

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: Daily (without Sunday), One Year, \$5.00; Six Months, \$3.00; Three Months, \$1.50; Single Copies, 5c.

OFFICES: Omaha: The Bee Building, 12th and M streets. Chicago: 156 Pearl Street.

CORRESPONDENTS: Communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed to Omaha Bee, Editorial Department.

REMITTANCES: Business letters and remittances should be addressed to The Bee Publishing Company, Omaha.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION: For the week ending May 25, 1901. Total copies, 10,197.

Net daily average, 26,805. Net total sales, \$32,818. Net daily average, 26,805.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 21st day of May, 1901.

M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

PARTIES LEAVING FOR SUMMER: Parties leaving the city for the summer may have the Bee sent to them regularly by notifying The Bee Business Office, in person or by mail.

Chicago should advertise as a summer resort. People can get more summer there in one day than in any other place in the country.

The opposition is disappointed over the harmony exhibited in the Ohio republican camp. Disappointment No. 2 will be administered on election day.

From the roster of charter members, it looks as if the new Municipal League were composed chiefly of ex-officio holders who have lost their grip and prospective office-seekers who are trying to catch on.

A Lincoln man has been enjoined from writing letters to his wife. The court has thus opened the door for a good excuse for husbands who fall to send the daily letter to the better half who is on a summer vacation.

The sentiment in Nebraska in all parties appears to be for a reasonably short campaign. Nebraskans are too busy storing away their share of prosperity to devote more time than necessary to politics in an off year.

St. Louis has finally decided upon a location for its great exposition. To open on time after the tedious delays over preliminaries the Missourians will have to demonstrate that they are not so slow as Chicagoans credit them with being.

Secretary Porter and all his bondsmen have taken refuge behind a technicality in the suit to recover fees illegally retained and the two great reform lawyers, Smyth and Smith, appear to plead for them. Fusion reform is of the reversible brand.

Great Britain has paid the American farmer and stock raiser \$25,000,000 for horses and mules since the war in South Africa began. Every time the European turns around he is compelled to pay tribute to the American farmer, but he always gets value received.

Democratic papers are working overtime nominating tickets for the Iowa and Nebraska republicans. The republicans appreciate the disinterested assistance, but past experience teaches them democrats are not adepts at picking men who will make good officers.

Omaha has had experience with municipal leagues in the past, the last one giving up the ghost some six or seven years ago, having been called into life about the time of the Parkhurst agitation. Its chief achievement seems to have been to develop several local Parkhurst initiators whose nationality, however, was brief and unsubstantial.

The rate of taxation for state purposes Douglas county fixed by the state board last year was 7 1/2 mills, while the rate for counties which did not try to beat the state board was 6 1/2 mills. In other words, the state board discounts Douglas county nearly one-sixth on account of the notoriously low assessment ratio. The county never gained anything from the state by trying to get ahead of other counties.

A Russian expert has arrived at the conclusion, after studying the Boer war and the contest between the United States and Spain, that the sacrifices made by European nations to keep vast standing armies are simply a waste of money and energy. The United States has always gone on the theory that all the standing army needed is one sufficient to guard against emergencies. For the great trials of actual war the volunteer has always been the dependence of the United States and he has never failed on call, either in willingness or capacity.

THE OHIO REPUBLICANS.

As was said by Senator Foraker, temporary chairman of the Ohio republican convention, the election in that state this year will be the most important held, because it will be distinctly national in character. A legislature is to be chosen that will elect a United States senator to succeed Mr. Foraker and redistrict the state for representation in congress. This is which gives the election its national importance, for if the republican party wins Ohio will retain its present representation of two republican senators and seventeen republican members of the house, whereas if the democrats should be successful that party would not only gain a United States senator, but by gerrymandering the congressional districts would reduce the number of republican representatives in congress from Ohio to ten or perhaps less. The campaign, therefore, will be carried on, so far at least as the republicans are concerned, mainly upon questions of national policy.

