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Total, 781,830. Less unsold and returned copies, 10,143. Net total sales, 771,687. Net daily average, 25,584.

Subscription and sworn before me this 22nd day of September, A. D., 1899. M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

John Bull tries to smile and look unconcerned, but it is very evident that he realizes he has bit a little too far into the South African pie for one sitting.

A moment's comparison of the competing tickets in this judicial district will convince any discriminating elector of the surpassing merit of the republican ticket.

A Burlington gardener has become so enthusiastic over golf that he goes out and practices on the cabbage. He should have no trouble landing on the green at the first put.

The man who shows by his acts that he is a fusionist for office only, holding no fixed convictions of party principles, deserves and will doubtless receive a decisive rebuke at the polls.

The state convention over, and the state ticket in the field, the track is clear for an aggressive local campaign. And the republicans of Douglas county were seldom in better fighting trim.

The political superintendents appointed by the State Board of Public Lands and Buildings to look after fences at the Deaf and Dumb institute have not yet produced their union cards.

A Russian scientist has perfected an electrical apparatus, by means of which he asserts the blind can be made to see. He might try it on the free silver, calamity agitators just to give them a glimpse of prosperity.

Salt Lake has a deaf and dumb puglist. No matter how good a fighter he may be he is certainly at a great disadvantage in matter of arranging the preliminaries. Half of the glory of modern puglist lies in a strong and active jaw.

The local popercote organ congratulates the democrats of the Sixth district on the withdrawal of their candidate for congress in favor of the populist nominee. But where the democrats come in will require a diagram to show.

Break the news gently to the state house officials. The railroads have decided for the twentieth time they will issue no passes next year. Possibly Candidate Holcomb had an advance tip on this decision when he promised to quit the pass habit.

Insurance Commissioner Bryant will conduct his own case in the action brought to test the validity of the Weaver insurance bill, leaving the attorney general free to devote his time to exterminating the trust octopus without hurting the trusts.

Construction work on the new motor line between Omaha and Council Bluffs is said to have begun. This will place a large area of new territory within easy reach of Omahans and it should enhance the value of outlying lots most desirable for would-be home-owners.

Several Iowa banks have been compelled to increase their capital stock in order to comply with the law which requires the capital stock to be at least 10 per cent of the deposits. While these banks have been in operation for years, this is the first time such a contingency has confronted them.

The various campaign committees are having trouble in getting the nominees of the different conventions to file their statements of expense accounts as required by law. The average candidate is having as much trouble in remembering where his money went as would a skylarking farmer who came to town to see the sights.

One of The Bee's readers objects to the dog feast put on by the Indians at the exposition on the ground of cruelty to a useful animal. If there is any prospect of a dearth of dogs this objection might hold good, but we feel sure there are plenty of canines in Omaha which could be readily sacrificed without detriment to the community.

SPAIN AND THE CUBAN DEBT.

There will be no surprise at the announcement that Spain refuses to pay the interest on the Cuban debt, and the conclusion of officials at Washington that this means intended repudiation of the debt, amounting to a very large sum, is undoubtedly correct. In the treaty negotiations at Paris the Spaniards were very anxious to put the United States in a position that would have made it responsible for the Cuban debt, but the American commissioners rejected every proposal having this in view, so that this country is not involved to the slightest extent.

Perhaps when an independent government shall be established in Cuba the United States might use its influence to get something for the holders of Cuban bonds, but this is not at all probable, since it would be hardly possible to induce the Cuban people to repay money loaned to Spain for their oppression. It is entirely safe to predict that Spain will never pay a dollar of the Cuban debt, either interest or principal. She may at once repudiate the principal, but she will make no effort to take care of it, even though the holders of the bonds should be disposed, as doubtless they will be, to make a heavy discount. The fact is that for many years Spain will find difficulty in raising money to carry on the government and can do nothing toward paying off her enormous public debt.

