

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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Net daily average 24,602. GEORGE H. TSCHUCK, Notary Public.

The rocks on the road to Dublin are as nothing compared to the ones on the Ladysmith road.

Like Dewey and the Spanish at Manila, the Boers had the range at Spionkop and the British were compelled to go elsewhere for breakfast.

General Buller has been busy sending "regrets" to the war office ever since he landed in South Africa. He probably regrets that he was ever sent to the "bloomin'" country.

It is highly gratifying that the anti-polygamy fight in congress is over. The country has other business for congress to attend to besides wrangling and jangling over a Utah harem.

Talking wildly about official corruption and preferring charges, sustained by tangible evidence, are two different things, as is again illustrated by the investigation force precipitated upon the council.

The treasurer of the County Democracy reports a surplus in the treasury of over \$250. A resolution establishing a sideboard that will compete with the similar ornament of the Jacksonians is in order.

Treasurer Meserve says he knows of no law preventing men from making fools of themselves. This is fortunate for the popocratic officials, as otherwise many of them would have been convicted long ago.

According to the reports from Chicago Omaha is to form with Lincoln a new theatrical vaudeville trust which is to extend across the country. It is a poor trust that does not put Omaha upon its list in these days.

What is the Commercial club going to do about making the project for sub-urban electric railways materialize? If it can bring this improvement to Omaha it will make a sufficient record for another year.

Because the trustees of Brown university refuse to let Colonel Bryan use the university building to make a political speech to the students they are charged with insulting Bryan. If this is an insult the colonel is easily insulted.

A bill has been introduced in the Iowa legislature providing for three new normal schools. As there is at least one town in each of the ninety-eight counties which now have no such school which is an applicant for one of the new ones, some one is certain to get left.

When the school board comes to fill the vacancy caused by the decampment of one of the members charged with hoodlum it is to be hoped it will select a member of a caliber above that which it is replacing. No man in Omaha is too big to serve on the school board.

General Lawton's body will be carried through Omaha on its way from San Francisco to Washington and should it be stopped in this city, our citizens should take occasion to pay their respects to the departed soldier who was so popular both in and out of military circles.

The Bryanites had hoped Carnegie would open his plecterium purse for the benefit of their campaign fund, but he deutes the allegation. He is too busy building libraries to assist in tearing down the protective system which was so essential to the success of his business interests upon which his wealth is founded.

Evidently the demeritate members of the Kentucky legislature have found a tramsom just the right size to pass a republican being unassisted as rapidly as their cases can be reached. It is apparent that Kentucky democrats do not believe a republican has any right which a democrat is bound to respect.

ANOTHER BRITISH REVERSE.

The gallant work of the British forces under General Warren has proved unprofitable. After nearly two weeks of persistent fighting Warren, having under his command 10,000 or 12,000 men, a large force of artillery and every necessary equipment for an aggressive campaign, captured Spionkop, a strategic point of great importance to the British. Upon the holding of this point largely depended the success of the turning movement which Buller had planned, but the British were unable to hold it. The Boers opened such a terrific and destructive fire on the point that the British were compelled to abandon it, losing severely before they did so. They had suffered another reverse and one that may prove to be more serious than the brief dispatches indicate. It is not unlikely that it may compel the abandonment of the plan in which the capture of Spionkop was the first step and it is a check that certainly increases the peril of Ladysmith. That garrison is reported to be now almost impregnable and to be amply provisioned, but it would not be surprising to hear at any time that it had fallen.

This reverse furnishes fresh evidence of the shrewd tactics of the Boers as well as of their splendid fighting ability. It also seems to suggest the hopelessness of the British accomplishing anything decisive without a much larger force than Buller now has. The Boer forces about Ladysmith cannot be over- come by an army no greater than theirs, because they have every advantage of position. In order to defeat them the British must have an army of two or three times their strength and be prepared to lose a large proportion of them.

THE NEXT CITY COUNCIL.

Every taxpayer and citizen of Omaha is vitally concerned in the selection of the men who will constitute the next city council. The nine members who make up the city council are to have exclusive control and management of the affairs of a corporation whose assets exceed \$100,000,000. For the next three years these nine councilmen are not only to enact the ordinances affecting the health and well-being of the community, but also to fix the tax levies, regulate the number and pay of city employes and inaugurate public improvements of every description.

