

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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Net daily average, 27,502. GEORGE H. TSCHUCK, Notary Public.

STOCKTON HEATH, Notary Public.

In the language of the street, it is now up to the republican state convention.

Dewey captured Chicago all right, but Mayor Harrison took good care that the political machine was hid away where the admiral could not find it.

Colonel Bryan feels sure that he holds the Illinois delegation to the democratic national convention safely stowed away in his pocket.

Another public improvement which should be scheduled for the not distant future is the removal of the county jail from its conspicuous position on the court house square.

If Lincoln were only alive he would be sorely tempted to apply for an injunction to prevent the assistant democrats taking the name "Lincoln republicans" as an insult to his memory.

Nebraska republicans will be in line for McKinley by an unequivocal declaration endorsing his administration.

Omaha club women have been giving local poets a chance as if the advent of spring were not a sufficient stimulus for the muse.

The taxpayers want to have as many streets cleaned as possible for the least amount of money and if the council can devise some plan for making the same amount of money cover more ground there will be no cause for complaint.

It is to be hoped the pending difficulties between the carpenters and their employers may be brought to a speedy settlement.

The Nebraska silver republicans decline to follow the lead of Minnesota and adopt a new name.

The first of May brings the usual number of strikes and labor difficulties. One thing is noticeable, however.

The restoration of the feeding-in-transit rats is quite a concession to the cattle shippers on the part of the trans-missouri railroads.

The railroads have at last yielded to the pressure and restored the feeding-in-transit rat on live stock.

The opponents of the administration are neglecting no opportunity to force it into an embarrassing position.

The offering of the resolution of sympathy for the Boers in the senate was for no other purpose.

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THE FIRST CONSIDERATION.

The first consideration that should guide the republicans of Nebraska in their state convention is the success of the party in the impending national campaign.

Only by keeping success in view as the first consideration can the rank and file of the party be mobilized and inspired with the enthusiasm and confidence that lead to victory.

The responsibility that rests upon the delegates assembled in state convention cannot be evaded.

There was considerable opposition in the convention of the National Association of Manufacturers to the pending reciprocity treaty with France.

What basis had the secretary of war for declaring that within a few years the American people will have to abandon the doctrine announced by President Monroe seventy-seven years ago or fight for it?

He declared that "if necessary we will fight for it, but unless there is a greater diligence in legislation in the future than in the past, when the time comes it may find us unprepared."

He said that the American people will within a few years have to either abandon the Monroe doctrine or fight for it, and we are not going to abandon it.

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THE BARBER-DONNELLY FACTION LETS GO A FEW SOLEMN REMARKS.

The Missouri middle-of-the-road populist has been in Kansas City last week, and was much cheered by the party.

After much anxious deliberation they decided to call their organization the Progressive Populist party.

The delegates solemnly reaffirmed their allegiance to the platform of the party.

The platform is long and hot. It whacks the republicans and democrats with unparal-yeled rod.

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WORDS NOBLY SPOKEN.

Open Letter to the Public Signed by John M. Thurston, Dated Omaha, March 24, 1898.

"I propose to deal fairly and justly with every interest in Nebraska, corporate or otherwise."

"I will do what is right by all corporations, not because they have any right to demand anything of me, but because I shall feel it a duty."

"I shall never forget that I am born of the plain people; I am the natural descendant of eight generations of American farmers."

"I believe that I instinctively turn to them in all great matters affecting the public welfare and I take this occasion to say openly and publicly in the face of the world that if it comes at any time to an issue between the corporations and the people, if I am compelled to choose between the corporate demand on one side and the wishes of the plain people of this country, I do not care of consequences, without thought of results, for weal or woe, I cast my lot with the people."

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ECHOES OF OUR WAR.

In his speech at the opening of the emerald canal in New York City, the other day, former President Harrison referred to the liquor traffic with semi-civilized races in the tropics and declared that "feeble races victim before the breath of the more manly victor."

epigram applies with equal force to the destructive vices contracted by white men in the tropics.

As the effect of the so-called American saloon on the Filipino is not near so bad as the effect of Filipino liquor on the American soldier.

It is distinctly superior to the latter, since American liquors do not produce madness or create an immediate appetite for more.

George Hobart, a regular army man, who has just returned from the Philippines, has given us the statement that he made to his home at Indianapolis, says of the Filipino boozers: "It is not heat that is driving the soldiers crazy. It's just simply 'beno.' Absinthe is not in the same class. It looks like water and tastes like horrice," he says.

When the boys can get beer or whisky, they buy 'beno' from the natives. It takes a pint of it to make a drinking man drunk. The third or fourth consecutive drunk makes a blooming idiot out of the victim.

It is not so great, the natives sell it for 3 cents a canterfull, but around Manila the demand is so great that the price has been raised to 50 cents.

After a man drinks about a pint of the stuff he begins to get silly, but he recovers in a day or two. Then he has just returned from the Philippines, he will go mad. Then the officers have to be sent to the hospital for the insane at Washington.

They tell me that the poor fellows who have been taken there will never get well."

