

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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Notice—This is the Nebraska farmers' busy season.

A man expects trouble when he goes home with a brick in his hat, but if it is an Auditorium brick it will be all right.

A membership in the New York Stock exchange has just sold for \$62,000. This is a large price to pay for the privilege of getting skinned.

Illinois still has its legislature with it, but from the fault-finding with its work it does not seem to approach the ideal of perfection any more than the average Nebraska legislature.

The countries which have been getting coal of England need not become worried by the threatened exhaustion of the mines. Plenty over on this side can be had at the same old price.

The British government has scattered honors with a lavish hand among the officers who have served in South Africa. Measured by results the officers have certainly received all that is their due.

Aguinaldo's address is printed in some papers over a facsimile of his signature. Now we understand why the address was delayed—in order to give time for the autograph to reach this country in advance of release.

Railroads are again accusing each other of cutting rates. Must be some mistake about this, gentlemen. Not a one of you would be willing to substantiate the charge to the Interstate Commerce commission.

The tornado is getting busy in the southern country earlier than common this year. Nebraska will assign, for a nominal consideration, any right, title or interest it may have in the share allotted to the state.

The tears Towne is shedding for Aguinaldo are almost copious enough to give the Minnesota lakes and rivers a saline tinge. Towne should hasten to follow the example of Aguinaldo and come back on the reservation.

In the face of weather conditions discouraging to trade the Omaha bank clearings for the past week show a material increase over last year. Omaha is coming right along and keeps well up in the front of the procession.

It is estimated that 100,000 people assembled in London to see a foot ball game. If the government could only syndicate on the gate receipts of a few such games there would be no necessity of additional taxation to meet the deficit in revenues.

The United States gets no guns in the distribution of prizes resulting from recent operations in China because the United States did not participate in their capture. This country can better afford to purchase what guns it needs and retain its own self-respect.

The Colombian minister again assures the world that affairs in his country are tranquil. The wires to the interior are down and it will probably be two or three days before a report is received of another bloody battle between the government and revolutionary forces.

The rural free-delivery branch of the Postoffice department continues to increase in popularity as its benefits are spread over a greater area of territory. The demand for rural delivery routes is a demand for access to prompt business and social communication which will not be satisfied until the service becomes practically universal.

Sir Thomas Lipton's cup challenger has been latched and the present owner of the former challenger, who has changed the lines of the craft, winks the other eye and intimates he will beat the new boat. The enterprise and generosity of Lipton certainly deserves better than that. His English rivals suffer at least leave that task for the Yankee.

AGUINALDO'S MANIFESTO.

There is little of Oriental characteristics in Aguinaldo's manifesto. It is earnest but not fervent, serious but not passionate. It appeals to the practical common sense of the Filipinos in frank and sober language. It tells them that peace is absolutely essential to the welfare of their country and that the time has come to stop hostilities. A majority of the people want peace and Aguinaldo believes this desire should prevail. He recognizes the folly and futility of further resistance to the overwhelming power of the United States. "There has been enough blood, enough tears and enough desolation," he declares.

That Aguinaldo is perfectly sincere in accepting the sovereignty of the United States is not to be doubted. It is no less certain that he fully believes this government will deal justly and generously with the people of the Philippines. Will his utterances have the hoped for effect upon the Filipinos still in arms? This will be soon determined. There are leaders of influence, such as Generals Sandoval and Tino, still in the field. It is possible they will endeavor to continue resistance, but if so it would seem that they must find great difficulty in securing and retaining adherents. The number of Filipinos who now desire peace, said by Aguinaldo to be a majority of the people, will be added to rapidly, it is safe to assume, and in a short time only those who are willing to be bandits will continue in arms. Warfare by such an element would nowhere be regarded as a fight for liberty and this, indeed, is now the situation. The Filipinos have no leader who represents the demand for independence. The resistance which Sandoval, Tino and a few others are making to American authority cannot be dignified as a struggle for freedom. The insurrection lost entirely that character when Aguinaldo was made a prisoner. The fact that a few thousand insurgents have designated another as their leader does not give the hostilities they carry on the character of a war for independence.