With such great responsibilities devolving upon them the members of the council should be men of integrity, experience and business ability. Unfortunately for Omaha it has always been difficult to induce good business men to serve in the council, while those who seek the positions have for the most part been either notoriously incompetent or irresponsible. At no time in the history of Omaha has there been greater need of first-class material in the council than at present.

Omaha is on the eve of great public enterprises that will tax the capacity of the ablest business men and affect for good or evil the whole future of the city. Yet the most lamentable indifference is displayed on all sides with regard to the candidates about to be projected into the city campaign. Unless the taxpayers wake up soon they will find only themselves to blame if they find the management of the city's affairs in the hands of people utterly incompetent or untrustworthy.

Under our political system the only way to get good men in the council is to induce good men to accept party nomination and follow this up by electing them.

BRYAN IN THE EAST.

Thus far Mr. Bryan's visit to "the enemy's country" has developed nothing encouraging to the political abolitionist. There is no indication that he is stronger in that section now than he was in 1896. If indeed it is not evident that he has lost ground. In Maryland the leaders of the regular democratic organization refused to accord him any recognition as a party leader. The house of delegates killed a resolution offered by a Bryan supporter inviting him to visit and address that body and in Baltimore members of the regular democratic organization declined to attend the meeting he addressed and otherwise ignored him.

In New York Mr. Bryan was dined by the plutocrat, O. H. P. Belmont, who aspires to the vice presidency, and by the representative in Tammany of Rich- ard Croker, but these occasions were not marked by the presence of any of the men of commanding influence in the democracy of the Empire state. Referring to his visit the New York Times says: "Not a leader, not one man of prominence in the old-time democratic party, has been near him or will go near him. He moves here in a strict society of little men, the very little men who like to put themselves in the fore upon occasions of public interest when the reporters are sure to take down many names in their notebooks; the little men who organize and operate little factions, the mere froth and spume of politics, some of it not altogether clean, and the grotesque horde of cranks and hare-brained fellows who hang around the outskirts of politics from vanity and the love of self-advertisement." That paper says that none of the men who went to see Bryan was ever heard of in New York politics until the rise of Bryanism and that "hardly one of them has such standing in this community that he would inform men would be able to say what and who they are, what they do for a living and what influence they possess." The democratic state committee of Pennsylvania declared Mr. Bryan to be from a state where the democracy is a hopeless minority and will continue so while Bryanism dominates the party, offers little encouragement. It may insure a Bryan delegate from Pennsylvania in the national convention, but it will exert no influence elsewhere.

Mr. Bryan, if he shall adhere to the program announced when he went east, will visit New England. The Boston Transcript says he is still a curiosity in that section, so that he is accorded of large audiences and more or less demonstrative greetings. These he may mistake for popularity and flatter himself that Bryanism is really gaining adherents. But he will make no votes in New England, nor is there any reason to think that he is doing so anywhere.

THE SUNDAY BEE.

People who want a live modern news paper will read The Sunday Bee.

It will give the latest and most complete war news, both from South Africa and from the Philippines.

It will have the best foreign cable letters.

It will have the best domestic telegraph service.

It will have the best local news reports.

It will have the best Sunday department.

It will have the best literary and pictorial features.

In The Illustrated Bee, Sunday, President Euclid Martin talks instructively on the work of the Omaha Commercial club, past and present, and outlines its strength and weaknesses. President Martin's portrait adorns the issue as its frontpiece, while a picture of Charles H. Pickens, the newly elected chairman of the executive committee, is also presented.

"How Nebraska's Census Will Be Taken" is the subject of an interesting article, explaining the different phases of the impending census work. Accompanying it are portraits of the different census supervisors appointed to take charge of the enumeration in the various Nebraska districts.

Another timely article, with appropriate illustrations, describes the demolition of the exposition buildings and the transformation of the beautiful court of honor, which entranced hundreds of thousands of visitors to the Transmississippi and Greater America Expositions, into a waste of lumber piles and rubbish heaps. One of the pictures is a snap shot at the south entrance of Machinery hall just as it was toppling over in response to the labors of the wrecking crew. Others show familiar spots as they now appear in the wake of the wreckers.