GALLIFET TO THE ARMY. The order of General Gallifet, French minister of war, to the army corps commanders, declares that the Dreyfus incident is closed. He says that all bend to the decision of the military judges and asks that the past be forgotten in order to think solely of the future.

So far as the army is concerned there can be no doubt that the incident is closed. The members of the general staff who incurred everlasting infamy by their dastardly persecution of an innocent man are undoubtedly most willing and anxious that the "incident" be closed. Mercier and the other conspirators and perjurers will heartily welcome the assurance of the minister of war that "there can be no further question of reprisals of any kind." It will relieve their minds and for a time protect them from the pursuit of justice.

But there are some who may not accept the decision of General Gallifet that the so-called incident is closed. Justice is not yet satisfied. The pardon, dictated by pity, was not an acquittal. It did not wipe out the monstrous wrong done to Dreyfus, nor remove the stigma upon his honor which conspiracy and perjury had inflicted. It did not atone for the cruel torture he has suffered. Until this victim of military plotters and of race hatred shall have been fully vindicated, until his name is cleared of the stigma placed upon it, until justice triumphs, the incident should not and we believe will not be closed. Those who have fearlessly stood by Dreyfus and accomplished so much will not permit it to end where it is if there be any way to reach a full vindication. Dreyfus is said to be a very sick man. His death might, indeed, close the incident, but otherwise it is not to be doubted that the purpose of his friends to have full justice done will be carried out.

AN ELASTIC BANK CURRENCY.

In the discussion of currency reform the question of providing for an elastic bank currency is not the least important and should receive intelligent and unprejudiced consideration. The country is now having an object lesson as to the necessity of some legislation having this in view. With a steadily growing demand for currency due to expanding business the banks as a whole are not increasing their note issues. A Washington dispatch a few days ago noted that four New York banks had applied for increase of circulation amounting to about \$1,000,000, but said that so far as known at the Treasury department there is no concerted movement on the part of the banks to increase their circulation by any very large amount.

Theoretically, observes the New York Journal of Commerce, the national banks are free to increase their note issues without limit, but the legal conditions of guaranty are so inconvenient and oppressive that there can be, in this form of currency, no adaptation of volume to the constantly changing requirements of business. Indeed, says that paper, for a long period the volume of banknotes has changed in a direction opposite to that of the concurrent wants of business. In 1873 the bank circulation stood at \$340,000,000; now, notwithstanding the increase of 55 per cent in population during the interval, the volume is only about 60 per cent of what it then was. In 1873, the banknotes outstanding constituted 45 per cent of the total stock of money; now the proportion of that form of currency to the whole stock is only about 10 per cent. Twenty-six years ago the bank issues were \$8 per head of population; now they are \$3 per head.

While it is true that this decrease in bank circulation has caused no serious inconvenience to business, because the supply of money has been steadily growing from the additions of gold and silver to the currency, that fact by no means demonstrates that provision for elasticity in bank issues is unnecessary. It is to be borne in mind that the volume of government paper and silver currency remains unchanged from year to year, that the volume of gold is not subject to regulation, and hence only bank issues can be accommodated to the fluctuations of business. It is proposed in connection with the plan understood to have been formulated by the house committee on the currency to permit national banks to issue notes to the par value of bonds deposited as security for circulation, but while this would make some addition to the volume of bank-note currency, it would not meet the requirements of elasticity.

The consideration of this question, which in the opinion of many financiers is next in importance to that of having the gold standard unequivocally fixed,

should have reference entirely to the needs of the business interests of the country. If it can be conclusively shown that those interests require an elastic bank currency, prejudice against the banks should not be permitted to defeat legislation providing for it. It is a purely practical question that should be dealt with in a practical way.

A FAST PASSING OPPORTUNITY.

Within a few short weeks the gates will close upon the Greater America Exposition and those who have not taken advantage of the opportunity to visit it will have nothing to do but to regret their neglect. Without entering into comparisons it can be truthfully said that the present exposition is the first to illustrate the life, customs, resources and industries of our new island possessions in the Gulf of Mexico and the Pacific ocean and that the colonial features are not only unique, but in themselves a collective display never before seen anywhere.

