

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION: Black Publishing, Douglas County, Mo.; George B. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily Morning Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of December, 1900, was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Number of copies and Total. Rows include various circulation figures for different months and years, totaling 845,083.

Net total sales, 805,182; Net daily average, 26,941.

GEORGE B. TSCHUCK, Notary Public.

M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

When the legislature spots a hold-up bill it should kill it on the spot.

All the players in that senatorial game seem suspicious that the other fellow is working a holdout device.

It is well to remember that Omaha's proposed auditorium will not build itself just because the site has been acquired.

Omaha did not get the stockmen's convention, but it will continue to get its share of the live stock from the western ranges.

The man who introduces the most freak measures into the legislature is not necessarily the most valuable legislator in the bunch.

Pat Crowe probably never dreamed of being worth so much as the present valuation placed upon him. Pat does not appear to be in any hurry, however, to realize on himself.

It is certainly to be hoped the services of the North Atlantic squadron will not be needed in Venezuela, but it is gratifying to know that if needed the navy is ready to answer the call.

The Cuban constitutional convention evidently knows a good thing when it sees it and is therefore in no hurry to conclude its labors. When the bill of costs comes in the Cuban constitution ought to be a precious document.

The new president of the Commercial club has good ideas of the work for that body to perform. Let the club support a vigorous policy of progress and it will add several more credit marks to its record during the coming year.

Senator Cullom of Illinois, just elected for another term in the United States senate, has been a prominent figure in politics for nearly half a century. No inexperienced unknowns are experimented with by Illinois republicans.

It is remarkable that the railroad managers have made so little noise this time about putting an end to the free pass list and the half-fare permit. They must have come to the conclusion reached long ago by every one else, that the bluff had lost its power of fooling the public.

The redemption of Nebraska to republicanism last fall earned for this state the inauguration procession to be formed March 4 next. No wonder so many Nebraskans are anxious to accompany Governor Dierich to Washington for the occasion.

The city of Syracuse, N. Y., will be the beneficiary of another of the fast-increasing number of Carnegie libraries which have been planted in various parts of the country as monuments to the great Scotch ironmaster. Carnegie's system of benevolence is a good one for rich men to imitate.

How fortunate that the West Point hazing investigation has come to the front just in time to take the place of the discussion of the caution question. The army cannot afford to lose its prestige for supplying the public prints continuously with at least one topic tinged with sensationalism.

Prof. Garner, who was supposed to have died in Africa, is alive and well, prosecuting his studies of the monkey language. If he will only hurry up it will be a convenience to the Bryanite democracy, which finds the present known languages inadequate to express their feelings over the proposal to reorganize the party.

President McKinley has signed the congressional apportionment bill, which gives it the force of law and paves the way for redistributing bills in the various legislatures in conformity with the new ratio. Nebraska will have six districts, as at present, but the unequal growth of the different districts will require a revision of their boundaries.

EXIT THE COLORED CONGRESSMAN.

The enactment of the new congressional apportionment bill without any provision for the enforcement of the fifteenth amendment by reducing the representation of the southern states in the ratio of their disfranchisement of the negro marks the passing of the colored congressman, at least for a long time to come. The only colored member of the present house, representing a North Carolina district, entered vigorous protest and offered a strong defense of the rights of his people to protection at the ballot box, showing how they were being deprived of constitutional privileges by pretext and subterfuge, but the opposition encountered by the measure from other sources was based on entirely different grounds and was unable to force the slightest amendment.

THE STREET RAILWAY PROBLEM.

An interesting report has been made by the street railway commission appointed by the mayor and council of Chicago to investigate the subject of street railway franchises and compensation for street railway privileges, with a view to legislation governing the issue of such franchises in that city. The commission, which has been at work for more than a year, has formulated a bill to be presented to the Illinois legislature and submitted a report, embodied in a pamphlet of 136 pages, in support of the position it has taken on various points comprehended within the subject. The principal points of more than local interest emphasized by the commission are worthy of attention.

In the first place, the conclusion is reached that the street railway business should be recognized as a monopoly business and treated accordingly. This means that it is better from the standpoint of the public to have a single street railway system than to have independent and separately owned and managed lines. With a single system and unified management not only is the service likely to be better, but the demands of the public for transfers and fare concessions can be more directly enforced. The tendency, generally, is to consolidation, and even where consolidation has been expressly forbidden legal maneuvering has been regularly and successfully resorted to for the purpose of evading such charter provisions.

A PLEADING QUESTION.