This is proclaimed in the platform, which unqualifiedly endorses the policy of the administration, commends the Dingley tariff, favors reciprocity, demands the further strengthening of the navy, calls for legislation to restore the merchant marine and urges the speedy construction of an American isthmian canal. It is clearly the intention of the Ohio republican leaders to make their chief appeal for support of the national administration and certainly no more influential appeal could be made to Ohio voters. On such a platform the republicans ought to be able to put aside all factional dissension and close up their ranks for a successful campaign, particularly in view of the fact that the democrats are more or less demoralized.

So far as appears from the report of the proceedings of the convention this will be done. The leaders were in complete accord and particularly Senators Hanna and Foraker, the latter a candidate for re-election, manifested the most cordial regard for each other, including in personal compliments somewhat stronger than is common on such occasions. Governor Nash was renominated by acclamation, thus showing the utter groundlessness of the reports that the party leaders were looking about for another candidate more available than the governor. The fact is that Nash has administered the affairs of the state creditably and acceptably and fully deserved re-nomination. The endorsement of Foraker by the convention for re-election to the United States senate was the strongest evidence of party harmony, a condition for which there is no question Senator Hanna merits the chief credit.

The campaign will probably not be formally opened for a couple of months, but there is reason to expect that it will be pushed with vigor when it is opened. There is uncertainty as to what the course of the democrats will be—whether they will reaffirm devotion to the Chicago-Kansas City platform or make a departure from it. John R. McLean of Cincinnati and Tom L. Johnson are the men who will determine the course to be pursued and the candidates to be nominated and whether they can get together remains to be seen. If they cannot the Ohio democracy will be hopelessly demoralized.

CIVIL RULE IN PHILIPPINES.

One week from tomorrow civil rule will be established in the Philippines. This does not mean that the military authority will be wholly removed, but merely subordinated. The islands will continue to be governed under the war power of the president, but the exercise of civil authority will be supreme wherever pacification has been fully accomplished. Elsewhere the military power will necessarily be exercised, but the indications are that the demand for it will be expedient to maintain a considerable force in the Philippines, in order to assure the preservation of peace and order, for an indefinite time.

Judge Taft, president of the Philippine commission, will as civil governor exercise all executive authority, subject to the approval and control of the secretary of war of the United States. The other members of the commission will act as an executive council to advise the civil governor and to act upon appointments of civil officers made by him. The military governor will have no civil duties after July 4, but his authority will continue in districts where insurrection against the authority of the United States still exists, or in which public order is not sufficiently restored to enable provincial governments to be established under the instructions of the Philippine commission of April 7, 1899. Thus the military authority will be very little more than the exercise of police supervision, there being no organized insurrection and only scattered bands of bandits to deal with.

The situation is in all respects favorable to the full establishment of civil government and there appears to be no apprehension of any difficulty in doing so. The people seem to be practically unanimous in desiring it and the promise is that they will give the new government loyal and hearty support. The great majority of them have concluded, largely through the teaching and influence of the federal party, that their best interests, political, social and material, will be promoted under American rule, and there is every reason to expect that they will give thorough allegiance to this government.

When the Philippines shall have civil government, in which they will themselves participate, there will still be some problems to be solved, but there can be no doubt that these will be met and disposed of wisely, justly and with a view to the best interests of the people of the Philippines. American principles will govern in the consideration of all these problems and will be applied so far as practicable. The Philippines will be given rights and privileges they have never before enjoyed and will have opportunities for advancement which were never allowed under Spanish rule. In short, the establish-

ment of civil government in the Philippines under American authority means the moral and social uplifting of the people and a degree of material progress for the islands hitherto unknown.

NOT TOO EARLY—NOT TOO LATE.

The republican state committee has been called to meet this week to decide upon the time and place for the next republican state convention. The old question will be again presented of an early or a late convention. An early convention means a long campaign and a late convention a short campaign.