It has not yet been determined what disposition shall be made of Aguinaldo, but the question seems to be easy of solution. He has acknowledged and accepted the sovereignty of the United States without any reservation. He has sworn allegiance to this government. There is not a valid reason for doubting his sincerity or questioning that he has taken this course in good faith. Would it not be good policy to give him his liberty and enable him to go among his countrymen and exert his personal influence with them in the interest of peace? It is not to be doubted that such a course would make an impression upon the Filipinos most favorable to this government. It would be an object lesson in American magnanimity that every intelligent Filipino would appreciate, and Aguinaldo, undoubtedly, would make effective use of the opportunity to demonstrate his good faith and his loyalty to the United States. General MacArthur has ordered that a thousand insurgent prisoners shall be released on swearing allegiance to this government. It is wise action that will have good results, but giving liberty to Aguinaldo would be far more helpful to pacification, while his personal influence with the natives would be of incalculable value. A Washington dispatch says that he will be given more liberty than he has enjoyed hitherto. It would be good policy, we think, to give him full freedom, with the understanding that he should use it in promoting pacification.

THE CUBAN COMMISSION.

The Cuban commissioners to confer with President McKinley in regard to the American terms are expected to arrive in Washington Tuesday or Wednesday and preparations are being made at the White House for their reception. It is needless to say that the commissioners will be received with the utmost courtesy and their views will be heard and given the consideration which the vital importance of the subject they are coming to the United States to confer upon demands.

The president is said to have already a well-defined outline of his statement of the case as affected by the action of congress in passing the Platt amendment. One of the first things he will take occasion to make clear to the commissioners, says a Washington dispatch, is that the administration has been represented throughout the discussion of relations between this country and Cuba by General Wood, and that the treatment of the representative of the United States in Cuba has not been reassuring or gratifying to this government. Any effort of the commissioners to influence the president to recall General Wood and give Cuba another governor general will be promptly rebuked and deprecated. It is said that this part of the president's statement of the case for the United States will make use of no disguises nor be at all mealy-mouthed.

Of course the commissioners will be given to understand at the outset that an appeal for any change or modification in the conditions submitted by congress will be fruitless, so far as the administration is concerned, and they will also be informed that there is hardly a possibility that congress will make any change. The president has no authority to alter the terms to the slightest extent and moreover he fully approves of them. He is explicitly directed not to withdraw the military forces from Cuba until the American conditions are accepted and it is understood that he will try to impress on the minds of the commissioners the difference between his power now and what it was before the Platt amendment was passed, when he could have withdrawn the troops at any time. Now his discretion is narrowed down to a strict execution of the will of congress.

While, therefore, the conference can have no such result as it is presumed the Cubans hope for, it may be beneficial in disabusing their minds of the idea that the position of the president and congress is not approved by the people, and also in convincing them that the American terms are not incompatible with Cuban independence, but are necessary to safeguard it and to assure a stable government. If this shall be accomplished the conference will be productive of good, but otherwise it will be futile.

THE LOVE LETTER FAD.

From the perusal of current magazines and the inspection of book-makers' announcements one will readily learn that the latest in the world of literature is the love letter fad. The distinguished author, warrior, statesman or hero who has neglected to leave to posterity a bulky batch of love letters, tied in pink ribbon, will find that he has overlooked one of the rare opportunities to achieve greatness by their posthumous publication. No one aspiring to a lasting place in the enduring halls of fame can expect to achieve his ambition if he has not had preserved from youth a series of correspondence souvenirs directed at some inamorata to whom he has poured forth in writing the fervid impulses of a mad infatuation. Where would Victor Hugo have been had he not exercised the precaution to leave his love letters where they could be dug up after his death? What claim would Bismarck have to adoration if he had not prepared for the work of unifying the fatherland by inditing love epistles to his sweetheart? How would Napoleon ever have reached the pinnacle of glory had he not indulged his love affairs at least to an extent to furnish material for his biographers?

With these illustrious examples before us, the importance of the art of love letter writing must not be too lightly estimated. It should be taught in the public schools if they are to be the cradles of the great and the foundations laid by careful practice for safe pursuing of this surest road to fame. Talent, industry, skill-at-arms, each must be subordinated to this one all-requisite qualification for clamorous celebrity—and if anyone by chance, in spite of failure in this important duty, has really made a mark in the world of his profession he should hasten to correct the oversight by writing down at once what he would have written in the love letters that were never sent.

