acquired by the city, either by purchase or exercise of the eminent domain power, these grounds would for all time remain as one of the most attractive features of the park system of Omaha.

The mullet head agrees that Havesmeyer can control the price of sugar. Rockefeller can control the price of oil, the steel and iron trust the price of matches and any other trust the price of any other thing, but denies that the whole United States can control the price of silver.

There is popocratic wisdom double distilled. Now that we know that a trust can control the price of anything we can salvation for the country without the aid or consent of the United States government or any political convention on earth.

The silver smelter trust is already formed and if all the silver bullionaires will follow suit the price of silver will go up to \$1.25 an ounce and stay there until the trust shall decide to raise it to a party with gold.

What mullet heads Bryan, "Coke" Harvey, Senator Teller and those other free silver champions must be that they had not thought of this before.

SPANISH MANUFACTURERS AND MERCHANTS.

Spanish manufacturers and merchants are not going to give up these markets without a struggle, but so far as the Philippines are concerned American commercial interests have nothing to fear from Spanish competition.

It is the competition of England, Germany and Japan principally that will keep down American trade with the islands. As to Cuba and Porto Rico there is no doubt that this country will get by far the larger share of their trade.

Doubtless everybody who has given intelligent attention to the matter has concluded that so far as the Philippines are concerned no great gain to our commerce is to be expected from them.

We shall have no special advantage in that market, but must compete on equal terms with other countries, and the countries which have been trading there will make strenuous efforts to retain and increase their commerce.

It is safe to predict that American trade with the Philippines will never reimburse our people what it will cost to maintain our rule there.

WILL ACCEPT NO COMPROMISE. Advice from the Canadian capitalists to the effect that the government will accept no compromise in regard to the Alaskan boundary, both conservatives and liberals insisting that the position Canada has taken must be adhered to.

Interviews with Sir Charles Tupper, the conservative leader, and Mr. Mills, the minister of justice and a liberal, represent them as indicating that whatever may be the hope of a compromise in London and Washington there is none at Ottawa.

They are quoted as saying that whatever compromise may be accepted by Great Britain, short of cession of Pyramid harbor and a twenty-mile strip back to undisputed Canadian territory, it will have to be forced down Canada's throat.

If this accurately represents the decision of the Canadian government, which must be assumed from the statement of the minister of justice, it is for the British government to say whether the boundary question shall be amicably settled or not, it being the understanding that the United States has nothing more to submit in the way of concession or compromise.

It is absolutely certain that our government will not accede to the Canadian demands and if the British government continues to support Canada a very grave situation must sooner or later be created.

WHAT SHALL BECOME OF THE LAGOON? The question is frequently asked by citizens and strangers who have viewed the exposition grounds. What is to become of the lagoon after the fair grounds are abandoned and the exposition buildings shall be dismantled?

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ABRIDGMENT PUT ON THE RACK.

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FIXING IT UP WITH SOLDIERS.

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WARM WITERS FOR THE GOVERNOR.

What a Manila Paper Thinks of the Veto of the Resolution of Thanks. The following is an editorial taken from the Manila (Philippine Islands) Times of May 17:

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BREEZY TRIFLES.

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Let us reason together. If you don't happen to want anything in the way of Summer Clothing at present, you won't read this. If you do want something and want the best for the least money, this advertisement will interest you.

We are clearing out all the broken lots of Men's Summer wearables. They are going at half-price or less, and that means actually below cost. But it is cheaper for us to sell them now at this rate than to carry over a lot of clothing to next summer.

YOUR chance is now. The lowest prices of the season have been reached. We close Saturday evenings at 6 o'clock.

Drowning King & Co. 1015 F Street, Omaha, Neb.