

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.
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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

Year	Total	Net
1900	21,700	20,882
1899	22,020	21,492
1898	25,475	24,700
1897	24,920	24,300
1896	25,090	24,550
1895	27,153	26,330
1894	24,000	23,240
1893	25,410	24,620
1892	23,590	22,700
1891	25,300	24,580
1890	24,600	23,800
1889	24,580	23,760
1888	25,002	24,190
1887	25,152	24,230
1886	24,440	23,600
1885	24,450	23,610

There appears to be a general feeling of confidence among Cuban political leaders in President McKinley. They believe that the assurance the president has given of the intention of this government to faithfully fulfill its promise that Cuba should have independence as soon as practicable, and under conditions that will insure its stability, they are generally well satisfied with the policy thus far of the present governor general. There are no indications, however, that the Cuban leaders are still distrustful of the United States, but they do not constitute an important factor. All reports of a trustworthy character show that there is a nearly unanimous feeling of confidence that the United States will not in good faith and that Cuba will certainly be given independence.

CONFIDENCE.

It would be most unfortunate if anything were to happen here to destroy this confidence, yet there is danger of it if reports from Washington have any substantial foundation. A correspondent of the New York Sun says a congressional committee will visit Cuba to learn from actual observations how much time will be required to bring the island under the influence of American ideas and American methods and asks: "It is evidently the prevailing sentiment among the members of this committee that the annexation of Cuba will ultimately result and perhaps at no distant day. In the meantime, the Cubans will enjoy that independence promised them in the resolutions of congress which brought on the war with Spain. According to one member of the committee, annexation will be brought about by a perfectly natural process of transition." If this accurately states the view of the committee that is to visit Cuba and the fact is known there its presence will be very likely to impair the existing confidence and enlarge the influence of those who are now distrustful of this government.

TO PRESS THE CANAL BILL.

The house committee on interstate commerce has ordered its chairman, Mr. Hepburn, to report the Nicaragua canal bill. It is said to be probable that this measure will be accepted by the senate committee on inter-oceanic canals, in which event there will be a united movement on the part of the Nicaragua route advocates in both houses to secure the passage of the bill at this session, not waiting for the report of the commission authorized by the last congress to investigate all the routes. A Washington dispatch says there is reason for the belief that Mr. Hepburn and others have been assured by the president that he earnestly desires the passage of the canal bill this session, but it is very doubtful if the president has expressed such a desire to any one. He is in favor of an isthmian canal, but it is safe to assume that he is disposed to wait for the report of the commission before taking any action in the matter, doubtless understanding that public sentiment favors this.

PROPOSED RAILROAD ALLIANCE.

Several democrats hiding behind the name Jacksonian are proposing lists of eligible candidates for the forthcoming democratic city ticket. From the result of the contest in the democratic city committee, by which the Jacksonians were routed horse, foot and dragon, it might be advisable for the ambitious chessplayer to crawl into the County Democratic tent.

The school board investigating committee is expected to keep right on with its work until it finishes the unpleasant job. It cannot hope to strike such rich leads every day as were brought out in the first session, but several questionable transactions of the old board are still to be uncovered.

Views of an Expert.

Speaking as an unbiased expert, Mr. John D. Rockefeller declares that "it is too late to argue about the advantages of trusts," and that is true. The advantages to Mr. Rockefeller are obvious in the form of \$50,000,000 or such a matter. The trouble is that they are not equally obvious to the people who have to contribute the coin.

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WORK AHEAD FOR A WORLD'S FAIR.

If England and Japan are attacked in Asia we may have to help them out. If Germany carries its designs on Brazil we may have to help her out. If the Philippines continue obstreperous we may have to keep a considerable force there. If we build an isthmian canal we shall have to police it. If France proceeds to occupy Santo Domingo we shall have to put her out. If Russia closes her Asiatic ports to us we shall have to renovate. Some show of force may be necessary to secure our Alaska miners their rights or collect our bills from the Tsar.

SHOULD HAVE WEIGHT WITH CONGRESS.

That the interstate commerce law is not accomplishing what it was intended to accomplish is known and while there may be reasonable objection to some of the amendments which the commission proposes, there is no question that legislation is needed to give the law greater vitality and effect.

SCRAPPERS ON THE VELDT.

Philadelphia Times: London papers claim that the authorities are hiding the true story of the Transvaal war. This is another case where the tale goes with the breeze.

Philadelphia North American: The Boer successes have been solely due to better generals, better positions, better arms and better fighting qualities than those displayed by the much-vaunted "Tommy Atkins" and his aristocratic commander.

Springfield Republican: The story that General Methuen is to be recalled because he is insane is more plausible than it would have been had he not sent home such wild reports after the battle of Mafeking.

DEMOCRACY'S TWO-THIRDS RULE.

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PERSONAL POINTERS.

In other words, Elihu Root does not feel called on to give up a \$30,000 practice in order to fight for an \$8,000 fee.

The new lightweight champion pugilist does not intend to throw his weight around with cavalry or artillery, but has thoughtfully dispatched 1,200 stretcher bearers to the front.

The Anglican archbishop of the West Indies has ordered a prayer to be offered in all the churches under his jurisdiction for the success of the British arms in South Africa.

CONGRESS GRAPPLES WITH QUESTION.

The house committee on ways and means took a judicial view of appointing from its membership a committee of five to report the authorities and the law as to the meaning of the term "United States" in that section of the constitution which provides that "all duties, imposts and excises shall be uniform throughout the United States." The question to be determined is whether this means simply the area actually included within the boundaries of the states, or whether it covers also the territory belonging to the United States, although not specifically mentioned in the resolution, the committee will necessarily have also to consider the exact meaning of the provisions in another section of the constitution that "the congress shall have power to dispose of and make all needed rules and regulations respecting the territory or other property belonging to the United States."

IMPIDENT PAPER TRUST.

Some Instance of the Economics Promised by the Combine.

On Thursday the joint committee on printing of the house and senate opened the bids for supplying the government with printing, writing and other papers for the year beginning July 1. It was very surprising to discover that while there was a notable decrease in the number of competing bidders there was an equally noticeable increase in the prices charged in the bids.

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