THE FREE LIBRARY MOVEMENT.

When the future historian looks back through the first years of the twentieth century for characteristic features of social development the free library movement is sure to claim a share of his attention. That the free library movement is upon us is plainly evidenced not only by the numerous gifts and bequests for the establishment of public libraries, but also by the general interest manifested through legislation and agitation. The example of Andrew Carnegie as the world's greatest library founder is being imitated in a smaller way by other public benefactors, and the list of states with library commissions—to which Nebraska has just been added—is steadily lengthening, while the work of the numerous commissions is taking tangible form. If this campaign continues, as it gives promise to do, the United States will before long be able to boast of being the best library-equipped country in the world.

If the extent and scope of the free library movement in this country means anything it means the wider diffusion of intelligence and education without which the public library would have neither patronage nor support. In olden times the library was a mere collection of books, manuscripts and documents for the use of the cultured few; the great body of the people, in their ignorance, having neither desire nor use for such institutions. It is only in countries with a large percentage of literacy among the population that free libraries can take root and flourish on an extensive scale.

The free circulating library which furnishes reading matter to the people to be borrowed for use in their own homes is chiefly an American development traceable in its origin to the subscription library started by Franklin in 1731. Whether or not the idea was original with Franklin, it constitutes the primal type of our modern circulating libraries. While a suggestion that such an institution should be established and maintained by public taxation would have been scouted 100 years ago, today not a town, however small, has refused to accept a library building donation on condition that it assure its support out of the annual proceeds of taxation. It must not be understood from this that European countries do not support libraries out of public funds, but the library movement abroad has not been brought so close to the people, nor has it included the smaller cities and towns.

The free library has only begun to exert its powers as part of our educational system. The next decade will probably witness the rise of more libraries in this country than exist today, although they will be smaller and with more contracted circle of activity, so that an American city without a free public library will before long be the exception to the rule.

Aguinaldo has recognized what many Filipinos before him have seen—that the United States and Spain are two different countries in more ways than in name. The halting methods which characterized Spanish efforts to subdue rebellions have found no place in American policy, but the fight has been constantly kept up. The sooner the few Filipinos who are still out of the fold come in the better it will be for them and the people of the island.

Public school janitors everywhere should resent the insult offered by the Chicago Board of Education in refusing a janitorial request for a detail of three special employes to erect a platform for a school entertainment upon the ground that the janitors were amply able to do this work by themselves. If the school janitors are to be loaded up with extra work like this the rush for positions on the force may suffer a severe reaction.

The British war office confirms the report that nothing but British meat will be supplied to the British troops. As Britain does not produce enough meat for its own people, shutting out of American meat from this source of consumption will simply have the effect of changing the trade in American meat from the army to the people at home. Our producers do not care who eats the meat so long as it is eaten and paid for.

Antonin Dvorak, the great Bohemian composer who spent several years in this country, has been honored by an appointment by the emperor to the Austrian house of peers, a distinction rarely accorded. Dvorak was a visitor in Omaha during his residence on this side of the Atlantic, having spent one summer visiting relatives in Iowa, and his elevation will be of more than usual interest to his countrymen in this section.

The managers of the Buffalo exposition are beginning to designate the different state days on which special exercises are to be held by representatives of the different participating commonwealths. A number of these days have already been announced, but Nebraska day is not yet in the list. A few suggestions from Bee subscribers as to the most appropriate date for Nebraska day would be in order.

People who contemplate going to the reservation soon to be opened in Oklahoma will do well to heed the warning of the commissioner of the general land office before they part with any of their money. The government is playing no favorites in the matter of securing entries and he who parts with his money for information which it is alleged will give him the inside track will have himself to blame.

After the judges of the federal supreme court get through explaining just what they meant by their recent divorce case decisions the ordinary layman will come to the conclusion that the divorce mill industry has not met with any really serious obstruction.