The colonial features, which are entirely new, distinguish the present exposition from the Transmississippi Exposition of 1898 and would alone make a visit profitable to those who had thoroughly inspected the Omaha exposition of a year ago. It should only be necessary to remind people living in Nebraska, Iowa and surrounding states that by coming to Omaha now they may get a view of actual conditions of life and industry in such widely separated lands as Cuba and Hawaii, Porto Rico and the Philippines, to visit which would require a journey completely around the world.

There are, however, many other attractions that will well repay the visitor for the expense incurred. The electrical illuminations, beautified grounds and high class music are worth several times the admission price, not counting the many interesting exhibits of every character to be found in the main exhibition buildings. It is admitted on all hands that the amusement section of this year's exposition is far superior to that of last year, which was regarded with such favor by people who had traveled in every part of the world. It is the consensus of opinion of all who have patronized the exposition within the past month that the many improvements made have brought it up fully to the expectations of its promoters.

Republicans of Nebraska have only to gain 50 per cent of the net gains last fall to make sure of a signat victory in November. The head of the state ticket in 1898 polled 48.77 per cent of the total vote, whereas in 1896 the republican presidential electors polled but 45.89 per cent of the total vote of the state. The fusion plurality in 1898 was but 2,721 votes. A change of 1,400 votes would have saved the day for the republicans. Douglas county alone ought to register that much of a gain over last year.

Governor Stephens of Missouri had the bad grace to inject partisan politics into the trust convention at St. Louis particularly in view of the fact that as governor of the state when the convention is being held he stands in the relation of host. The turn which affairs have taken amply justifies the prediction of a number of invited governors who did not attend because they believed it was organized for partisan purposes.

Putting the new East Omaha bridge to use for a new motor line between Omaha and Council Bluffs will be better than have it stand idle. When it was originally constructed it was expected that it would be the opening for a number of new railroads and as long as it remains it will be an invitation for railroads to come into Omaha. The original purpose must not be permanently subordinated to the trolley scheme.

The real estate market of Omaha is reported to be in a satisfactory condition. Agents say that while there are no indications of an impending boom, prices are advancing and a steady demand continues. Events are proving that The Bee was correct a year ago when it said realty values in Omaha could not fall, but must inevitably rise the next few years.

The sixteenth street viaduct has been demolished and carted away, leaving an ugly gap, breaking a busy and important thoroughfare. Every possible effort should be put forth to reach conclusions with the railroad companies. Property owners are patient and long-suffering, but they are capable of making themselves heard when moved to action.

The special Bryan press agent accompanying the great orator in his speech-making tour reports republicans attending Bryan's meetings, "with the love of truth and justice in their hearts struggling for expression." This is the first time the popercotes have ever conceded that republicans might be inspired by the love of truth and justice.

The suggestion is made that a collection be taken up in the churches and schools to pay for signs on the streets. But why should the school children stand this expense when it would be distributed equally upon the taxpayers? Nearly every suggestion of this kind if carried out would be for the benefit of the tax shirkers.

Iron ore producers are falling a million tons per week short of supplying the demand in spite of their utmost efforts. With the high prices for all raw material and manufactured products now prevailing the denial that there is any real prosperity in the land appears ridiculous.

To an anxious correspondent we hasten to reply that the money question is not considered by the fusionists as settled. It is not material that Mr. Bryan in his tour of the state subordinates the money question to that of anti-expansion or anti-trust and that it becomes neces-

Curiosities of Naval Life.

Curiously enough, Admiral Schley is to be disgraced because he is not in the ring.

Effect of Prosperity.

The Kansas farmers are patronizing the village barbers and having their whiskers trimmed. We are told prosperity is only skin deep.

A Sailor's Idea of Duty.

