

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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THE COMING CONFLICT.

The consensus of opinion among those best informed in regard to affairs in China is that the existing disturbance can hardly fall to eventuate in a conflict which may involve all the great powers.

At present it is a game of diplomacy, with England seeking to effect a concert of the nations concerned, so that each shall bear an equal share in putting down the disturbance and thereafter compelling the Chinese government to accept the conditions which the combined powers may propose.

It is not certain, however, that Russia is entirely agreeable to this and the fact that she is forwarding troops to the disturbed district in considerable numbers indicates her desire to play the leading part and dominate the situation.

France, it is presumed, will be found ready to second anything that Russia may determine to do. Japan is watching events with manifest anxiety, but her action will be necessarily governed, to a very large extent, by the course of Great Britain, which under existing conditions must be conservative.

There is no doubt if the latter's lands were free she and Japan would take a decided stand against any formidable demonstration by Russia that would give that power a preponderant influence upon the situation.

Germany and Italy, it appears, take the British view of the policy that should be pursued. The great danger is that Russia will take steps which Japan will feel it to be her imperative duty to resist.

It is believed that the Russian ambassador at Peking is bringing every pressure to bear upon the emperor dwager to invoke his assistance. This would require the landing of a Russian force very much larger than that at the disposal of the other powers, except Japan.

COMPETITORS PUBLISHED IN THIS SECTION.

People who want the best will buy The Bee.

THE TAMMANY TRUST MEMBERS.

The New York Evening Post observes that if the democratic presidential campaign is to be conducted on an anti-trust platform, as Mr. Bryan has fore-shadowed, "the only way now to make a consistent fight is to throw Mr. Van Wyck overboard and also Carroll and perhaps Croker too, seeing that he is responsible for both Van Wyck and Carroll and since the name of Croker also appears in the list of shareholders."

It would be an advantage to the democratic party," adds the Post, "of city, state and nation if it could dump this load of garbage, with public ceremonials, at the Kansas City convention." But there is not the least chance of these Tammany holders of ice trust stock being "dumped" at Kansas City, or treated otherwise than with the highest consideration.

Croker is returning from England for the purpose of taking charge of the democratic campaign in New York. He is an ardent Bryanite now and as such he will be received by the adherents of Mr. Bryan with the utmost cordiality, regardless of his having ice trust stock or of the fact that he has wealth which he never earned and never inherited.

Van Wyck and Carroll will also command great consideration at the national convention and indeed the whole Tammany outfit will be accorded the greatest attention. Moreover, Mr. Bryan himself will undoubtedly consult with these men during the campaign.

The Kansas City convention will rail vigorously against trusts, but nonetheless the Tammany "garbage" will be carefully cultivated and made to feel that it is essential to democratic success.

OUR DEFECTIVE TAX SYSTEM.

The annual returns of the precinct assessors upon which the county assessment roll is made up disclose the usual number of accidental or intentional errors which make our system of taxation so unequal and so unjust.

The constitution of Nebraska provides for the taxation of all property and franchises in proportion to the value, but the only class of property which is invariably listed by the assessors is real estate and fixtures which cannot be overlooked.

As a result the owners of real property bear practically the entire burden of government, while the taxation of personal property is simply a sham and a farce.

Another great defect in the present system arises from the exclusion of railroad property by its exemption from listing by local tax officers and its reservation for assessment by the State Board of Equalization.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

The first step taken by Russia immediately after it was seen that the Anglo-Bosnian war was going to be a much longer and more serious affair than was at first reckoned on was the mortgage she established over the Afghan frontier on the road leading to Herat.

The next was the concession of the Turkish government giving Russia the monopoly of railway construction in eastern Asia Minor, which virtually conferred the great plateau of Armenia into a sphere of influence. Simultaneously with the negotiations that gave her this foothold in the regions overruling the lowlands of Mesopotamia and facing the German sphere in Anatolia, Russia acquired a lien on Bulgaria in return for a small loan; she obtained the use of the important harbor of Bourgas on the Black Sea, which is connected by railway with Soan, the capital, and the Serbian and Macedonian railways; and the Bulgarian army becomes again the advanced guard of Russia in the Balkan Peninsula.

There are her gains in western Asia and the near east. In the far east Russia has obtained two notable concessions, one of which is believed by many to endanger the continuance of her peaceful relations with Japan. The first of these concessions is the right to build a railway from Khabiva, the Siberian customs frontier station south of Lake Baikal, to Kalgan on the great wall of China northwest of Peking.

The obstacles to the construction of this road through eastern Mongolia are farthing compared to those presented by the country through which the Manchurian railway passes to Port Arthur and Vladivostok. Its strategic advantage is also greater, as it is so far removed from the coast that the chance of its being interrupted by an enemy foreign to China and Russia is reduced to a minimum.

The last concession was obtained from Korea on March 20, when the Korean government made over to Russia a site on the shore of the harbor of Masampoop in the southern extremity of the Korean Peninsula, to serve as a coal depot and naval hospital for the Russian fleet.

The value of the concession is doubly enhanced by a clause which prevents Korea from alienating to any other power any land in the neighborhood or even on Koje-do or any other island, which would cover Port Hamilton and Queipart Islands, which England has had an eye on for a long time.

It is a remarkable circumstance that the South African republics have already had against Prussia in the war of 1870-71. War was declared by Napoleon on July 15, 1870, and the Prussian army began with its campaign on August 19, 1870, and on November 26, 1871, already the Boer war has lasted eight months and the end is not yet in sight.