Test of Courage. Louis Republic. Adjutant General Corbin may really become a fighting man yet. He is soon to be married.

Little Cause for Joy. Boston Globe. More than 100 congressmen will go to the Philippines this summer. Do not rejoice, however. They are planning to come back.

Talk that is Not Cheap. Washington Post. The prolongation of the debate may be partly explained by the fact that the members of the Cuban constitutional convention draw \$10 per day while they are in session.

The Time for Exercise. Somerville Journal. Now that the time for beating carpets is at hand it is very hard for the wife of the professional man to persuade him that he needs above everything else an exercise.

Just Begun to Grow. Buffalo Express. Figures at hand indicate that this year's trade balance in favor of the United States will be more than \$700,000,000, surpassing all previous records. And the United States has only just begun to be an exporting nation.

Justice to Major Harrison. Indianapolis Journal. A good deal of evidence has been adduced tending to show that the summary removal of Major Russell B. Harrison from the volunteer service was in its circumstances and inferences, an act of injustice to him. Whether this is so or not the decision of President McKinley to reinstate him in his former rank, thus removing any implied blame on his record, is an act of generosity that does honor to the president.

Chartered Far from Home. Philadelphia Record. A trading and transportation trust has been organized for Alaska under the protecting shelter of New Jersey's incorporation laws, every large corporation, with one exception, being included in the deal. The economic history of this fallow field of enterprise will be henceforth a record of trust achievement, in which the perfect working of monopoly will be shown without let or hindrance. The trust will have a clear field and all the favors in the frozen northwest.

Growth in Railroad Capitalization. Portland Oregonian. Ten years ago there were only three railroad companies in the United States with an outstanding stock capital exceeding \$100,000,000—the Atchafalaya, the Pennsylvania and the Southern Pacific—and their stock issues did not severally rise far above that figure. Now a dozen railroad companies can be named whose capital stock amounts to \$100,000,000 or more and three of them go above the \$200,000,000 mark—the Union Pacific, with \$250,000,000; the Pennsylvania, with \$251,000,000, and the Atchafalaya, with \$216,000,000.

Contentment of the Salt Trust. Indianapolis News. President White of the salt trust says that the present tariff of \$1.60 a ton on salt is sufficient to prevent foreign competition, and naively adds that American salt is now for the first time beginning to seek a foreign market. The average citizen will have difficulty in understanding the necessity for a tariff to protect the home market from foreign competition when our own salt dealers are competing in foreign markets, where they face no protection and where the cost of transportation is added to the cost of production.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE. As the coal man retires the ice man struts to the center of the stage. General Tung persistently refuses to join in the debate at Pekin. He values his neck too highly. Admiral Sampson and Captain Chadwick have captured another bunch of prize money. Lucky seadogs!

Chicago's preference pace is halting persistently. A weary resident actually went to sleep on the tender of a moving street car. An almanac 224 years old has been discovered in Boston. The find is a good clue to the origin of current jokes credited to Boston wits.

The president of Venezuela has accumulated \$2,000,000 during his short career as a political boss. That sets a warm pace for his American brother. Now comes the appendix to the reports of two successful surgical operations in which the human stomach was removed. One survived six, the other ten days.

The Chicago Post has abandoned the tabloid garb and is back to its former pleasing shape. If it looks better in the old clothes and the publishers are much wiser. Philadelphia Daughters of the American Revolution applauded the assertion that Aguinaldo was a patriot. And that, too, in the banquet room of independence hall.

The proposed poet trust under way at Chicago has deferred definite action until the singer of Middle Creek is heard from. Omaha is a necessary factor in any combine of poetic pipers. Mike DeYoung of the San Francisco Chronicle has returned from Egypt, bringing with him three mummies of the Ptolemaic period. These will materially increase the Chronicle's collection of "stiffs."

Lake winds and dusty streams are regarded by physicians as the principal cause of the epidemic of suicide in Chicago. Nine persons tried to shuffle off in two days last week. Humane people should pay their way out of town. There is no just cause for "bedding" over Britain's preference for home-grown beef. All beef looks alike in the can, and American printers can turn out British labels just as artistic as the French labels that decorate cans of Maine sardines.