Hobart reports that in the southern isles of the Philippine group "beno" is known as "tuba," and it is made out of coconut palm sap. The coconut tree is tapped near the top and the natives put an empty coconut shell near the hole to catch the dripping.

Hobart says: "Not long before I left Manila my company was sent to the fring line. One of the boys saw a coconut shell full of the sap in the top of a near-by tree and he made a dash for it. Before any one could get to it he had drunk it and he had emptied the shell. The liquid took effect on his brain before he was ready to climb down and he had a great time trying to get him out of the tree without letting him fall."

Hobart reports that the natives drink it only in moderation, and as a rule let it alone. He also says that when the government discovered the nature of the drink it was prohibited, and thereafter the soldiers were compelled to buy it secretly, as it was subject to confiscation.

The plant which is being erected in Manila by the United States government for refrigerating and ice making is an enormous affair, with a capacity for cooling at one time no less than 5,000 beef carcasses, 7,000 sheep and 100 tons of salted meat, as well as for the storage of immense quantities of eggs, vegetables, butter and other articles, enough to supply the army in the Philippines for months at a time.

In addition it will be capable of producing fifty tons of ice per day and 6,000 gallons of distilled water. The ice will be manufactured by the ammonia process. The building will be nearly 300 feet square and about fifty feet in height.

Captain Stephen O'Connor, Twenty-third infantry, has been placed on the retired list. Captain O'Connor enlisted in the army as a private in the Eighth infantry in 1860, becoming second lieutenant December 25, 1866. He became first lieutenant January 1, 1869, and was assigned to the Twenty-third infantry January 1, 1871. He left the service twice, between March 6, 1877, and February 11, 1878, when he was again appointed a second lieutenant. Under this appointment he became captain in 1897. He had only recently returned from the Philippines, which he was one of the first army officers to reach. The New York Evening Post has several times urged his appointment as major and paymaster, that he might retire with a higher rank at the end of his forty years of service, but being nothing but a gallant soldier who had spent his life in the service of his country Captain O'Connor was neglected in order to take paymasters from civil life.

One of the most thrilling stories of Lieutenant Gillmore's adventures with the Philippines relates to a flag. The sailors during their imprisonment picked up several odd pieces of cloth and being skillful with the needle, as all "jackies" are, they made a United States flag of them. Of course it had to be done in secret, and when finished it had to be concealed with great caution, because the Filipinos would have been provoked by finding it that they undoubtedly would have shot the whole party.

The sailor boys took turns in carrying the flag, each being exposed to the same danger in turn for stated periods, just like the watches they keep on shipboard, although they considered it a glory and honor, and none of them would have yielded his right for a moment. It was remarkable that they were able to conceal it so long, because they had no sagazine or trappings, few of them hats or shoes and their clothing was in tatters. When the prisoners were sure they were safe and unseen they would take out the flag and talk about it. A rude piece of work it was, made of strips of cheap cotton tied together in an awkward fashion, but it represented Old Glory, and under the circumstances anything that resembled it was enough for them.

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PROMISE AND PERFORMANCE.

Practice is Different. Fairbury Enterprise (rep.) The idea of our senior senator appearing before our supreme court in behalf of the worst trust and monopoly in the country!

The republicans will have to stand the brunt of this and they can't help themselves at this time, but it will not always be thus. There is a good time coming. The senator, however, has the hard earned reputation of standing by his friends through thick and thin, and as the Standard Oil company is one of his friends, he is simply following out his well established rule. While we do not approve of everything he does, we will say frankly that we admire Senator Thurston for his frankness and faithful adherence to his promises.

This is something that all politicians could emulate with the utmost satisfaction to their friends and constituents. They should, however, not make promises promiscuously with no intention of fulfilling them. The latter is what causes the eruptions and sore spots.

ON KOP AND VELEDT. Chicago Post: The English appear to be having trouble getting the Boers to stay where they can be readily whipped.

Boston Transcript: If President Kruger's belief that the earth is flat were correct, the British would have been in Pretoria by this time.

San Francisco Call: So successful have the Boers been in cutting Lord Roberts' communications that Oom Paul may soon have the privilege of acting as censor for the British dispatches.

Milwaukee Sentinel: If the Boer army is in such a demoralized condition as the London dispatches set forth, it is most remarkable that General Buller does not move to establish headquarters at Pretoria without such elaborate plans for delay.

Philadelphia Record: The first mutterings of criticism against Lord Roberts are heard. A popular hero can do anything he pleases, except fail. Want of success is the unpardonable crime. If it is his misfortune, it makes no difference whatever to the unreasoning multitude that it is not also his fault.

Buffalo Express: Consul Hay has transmitted six and a half tons of gifts to the prisoners. The news of the gift of the articles duty free. The consul reports that the treatment of the prisoners is satisfactory. Has not Lord Roberts overreached himself in protesting against the treatment of prisoners by the Boers?

Philadelphia North American: Lord Roberts' official roast of Lord Methuen, the blunderer of Modder river, has not been made public and Methuen is still in command of his troops. Methuen not only has great "drawing-room" influence in England, but he holds 3