"I am a sailor and will obey orders," said Admiral Schley when asked if he would refuse an assignment to the South Atlantic squadron. That is what the public likes about Admiral Schley.

The Only Fight in Him.

Bryan says that he resigned from his regiment in order to come home and fight republicans. The country is glad to see him in its army operations the sort of success that attends Bryan in his political warfare.

Exchanging Utterances.

J. Bull has discovered by this time that Oom knows something of an ultimatum burlesque himself. The fact that Oom knows Paul will startle him with one of "these things" they call a casus belli and make his head ache.

Dreyfus OR THE STAGE.

With the granting of the pardon the Dreyfus affair passes into history. It will long be remembered among other things, for the evidence it elicited of the growing spirit of humane brotherhood which breaks over national lines in its manifestations of sympathy for the victim of unjust and arbitrary power.

Worthy of Freeman's Steel.

A pie trust has been incorporated to do business that they refuse to lower the price of pie, but will have automobiles bring the toothsome circles smoking hot to the homes of the consumers. That sort of a trust will probably meet with very little opposition from even the most rabid of American octopus haters.

Windjammers Working Overtime.

The American washboard makers are sending challenges across the water inviting Esterhazy of bordereau notoriety to fight do not probably expect to achieve anything substantial from their efforts than notoriety. There is no fight in Esterhazy. He is a characterless and homesick vagabond on the face of the earth who has not the nerve to kill himself. No other man could gather any credit by slaying him.

Shrinkage Must Begin Soon.

In spite of the pressure brought to bear against the trust movement, it is probable that it will not cease until every industry worth "combing" has passed through the process. It must be that that point has been almost reached. Meanwhile the opposition is gaining strength, and it is not unreasonable to predict the early shrinkage of many of the romps represented on paper by figures that spell millions.

Royalty of the Iron Kings.

It is stated that the cost of ore per ton of pig iron is \$3 more than it has been, and that the cost of labor has increased 50 cents a ton, while other items will bring the total additional expense up to \$5.50 per ton. The price of pig iron has meanwhile been advanced from \$10 to more than \$20 a ton. Apparently, therefore, the pig iron producers have added a dollar to their profit per ton for every dollar of extra cost imposed upon them in the making of it. Esterhazy has exhausted his patience. He has been forbearing in the extreme, and this protest or complaint was too much. The German officer who brought the message was on the after deck, and when I read it I stepped to the door of my cabin. He came next way to meet me and stood in the doorway. As nearly as I can remember my exact words were: "What is it you want? Do you want war? You know what that means. If you do, you can have it in five minutes. We are ready to meet you and we have got into a fight now, and we are ready to go on. If necessary we are ready to fight the world. You may tell Admiral von Diederichs that I am blockading this bay, and that I shall take such steps as are the right and duty of the blockading officer."

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ECHOES OF THE WAR.

Another Version of Dewey's Defeat to Von Diederichs at Manila.

Here is what purports to be an official version of Admiral Dewey's remarks to a reporter of the New York Herald, the commander of the German fleet at Manila bay. The incident occurred during the blockade of Manila bay by the American fleet. A score of versions of the incident have been published, and as many denials made. The correct version was given by Admiral Dewey while at Nice, to Joseph L. Stickney, correspondent of the Chicago Record. Mr. Stickney was secretary of the commander of the American fleet and was on the bridge of the Olympia during the famous battle of May 1. His relations with Dewey were of the friendliest character, consequently his story of the historic incident may be considered accurate. The only part of it open to doubt is the statement that Dewey said "it is necessary we are ready to fight the world." That is very unlike Dewey. Perhaps the occasion called for a tall bluff, and Dewey was equal to the occasion.