St. Louis people are coming to the front with fair money as a small price. A 10-cent call on subscriptions hasn't yet netted the \$500,000 necessary to incorporate the fair association. Postponement for a year is regarded as inevitable. The restricted flow of water through Chicago's drainage canal is hailed as a victory by St. Louis. The sewage of the Lake City, moving at a hesitant gait, drops its vitally placed on the way and passes the big bridge without gagging the natives. The folly of publishing an 8x10 newspaper in a 4x8 town is illustrated in the passing of the Indianapolis Press. The Press was too good for the Hoosier capital. It was a model newspaper, mentally and mechanically, and its suspension is sincerely regretted by exchange editors.

BLASTS FROM RAM'S HORN.

A man may have a keen mind without a cutting tongue. True fishers of souls have little use for bread and butter bait. Your worth depends on what you are and not on what you have. There is often more of Christ in the kitchen than in the cathedral. It is always harder to use the spear than to work the head in religion. A man will usually wince on the spot where his conscience is most worn out.

A man's interest in religion will be according to the amount of principle he has in it. The only man who is fitted to disseminate his thoughts is he who can concentrate them. Too many want God's light on their heavenward way while they wrap their lives in fog. Many who are willing that their work should be done by proxy will be surprised to receive their reward that way. He who cannot forget the kindness he has done is little better than he who remembers the injuries he has received.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT. Somerville Journal: It is generally regarded as wrong for anybody but a minister to work on Sunday. Philadelphia Press: Possibly not a single person will back up the claim that New York clergyman that all unmarried people are happy. Boston Transcript: A Montreal prelate calls cremation a pagan rite. For all that, it is certainly preferable to recent exhibitions Christendom has made of itself in China. Detroit Free Press: Speaking of the discipline of the Baptist church, the negro congressman Mississippian says that the pastor seems to be entitled to distinguished consideration.

Washington Star: In spite of the adage about music having charms to soothe, an Oklahoma congregation got into a quarrel over a church organ, and finally resorted to dynamite. Boston Globe: The Methodist ministers of New England are opposed to fishing on Sunday, and yet as fishers of men most of them make bigger hauls on Sunday than on any other day. Washington Post: The relatives of a missionary who was killed in China want \$100,000 for the loss of life and \$15,000 for the loss of property. When it comes to the matter of assets our missionaries manage to keep up with those of the other countries.

Chicago Chronicle: A distinguished kindergarten complains that the stained glass windows of churches hurt eyesight. There is truth in the statement. Most of them hurt the sight in more sense than one. Their crude colors are injurious to the optic nerve. Their grotesque composition is often destructive of religious gravity. Brooklyn Eagle: Dr. Buckley makes this savage attack upon Christian Scientists: "Christian Scientists is the most ignorant of heresies that the church has encountered since the third century. An atheist cannot do us as much harm as a person of this class, for an honest man is better than an arrant fool." The doctor surely does not expect the Scientists to turn the other cheek for the loss of their souls.

Chicago Inter-Ocean: A Baltimore preacher who does not believe in death-bed repentance says that preachers should not be allowed to attend people who are ill. "The sick bed is not the place for the transformation of the lives of individuals," he says, "and maybe this is true, but the places where mortals are in trouble ought to be a good place for a minister of the gospel. Indianapolis News: The claims of the missionaries in China are large. Why are missionaries in China? Is it to prosper materially in it to win the Chinese to the doctrines of Christianity? And how are they to win over the Chinese if they burden them with indemnity claims? Why not win the confidence of the Chinese by forgiveness and a blotting out of their transgressions?