In the serial on the Nebraska public school system incidents which come under a visitor's eye are described, some of them in a humorous vein. The illustrations show the handsome High school building at Columbus; a first grade at Beatrice studying natural history by a live rabbit and the seventh grade in physiology, at Genoa, at actual work.

The personality of Frank G. Carpenter, the well known newspaper correspondent, now traveling in the Philippines and the far east gathering materials for letters about to appear in The Bee, is treated in an entertaining manner. The pictorial accompaniments are unique portraits of Mr. Carpenter taken in out-of-the-way parts of the world which he has visited. One shows him alongside of his Korean servant in 1894, another holding up a brick at the great wall of China, and still another in his B-Hivian mask on the top of the Andes in South America in 1898.

"The Century's Progress in Medicine" is discussed scientifically, yet from a popular standpoint, by Dr. Cyrus Edson, one of the most eminent physicians of the country. A handsome portrait of Dr. Edson sets off his paper.

Other pictures in this number include: Portraits of the late General T. H. Stanton, the great fighting paymaster, who died in Omaha this week, and of the late Jay Burrows, one of the founders of populism, who died in Lincoln a week ago; a portrait of Rev. A. R. Scott, the new pastor of the Castellor Street Presbyterian church; group photographs of the York (Neb.) running hose team which won the state championship in 1898; pictures of the beautiful park and grounds in which the well known Beatrice Chautauqua is held each summer.

The women's page shows clear-cut photographs of living models posed in the latest novelties of fashion that attract and please the women readers.

The Sunday Bee is above comparison with any of its would-be competitors.

People who want the best will insist on having The Bee.

Usual price from newsdealers or newsboys.

If there are any more dishonorable discharged veterans of the union armies who want the charge of desertion expunged from the records so as to leave them free to get on the pension rolls, they had better hurry up and have some one in congress introduce bills for their relief. A new batch of dishonorably discharged veterans of the late war with Spain has just been turned into the War department record bureau from Manila and these black-listed young veterans will soon be importuning congress to straighten out their bad records.

Secretary of State Porter is another citizen who believes that men who draw \$2,000 a year from the state treasury should do something to earn it other than writing letters defending their failure to do things.—World-Herald.

Secretary of State Porter, however, seems to have been about as tardy in coming to this conclusion as our amiable popocratic contemporary, which has for years shut its eyes and stuffed its ears to the delinquencies of the demeritate state railway commissioners.

The anniversary of no national hero, not even George Washington or Andrew Jackson, is more regularly celebrated in this country than that of poet Robert Burns. Our Scotch-Americans have reason to congratulate themselves at least once a year upon being clansmen of a singer of such renown.

When the final sod has been placed over the grave of General Stanton as brave a soul as ever went into the smoke of battle will have had its last tribute of earth. It is such material as this which has always made the army of this country invincible. Fearless of danger to self, yet always thoughtful

and considerate of others, the world can bow its head and pay its memory reverence.

Alben Frank's contention that the law limiting his revenue as clerk of the district court is unconstitutional does not jibe with his action in holding out on his employes part of the money allotted them as salaries by the county board and making them give him receipts in full. If Frank really believed the law was unconstitutional he would not be so particular about these receipts.

The Chinese emperor has abdicated on account of ill-health. As he had little to say regarding the government the lightning of his labors is not likely to benefit him much, but they have a habit in Oriental countries of feeding highly indigestible food to people who are in the way. By stepping out, therefore, he is liable to avoid a severe case of inflammation of the stomach.

Can it be possible the State Board of Transportation has taken down and drunk from the wrong bottle again in its bluff at curing the high freight rate disease. There is not much danger, however, as the board members always keep an emetic handy to be swallowed should the medicine threaten to hurt the railroads.

Omaha's school attendance is approximately a thousand more now than it was a year ago. Some of this increase may be explained by the better and more accessible school facilities, less sickness and by the open winter which keeps children in school. But some of it is due to population expansion. Don't miss this.