The war between Spain and the United States began April 21, 1898, and ended by the signing of the peace protocol at Paris the same year. Spain had to maintain a show of resistance to the United States for only three months and twenty-two days. When the British forces embarked in the war it was supposed there was to be an excursion to Pretoria and that once there resistance would cease. In this expectation they were sadly disappointed by the stout little republic.

The existing complications between France and Morocco are an outgrowth of the efforts of the French to take effectual possession of the Algerian hinterland. To this end the construction of the projected Tunisian railway has been begun with the double purpose of opening the rich oases in the desert to commerce and of securing control of the country from which the fanatical and nomadic Tuaregs, who infest the Sahara, obtain their food supplies.

As a means of reducing these robber tribes to submission, France desires to cut off their resources. In carrying out this project the French government has distinctly disavowed any intention of encroaching on Morocco and the railway line, which has now almost reached the Moroccan oasis of Tadmert, is to be an ever-ready ally in that island of fertility in a sea of sand, notwithstanding the desirability of making Figuiq a station on the route.

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FINEST PORTRAIT OF PRESIDENT MCKINLEY.

From the Original Photograph as frontispiece of The Illustrated Bee.

Next Sunday, June 17 LOOK FOR IT

POLITICAL DRIFT.

On to Philadelphia. Senator Donnelly having formally accepted the nomination for vice president, the news may now move along the middle of the road.

Senator Billy Mason of Illinois has pre-empted his old seat in the republican bandwagon. Camping outside the party tent proved a cold and profitless job.

It is reported that Senator Platt of New York will retire from office at the close of his term in 1901. It is also reported that senator isn't saying a word about it.

Mrs. Elizabeth Cohen will represent Utah democracy in the Kansas City convention. Two women will sit in the republican convention, one from Utah and one from Idaho.

Congressman John Allen of Mississippi has informed some of his intimate friends that at the end of the present term he will retire. He has served fourteen consecutive terms.

Dave Hill is now among the "also mentioned" for the democratic nomination for vice president on the fusion ticket. The "Falls" tail hasn't enough energy left to wag.

There were 400 absentees from the republican state convention in Massachusetts, a circumstance which has revived agitation for a smaller convention than one of 1,800 delegates.

Oregon's republican plurality continues to grow. At last accounts the figure for supreme judge was 10,385, and for the two republican congressmen, respectively, 8,622 and 3,139.

TRITE TAKE-OFFS.

Indianapolis Journal: "James, could you never get rich like other men if you had so many afterwards off to loose ball games?" "Oh, I don't know, I'll advise them and catch up in the long run."

Washington Star: "I suppose you appreciate the opportunity to get away from Washington and enjoy a rest?" "Rest?" answered Senator Bourne. "Why, this is the time of year when the downright dickerin' really begins."

The Smart Set: Cleveland—Now that you have succeeded in getting on such intimate terms with New York's most exclusive literary set and meeting so many distinguished men, I don't see what you want to quit for. "What?" "The fact is, I haven't a cent left."

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "The president of Smith college told the students that he was opposed to girls for college girls." "But what are they going to do if they see a man under the belt?"

Philadelphia Press: "Well, I'll be d-d-battered!" exclaimed the spruce young rabbit. "So this is the choice feast you had in mind?" "What's the matter with this?" demanded the other rabbit, who had generously led the way to this particular truck party.

"What could possibly be better than fresh spring onions?" "What?" "The first, disgustfully." "I told you I had a date with my best girl for this evening."

MAID AND THE BABY SHOW. Baltimore American. Maud Muller—the Maudie who raked the yard. And gazed at the Judge on the summer day. And thanks to good Whittier's rhyming pen. Gave chances for parades to other men.

Maud Muller got married, but not to the Judge. Maud Muller tells us that she had no Maud Muller for that was her maiden name. Her married cognomen is unknown to fame.

It chanced that the staid in the baby show. "Mongst infants displayed in many a row. Babies in satin and babies in silk. And babies to advertise "Risemighty Milk."

Babies that giggled, and babies that cried— "Twas there that the Judge by fair Maudie was tried. The Judge was all dignity, polite and slow. For he was a-judging this infantile show.

And Maudie—the Maudie who charmed in her youth— Exhibited triplets in her dainty booth. Three triplets—why, certainly, there would be three— And Maudie, nee Muller, all proudly stood she.

The Judge ambled slowly down the display. While Maudie saw the triplets he stopped in dismay. Reflections came humming like bees in a swarm— He saw the new hay and the old Muller farm.

He saw the fair girl who was raking the hay. He thought of the blues which beset him that day. He thought of the fancies he'd cherished so long— The fancies that Whittier put in his song.

He gazed at the triplets and gasped, with a grin. And a sigh of relief: "Ah, it might have been I!" He fled the blue ribbon on Maudie's lap, And most dignifiedly he ambled away.

But all through the day his reflections would go. To Maudie—and then to the triplets on show. "I'm thankful! I'm thankful!" he'd mutter, "but what had been—but it never was."

Mrs. Pinkham advertisement: The one thing that qualifies a person to give advice on any subject is experience—experience creates knowledge. No other person has so wide an experience with female ills...

No Clothing Fits Like Ours

Its a fine thing to believe in yourself—confidence inspires confidence—we believe in the goodness of the clothing we make. And you will believe in it too if you'll make its acquaintance.

THE SUNDAY BEE.

The most striking feature of The Illustrated Bee Sunday will be a large half-tone portrait of President McKinley, reproduced from one of his most recent and most speaking likenesses, as the frontispiece of the number, accompanied by a sketch of the president, giving timely information about his career and characteristics particularly pertinent to the Philadelphia convention, at which he will receive a unanimous renomination.

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