It appears that the question as to what course this government can properly take in regard to the Cuban constitution when it shall be presented for its consideration is perplexing congressmen. Cuba being foreign territory, whose people have an unquestionable right to establish an independent government, what authority has the United States to pass upon the constitution for such government if that instrument is satisfactory to a majority of the people of Cuba?

FOR A FLEXIBLE CURRENCY.

There is a bill in the hands of the house committee on banking and currency, introduced by Representative Lovering of Massachusetts, which provides for making the currency more flexible and therefore more responsive to the demands of business. The author of the bill points out that the time is near at hand when the demand for additional currency may be suddenly and strongly felt. It may be at the next harvesting and moving of the crops. The natural increase of business has absorbed the increase of currency which resulted from the refunding of government bonds and from the right to issue to the per value of bonds deposited to secure circulation. Hereafter practically no further increase can be expected from this quarter.

CONTRIVERSY OVER THE FREE RANGE.

At the Salt Lake convention of the National Live Stock association the "irrepressible conflict" between the cattle growers and the sheepmen took on a more aggravated form and a division was only narrowly averted. Steps were taken toward the formation of a national association of cattlemen similar in nature to the National Wool Growers' association. This portends a split in the National Live Stock association and a perpetuation of the quarrel between the cattle and sheep owners.

ARMY BILL PASSES SENATE.

The army bill passed the senate by a majority of twenty-four democrats voting with the republicans. The measure provides for a standing army of 54,000, which may be increased, in the discretion of the president, to 100,000. The opposition to the bill was largely directed against giving the president authority to increase the army in his discretion, it being urged that this is an abdication of the power of congress and without precedent. It was also insisted that we do not need a regular army of 54,000 men.

SOMETHING UP THE SLEEVE.

The Chinese may do some things backward, but they are employing the old-fashioned mode of playing horse with the representatives of the powers.

NO ADEQUATE PENALTY.

Another thing showing the remote sense of equity among lynchers in this country is the immunity they extend to the fiend who starts a false alarm of fire in a crowded public hall.

SIGNALS FAR FROM HOME.

That Omaha signal lantern, with the threat attachment, has reached Red Bud, Ill. Someone will work this line of raising money one too often and telegraph poles may bear strange fruit.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR FAME.

A bill has been introduced in the Minnesota legislature authorizing a commission to ascertain the position of Minnesota troops in the campaign and siege of Vicksburg. Now let the Nebraska legislators authorize a commission to locate the present position of Pat Crowe.

CURIOUSITIES OF THE CENSUS.

The recent census shows that out of sixty-one counties in New York twenty-two show a decrease in population since 1890, and out of sixty-seven counties in Pennsylvania sixteen show a decrease during the same period. The aggregate decrease is not large, but enough to show that the counties where it occurs have about reached the limit of their habitable capacity. All the cities show large increases.

BEVERLY MATERIAL USELESS.

The notion of suppressing Boer hostilities in South Africa by a colonial police force seems to have been abandoned by the British War office. It has been evident for some time past no mixed body of men recruited in South Africa—the "front of the colonies"—could be depended upon to check the flying columns of Botha, Dewet and Delany. To oppose first-class fighters with anything but first-class fighters would be sheer waste of raw material.

EDWARDS FROM RAMS' HORN.

Only he can secure success who is willing to face failure. Men are ever ready to amend the gospel and then put the amendment first. You cannot expect to feel at home in the church while you stay out on the stoop. The great question is not Are you ready to die, but Are you ready to live again? Many preachers yield to a reversed temptation; they turn the broad into stones. There is a tremendous chasm between the poetry we applaud and the prose we apply. The greatest contradiction is the church that prays to God while it preys on the world. When Paul wrote of "lifting up holy hands" he was not contemplating the stand and deliver style of prayer.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.

Chicago Chronicle: Prof. Herron declares that he is a member of a church whose teaching he repudiates and he denounces the organization to put him out. Singular attitude for a social and religious reformer. Why on earth should anyone stick like a leech to a church whose creed he publicly denounces? Cleveland Plain Dealer: One of the New York pastors arose and denounced vaccination to his congregation last Sunday. This looks a little as if sixteenth century bigotry and narrowness had forced themselves across the new century's threshold. Anything new along the line of medical innovations was characterized as an insult to an all-wise Providence in those dark days.

THE LONDON SPECTATOR TAKES THE SENSIBLE VIEW OF THE NIAGARA CANAL MATTER.

The London Spectator takes the sensible view of the Niagara canal matter. The editor of that journal is not having any fits over the position of this country that if it builds the canal it must control it. If English ships have the use of it on equal terms with all other nations the Spectator thinks that it is all that can reasonably be asked and plainly states that if the English government were to build the canal it would certainly insist upon controlling it and protecting it, if protection was necessary. The Spectator has evidently rubbed the smoke off its glasses.