State Treasurer Meserve, who has been constantly upheld by the local popocratic organ as a paragon of financial virtue, seems to have lost count when he refused to get in line with the bid of the defunct candidate for U. S. S. for political capital. From now on Treasurer Meserve will be a bold, bad man.

That's Different. Atlanta Constitution. President Hadley will refuse to pass the time of day to the trusts; but suppose the trust magnates refuse to speak to Yale as they pass by.

Consolation for J. Bull. Louisville Courier-Journal. At least John Bull can comfort himself with the fact that the general assembly amended the law relating to contests for circuit judges, and unwittingly repealed the laws relating to contests for state officers. Under the present statutes there is no provision whatever for beginning or maintaining an action of any kind to contest the right of another to hold a state office.

Hot Place for Fighting. Globe-Democrat. South Africa seems to be a region filled with natural forts. A column apparently can halt anywhere and get behind a kopje, with a big boulder in front of each man.

Trade and the Flag. Buffalo Express. Imports are now entering Manila at the rate of \$25,000,000 a year, but the United States furnishes only a small part of them. China, the United Kingdom, Spain, Australia and Germany are all enjoying a bigger share of the Philippines market than we.

Ticking a Tender Spot. Chicago Chronicle. Bald-headed patients of the front row in theaters have a new enemy to contend with. In certain eastern cities it is considered good form for persons sitting in the row behind to tickle the shining bald pate, and a young woman of Cumberland, Md., was recently caught by the act, and a twisted lace handkerchief for the purpose. The practice is very reprehensible, but it is probably one of the penalties of undue prominence, or maybe an inarticulate method of revenge because the fair tormentors are compelled to remove their hats.

Cost of British Imperialism. Cincinnati Commercial-Tribune. In order to keep the national and comprehensive of the situation, it is well to bear in mind that the present debt of Great Britain is three times as large as the debt of our nation, and this great burden has to be borne by a population of a little more than half that of ours. The British national debt, then, is between five and six times what it is in this country, being about \$74, as compared with our \$11. The Boer war, it is estimated, will add \$7 per capita to England's debt, or half of our per capita debt. It is plain that England's imperial policy is a very expensive one.

Gallant Struggle of the Boers. Chicago Tribune. The spectacle of these brave men striking hard for their homes and for their rights was a fine one in the beginning. It has grown in fitness and pathos with every week's experience. It has appealed more strongly to civilized nations, and particularly to the United States, with every reinforcement that has been sent to the British army. There never was in all the world's history a finer spectacle than this army, drawn from a population of 185,000, successfully resisting a powerful enemy. No other people than those bred to republican ideas could make such a stand. Among all the nations it is only republics that make such heroic struggles for freedom. What the other nations of the present campaign, the people of the great American union will continue to give the two republics of South Africa full measure of appreciation and sympathy.

ARE COALING STATIONS USELESS? Views of a Naval Officer of High Rank. Philadelphia Bulletin. Is the popular belief in the necessity of coaling stations for the use of the American navy founded on a wholly erroneous idea of the situation? Rear Admiral Hilborn, chief naval constructor, has no hesitation in answering this query in the affirmative. He is quoted as declaring that coaling stations at distant points are a positive disadvantage in time of war, since they are certain to be the objects of attack and can only be defended by costly fortifications.

In place of these Admiral Hilborn would have a large class of specially designed colliers, built to carry huge cargoes of coal, and equipped with devices to enable them to transfer this fuel to war ships that need it. Such vessels, he asserts, could accompany a squadron at all times, thus obviating the necessity of frequent returns to base to obtain the coal, without which the modern battleship or cruiser is as helpless as a floating log.

The idea is a novel one and seems worth thinking over. The chief objections to it are the difficulty which vessel experience in coaling in a heavy sea and the fact that the projected colliers would furnish tempting targets for an enemy's fleet. The first objection may be partially overcome by the "progress of invention," but it is a question in answering this query in the affirmative. He is quoted as declaring that coaling stations at distant points are a positive disadvantage in time of war, since they are certain to be the objects of attack and can only be defended by costly fortifications.

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