Last year the presidential contest justified an early convention, and the state ticket was put in the field in May, several months ahead of the usual time. This year, however, for Nebraska, is an off year, and The Bee believes that the committee will consult the best interests of the party by shortening the campaign as compared with the surfeit of politics undergone in 1900.

While the candidates to be selected include only a judge of the supreme court and two state university regents, they should still be given sufficient time to make their canvass in a manner creditable to themselves. It must be remembered, too, that it takes time to organize a political campaign covering a great state like Nebraska, and the work of organization cannot be safely neglected.

Above all, in determining upon a date for the convention, the committee should not forget that Nebraska is a farmer state and that the result will be determined by the farmer vote. The convenience of the farmers, to attend the convention as delegates, without unnecessarily interfering with their field work, should be consulted and every opportunity accorded them to exercise a voice in the selection of the party standard bearers.

If the committee strikes a golden mean between an early convention and a late convention it will make no mistake.

Expansion of the Lobby.

Philadelphia Ledger. Since we began to exploit our expansion policy we have learned more thoroughly than ever the importance of the lobby as a legislative factor. The sugar and oil interests are openly charged with having instigated our present tariff troubles with Russia and Italy and now we are told that the tobacco interests are working strenuously to prevent the extension of United States trade rights to Porto Rico. Isn't it about time for the administration and congress to pay more attention to the interests of the people at large, leaving the well protected trusts to take care of themselves?

Another Shrinking Trust.

United States Investor. The reduction in the dividend of the United Fruit company is another instance of how the modern industrial trust works. This particular combine was organized on a conservative basis as any of the trusts. Indeed, it may be said to have been founded on the basis of conservatism. The sound business principles that was the well-remembered of the last few years. As compared with other corporations of this character it was very legitimately capitalized; it was managed with prudence and foresight; it did not begin to pay out all that it earned in the shape of dividends. And yet it has recently reduced its dividend rate from 10 per cent to 8 per cent, and its shares, which in March were quoted as high as 137, fell on Wednesday of this week to 95.

TIPS FROM THE CORN PIT

Principles of Defunct Populism Cheered by a Speculator. Washington Post. One of the old and long ago abandoned planks in the populist platform demanded that the general government erect storehouses in every agricultural county, in which farmers might store their products at a moderate advance of cash on hand. The populists were not so exacting as to demand that the money advanced should be coin or its equivalent. Irredeemable legal tender paper was good enough for them, and they were not without reason. But the country did not take kindly to their warehouse proposition. It failed to commend itself to the more intelligent farmers, while the masses of voters in other vocations gave it contemptuous treatment. They regarded it as a long step toward communism. If the farmer were to be treated in that affectionately paternal manner, they urged, why should not the manufacturing and mining industries come in for similar coddling? But those industries did not want to fall back upon the national arm, and meantime the doubtful blessing for themselves they did not wish to be taxed in order that the farmers might have it. The result was that after a few years of hopeless and steadily weakening contention for the warehouse scheme the populists were driven to the wall.

But Mr. George H. Phillips, widely known as the "king" of the Chicago corn pit, has revised that project and brought it out in a modified form, somewhat less stupendous in magnitude, but identical in principle with the original. Mr. Phillips was banqueted at Minneapolis the other day by bankers, board of trade men, merchants, and other men of affairs, including, possibly, a few agriculturists, and, of course, he made a speech. Among other things equally interesting he said: "Let the government tax the farmer a cent a bushel on his corn crop and with the money buy elevators in which to store 100,000,000 bushels of corn and pay 40 cents basic Chicago market for it, and the world will pay the same for it."

It is far from certain that such an interference by the government with the corn crop would have the effect predicted by the "king" of the corn pit. One hundred million bushels of corn is but a small fraction of the average production of that great staple. But supposing that the great majority were certain to work out according to schedule, how would it help the country? And if it were the proper thing for government to interest itself in that way in corn, why should it not take the same interest in wheat, rice, oats, peas, beans and barley? And why limit its paternal solicitude to cereals? Should not the cotton planter, the fruit producer, the stock raiser, the sugar interest and all other branches of agriculture be provided for in the same manner? And why should not all producers of food supplies have been cared for, why should not the majority of the people, the consumers of food who are not engaged in producing it, have some attention?