The main feature of Stickney's story of his interview with Admiral Dewey is as follows: "I received a biography of myself yesterday," the admiral is quoted as saying, "from a publisher in the United States, who wished to know whether I had got the facts about my life correctly. I couldn't afford to let it go in the way it was written when I received it. It misrepresented many incidents—particularly, for instance, my experience with the Germans in Manila bay. You were there and know all about what happened before the eyes of every one. I was maintaining a strict blockade of Manila and had to know, of course, the character and identity of every vessel that entered the bay. The fact that a ship flew the German flag was no proof that she was really a German. Consequently, when any craft came into the bay or moved about in it it was not only my right but my duty to learn beyond question whether she really was what she appeared to be. In carrying out this duty I ordered my commanding officers to act discreetly and tactfully, giving no offence to the naval representatives of any power except Germany. I do not know why Vice Admiral von Diederichs should have felt aggrieved. I always attributed his anger to a lack of knowledge of international law. This view is borne out by the circumstances of the case, but by his note to me, written after having received the letter in which I defined my attitude toward the war ships of other nations, he informed me that I should lay my letter before the commanding officers of other squadrons in the bay. He got small comfort from any of them.

"Captain Chichester, the 'senior officer present' of the British navy, told him that I was not only acting within my rights but that I had entitled to a great deal more than I had received from the foreign cruisers. As Von Diederichs seemed incredulous Chichester showed him the orders he had received from the British government. In fact, he was specifically notified that he was to assume no rights of entrance to ports under our blockade unless I should be willing to grant them. Von Diederichs wanted to take a copy of Chichester's instructions, but the captain told him that he had let him see them for his personal information, and that he would not allow them to be copied."

"Admiral, in the story about the Von Diederichs affair that I wrote for Harper's Monthly last February I gave a hearsay account of the old me and stood in a position to know the exact facts. I have learned since that there were some inaccuracies in that story. Are you willing to let me publish the correct version?"

"You were mistaken," replied the admiral, "in what I said about the German officer's message. Admiral von Diederichs sent his flag lieutenant to me with a list of complaints that he wished to make against the way I treated the ships under his command. They had exhausted my patience. I had been forbearing in the extreme, and this protest or complaint was too much. The German officer who brought the message was on the after deck, and when I read it I stepped to the door of my cabin. He came next way to meet me and stood in the doorway. As nearly as I can remember my exact words were: "What is it you want? Do you want war? You know what that means. If you do, you can have it in five minutes. We are ready to meet you and we have got into a fight now, and we are ready to go on. If necessary we are ready to fight the world. You may tell Admiral von Diederichs that I am blockading this bay, and that I shall take such steps as are the right and duty of the blockading officer."

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SPEAKER REED'S FAREWELL.

Chicago Times-Herald: As Mr. Reed says: "Office as a 'ribbon to stick in your coat' is worth nobody's consideration. Office as opportunity is worth all consideration." Young politicians in particular would do well to heed the admonition. If they are anxious to enter public life let them first consider carefully whether it will involve a sacrifice of principle and character.

Philadelphia Times: There is no mistaking, of course, the sense in which he expresses the conviction that, whatever may happen, his old district will always be true to the principle of liberty, self-government and the rights of man." He is one of those who think these principles have been endangered by recent events. But he will not be found among the blatant anti-expansionists. He is only going to wait and watch. And whatever may happen we may be sure that Thomas B. Reed will be always found among the patriotic servants of his country.

Detroit Free Press: The course this man-of-war has chosen has chosen for the old ideas of a liberty-loving and peace-exalting government cannot fall to make a profound impression upon the country and inspire no little emulation of his patriotic independence in resisting the dangerous tendencies of the imperial mania. Far more illuminating and impressive is the manifestation of many fearlessness and rugged fidelity to the cherished traditions of the nation by a statesman of the mold and stature of Thomas B. Reed. His utterances are not mere rhetoric and eloquence of partisan manufacture uttered in servile commendation of administration misjudgments and blunders. Louisville Courier-Journal: Mr. Reed has been one man of first-rate capacity who has been conspicuous among a host of mediocre politicians. This is his first pleasant place through the partiality of his constituents was because from the start he gave evidence of his genius and patriotism. In his long continuance in office his lot was not different from that of Henry Clay and many another states