CONGRESS HAS TAKEN ACTION ON THE PROPOSAL TO CELEBRATE THE CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE UNITED STATES.

Congress has taken action on the proposal to celebrate the centennial anniversary of the induction of John Marshall as chief justice of the United States. With that act was laid the foundation of the United States supreme court, which, thanks to the learning and honesty of Marshall and those who have come after him, is now recognized the world over as one of the greatest judicial bodies in the world, whose decisions are quoted in every civilized land.

BECAUSE THE NEBRASKA REPUBLICANS HAVE REGAINED CONTROL OF THE STATE THEY ARE TO BE LEFT IN UNDISTURBED POSSESSION.

Shipment of breadstuffs were the most valuable since September, 1899, although in this case also the total value of \$24,322,665 was chiefly due to the high prices rather than unusual quantity. Wheat, including flour, was exported during December to the amount of \$11,429,900, against \$9,274,710 of the year previous, and corn exports increased \$2,293,720. During the calendar year 1900 shipments of corn were only 189,095,435 bushels, against 204,474,115 in the previous year, while the value was \$41,756,251, against \$82,056,880 in 1899. During the twelve months wheat exports decreased to \$2,045,159 bushels, against 191,816,045 in the preceding year.

PROVISIONS WENT OUT FREELY WITHOUT MAKING A RECORD FOR THE YEAR.

Provisions went out freely without making a record for the year. The total value of meat sent abroad during the year 1900 was \$202,251,699, an increase of \$4,877,389 over 1899, which in turn was larger than preceding years. Shipments decreased, while cheese gained about an equal amount. By far the largest proportion in this division was sent out from the port of New York, \$91,206,078, against \$50,836,090 from Boston, the next in size. Of mineral oils the December movement was not exceptional, heavy either in quantity or value, but for the year there appears an increase of \$8,294,033 over 1899 and \$20,725,234 over 1898. The bulk of exports in this class was of illuminating oils, with New York the principal shipper and Philadelphia the only other important port.

IT IS GRATIFYING TO FIND THAT THE FOREIGN DEMAND FOR MANY OF THESE LEADING ARTICLES OF DOMESTIC PRODUCTION HAS NOT MATERIALLY DECREASED SINCE THE GENERAL ADVANCE IN PRICES.

It is gratifying to find that the foreign demand for many of these leading articles of domestic production has not materially decreased since the general advance in prices. In the case of wheat the movement makes a good comparison with December, 1899, even as to quantity, but this is found to result from an exceptionally light record a year ago. The general range of wheat, corn and cotton closed the year at from 10 to 30 per cent higher prices than those prevailing a year previous, and there was every reason to anticipate serious loss in exports. Thus far, however, the official record indicates no striking curtailment and it is probable that figures of manufactured exports will make a still more favorable exhibit in the record of foreign trade for 1900.

LITERACY IN PORTO RICO.

The argument in the Porto Rican cases in the United States supreme court lends interest to the census of that island, which has just been promulgated in detail. The census was compiled under the supervision of General J. P. Barker and computes the total population at 953,243. The great problem underlying the present court proceedings affects the status of nearly 1,000,000 people and will determine whether they are citizens, subjects, aliens or stand in some new and unclassified position.

ADDS FROM THIS THERE ARE SEVERAL POINTS BROUGHT OUT BY THE ENUMERATION WORTHY OF NOTE.

The table which bears upon the literacy of the island is not quite so reassuring as the statement affecting color. The figures show that only one-half of 1 per cent of the population possess higher education. In other words, only 6,945 out of 953,243 are of the well educated class. Those of moderate education, embracing the ability to read, stand in better relation to the total population, there being 138,427, or 14.5 per cent of them. Those who can read, but cannot write, number 15,380, or 1.6 per cent, while the most astounding proportion of all cannot read, eighty-three per cent of the total population, or 792,984, are on the island. These last figures are worthy of close consideration, as they demonstrate that there is surely need for the schoolmaster in Porto Rico.

THE NEW CENTURY.

We who greet you, shall not see your younger clear showing of hope and vigor in mortal minds now growing. Men will bask in warmth and light that we can only dream of. Roll back the sun in human sight that we shall catch no gleam of. Those who follow us shall ride Where swift-winged birds are flying. With safe compass, chart and guide, The elements of life we get off.

THE PREFERRED STOCK.

Of this company, which is offered now at low price, subject to advance in competition of well No. 2, which is now started. The character and business standing of its five Omaha and four Los Angeles directors assure wise and careful management.

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