Sample Case of Enterprise.

New York Tribune. The United States is now producing more than 300,000 tons of tin and terns plate a year—goods which we used to be told could not possibly be made here.

Conditional Life Insurance.

Buffalo Express. An important decision by the United States district court in Iowa in an insurance case has escaped much public attention. Some life insurance policies contain an anti-Spanish clause, rendering the contract void whether the person of the second

part is sane or insane when he commits suicide. The court holds that this agreement is without effect, as it is not possible for a sane man to agree not to do certain things if he becomes insane. This is good sense and ought to be good law.

Trouble for the Trusts.

Chicago News. Since the Department of Justice at Washington is reported to be preparing to hand some trouble to anybody who may have violated the anti-trust law, it is probable that the trust would be seriously alarmed if they were not all so innocent.

If the Victims Were Whites.

Buffalo Express. In consequence of a decision of the United States supreme court, about 250 Mission Indians in southern California may be dispossessed of lands which they have occupied and titled for many years. Civilized white men would be likely to go on the warpath over such treatment.

Characteristic of Republican Rule.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat. In his annual report Secretary Gage estimated that the surplus revenue for the fiscal year would be \$30,000,000 and it is certain now that the actual figures will be very near this estimate. Both the surplus and accurate estimate are peculiar to a republican administration.

Dodging a Hopeless Race.

San Francisco Call. Quite a number of democrats in Iowa have been spoken of as suitable candidates for the governorship, but one by one they have declined to permit their names to be used in that connection, and it looks as if the Bryanites will have to advertise for a populist to make the race.

Luck Chasing the Straggler.

Minneapolis Times. Strange are the vicissitudes of life. Only a week or two ago Mrs. Lease fled a petition to be exempted and now she has gone to England to look after the share of a large fortune. Meanwhile Mr. Lease is industriously releasing the imprisoned fritz from the marble soda fountain and throwing in a stick when the proper wink is given by the proper party.

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Philadelphia Ledger. Since we began to exploit our expansion policy we have learned more thoroughly than ever the importance of the lobby as a legislative factor. The sugar and oil interests are openly charged with having instigated our present tariff troubles with Russia and Italy and now we are told that the tobacco interests are working strenuously to prevent the extension of United States trade rights to Porto Rico. Isn't it about time for the administration and congress to pay more attention to the interests of the people at large, leaving the well protected trusts to take care of themselves?

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Railways and Farmers

It is related—with how much truth we do not know, but the story will serve as an illustration—in the early '70s the late Alexander Mitchell, whose connection with the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway company was important and well known, was elected a member of the board of directors of the Chicago & Northwestern railway. Upon receiving notification of his election by wire, Mr. Mitchell is reported to have telegraphed a reply to the effect: "Have you gone crazy? Reconsider your action at once. What will the grangers think?"

In 1867 the Patrons of Husbandry, a secret order with ritual and degrees, suggested by the Masonic and Odd Fellows fraternities, was established in the United States. Just in many particulars, with abundant theories as to economic and very often dominated by men whose honesty and singleness of purpose was open to question, the rank and file of the Grangers was none the less earnest and the aggregation was a terror to politicians and a very wholesome message to corporate injustice and greed. From the Grangers came the Farmers' alliance; from that the populists and the people's party, as is well within the memory of every reader of this age. The Grangers, the Farmers' alliance, their administrators and assigns lost prestige, lost influence and thus lost the membership that gave them power as variously assigned. Probably the same causes that

led to the decadence of the Knights of Labor against the farmers. Leaders with personal ambition got into a power which was against the "good of the order." The orders themselves spread out too much, attempted too much, formulated too much in the way of doctrine and left many gaps through which the enemy was able to make successful attacks.