SOME TYPHOID FACTS. Pollution of Water and Contamination of Milk the Chief Sources. Philadelphia Record. In its annual report the Connecticut State Board of Health calls attention to the great difference in the results of the private and the hospital treatment of typhoid fever. In six hospitals there were 693 cases and the mortality was only 6.8 per cent; while 1,163 cases in private practice showed a mortality of 20 per cent. The epidemic at Forestville was distinctly traced to the contamination of the water supply by the sewage from a factory where a single case of typhoid fever was found. The facts presented by the report favor the suggestion that in every town there should be a hospital where patients afflicted with a contagious disease might be isolated without suffering for proper attention. The sanitary conditions of Connecticut have been greatly improved in the last ten years, owing to the increased authority conferred upon health officers. By isolating cases of smallpox and other contagious diseases, disinfecting the premises where such diseases have been found, improving the sewage systems in several places, etc., these officials have reduced the death rate from 19.2 per 1,000 of population to 17.9 per 1,000. This means an annual saving of hundreds of lives. While there is nothing extraordinary in the results of sanitation in Connecticut, the statistics multiply the

evidences in favor of a more rigid enforcement of reasonable sanitary laws. It is safe to say that whenever there has been an epidemic of typhoid fever there has been criminal carelessness on the part of persons in charge of the patient with whom the epidemic originated. The exercise of a little common sense would prevent in every instance and common sense would in every instance prevent the spread of the disease, stanch pain with a score of epidemics of typhoid fever the inciting cause has been traced to pollution of water supply or contamination of milk from some dairy.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTIES. Detroit Free Press: Mother—My boy, how could you refuse him? He may never propose again. Daughter—But, mamma, he said he would. Chicago Record-Herald: "It is never too late to mend, Evelyn." "Yes, it is; I shan't patch those winter flannels this spring; the moths may get them before next autumn."

Judge: Daughter—Which is correct, papa, Miss Brown married Mr. Smith, or Mr. Smith married Miss Brown? "Papa—That depends, my child. Had he the money or had she?" Boston Transcript: Bertha—Nettie was surprised when I told her I was going to be married. Hester—Naturally; anyone would be, you know. Chicago Tribune—Saymold Storey—Well, I've got my regular spring house-cleaning done. Goodman Gorrong—Your house-cleaning? Good? "What did you have to do?" Saymold Storey—Turn me shuck mattress over.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "Oh, sir, won't you be so kind to give me a word of advice from fighting? Just listen to that!" "Who, me? Not much I won't. I remember too vividly the fate of the fellow who interfered between me and my wife!" Somerville Journal: He—You remind me of a bottle of champagne. She—No, really? He—Yes; you are so blamed expensive. Stray Stories: He—Stunning hair that girl over there has. I should think when she undoes it it would fall below her waist. She—Yes, right on the floor.

Detroit Free Press: The caller looked around her upon a condition of general untidiness. "Am I doing my own housework now," apologized the hostess. "Yes, are you?" said the caller. "I hadn't noticed that it was done." Philadelphia Press: Wife—Honey, what was the matter with you when you came in last night? Husband—Nothing that I know of. Why? Wife—Well, you kept walking around the bed with your hand on the railing, saying: "Here's the banisters, all right, but where's the stairs?"

THE CROWDED STREET. William Cullen Bryant. Let me move slowly through the street, I'll find an ever-ready spring house-cleaning. Amid the sounds of steps that beat The murmuring walks like autumn rain. How fast the flitting figures come! The mild, the fierce, the stony faces— Some bright with thoughtful smiles, and some Where secret tears have left their trace. They pass to tell, to strive, to rest— To baffle with the feast in approval— To chambers where the funeral guest In silence sits beside the dead. And some to happy homes repair, While children, in their cheek to cheek, With mute content will declare The tenderness they cannot speak. And some, who walk in calmness here, Shall shudder as they reach the door, Where the who made their dwelling dear, Its flower, its light, is seen no more. Youth, with pale cheek and slender frame, And dreams of greatness in thine eye; Go! try to build an early name, Or early in the dusk to die.

Keen son of trade, with eager brow! Who is now fluttering in thy air? Thy golden fortunes, tower they now, Or melt the glittering spires in air? Who of this crowd tonight shall tread The dance, till daylight gleams again? Who sorrow or the untimely dead? Who write in throes of mortal pain? Some, famine-struck, shall think how long The cold, dark hours, how slow the light; And some, who flume and show the tongue, Shall hide in dens of shame and thought. Each where his tasks or pleasures call, They pass, and heed each other not, There is who breaks the mold of them all. In His large love and boundless thought, These struggling tides of life, that seem In wayward, aimless course to tend, Are eddies of the mighty stream That rolls to its appointed end.

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