Human nature has changed very little in the generation since the Patrons of Husbandry were first started. In the late '60s and the early '70s agricultural communities were beginning to feel what we called the grip of the railways. Later they gave the railways reason to feel the grasp of the grangers. There is not any political or economic reason with which we are acquainted to prevent the farmers from consolidating again and uniting in legislation which they can control if they will, give the "community of interests" idea serious, if not fatal, wounds. It might be well for the small clique of gentlemen who are laboring against the farmers to be arranging to control the rates and roads west of the Mississippi as absolutely as the owner of an omnibus in a small town controls his team and time to remember that history can repeat itself in this country and that the consumer of the shipper must have some share in the "community" of which so much is told and from which the magnates expect to draw so many added benefits. * * * There is no reason to fear a plain spy in the matter. If the farmers should combine against the railways and by legislation of a drastic sort should reduce dividends to a point so low that capital would become idle in the hands of the farmers themselves and the producing classes generally would suffer. At the same time the converse of the proposition is also true and the railway magnates who are planning for an opulence hitherto undreamed of include in their plans to reduce dividends to the big mass of plain people or their dreams may turn into nightmares. The Times believes there is danger in these vast combinations of railways under industrial control. It is not to be convinced that its apprehensions are without warrant.

REVENUE TAXES ABOLISHED.

Relief from the Wartime Stickers Begins Next Monday. Philadelphia Press. The law making changes in the internal revenue taxes, which will take effect on July 1, operates so smoothly as hardly to be noticeable. To the business public the most interesting feature at present will be in connection with the redemption of unused stamps in cases where their use has been abolished. Elaborate instructions have been issued by the Treasury department in regard to the method of having unused stamps redeemed, and those persons who will have such stamps on hand after July 1 should get a copy of these instructions. Stamps will be redeemed only in places where originally sold, and there are certain formalities to be followed or else the claim will not be honored. A good deal of trouble may be saved by early attention to that matter.

The taxes repealed, which most directly touch the public, are the 2-cent tax on every bank check, the 1 cent levied on press receipts and the 1 cent affixed to telegraph messages. There are several other important taxes repealed which attract the public, but the stamps in these cases have been affixed by dealers. Among these are the stamps affixed to proprietary medicines, perfume and other drugs, which have given much annoyance to the druggists throughout the country. There are important modifications of the rates on beer and cigars, but those taxes have not been altogether abolished. The public, however, will probably not benefit any from the reduction in those taxes.

It seems clear from the treasury statement that the government will not be hampered by the abolition of these internal revenue taxes. The surplus for the fiscal year to date is over \$70,000,000. The estimated reduction of taxes by the act that will take effect on July 1 is \$44,565,000. The part of the act taxing bucket shops, which went into effect April 1, was estimated to afford a revenue of \$2,500,000, which would leave the estimated net reduction by the new law \$42,165,000. In view of surplus receipts for the fiscal year of over \$70,000,000, with a continuation of the present good times, and a reduction of the war expenditures in the Philippines, there will be a larger surplus than that in the next fiscal year. But if tariff agitation or some other mishap should affect business the treasury might find it very close work to make both ends meet. The outlook now, however, is very cheerful.

PERSONAL NOTES.

A father in Connecticut made a present of an argon to his 4-year-old child. The latter missed killing its mother by an inch.

General MacArthur is a great smoker, especially when directing troops, and has a cigar in his mouth almost all the time while under fire.

Captain J. B. Coghlan, who commanded the Raleigh under Dewey, at Manila bay, has bought a \$3,000 house at Manitou, Colo., and will in future make that his home while ashore.

Boer sympathizers in the east are already making arrangements for a great reception to Paul Kruger should the venerable president of the Transvaal republic pay his expected visit to America this fall.

James W. Carmack, the new United States senator from Tennessee, is a lawyer by profession, but has been long actively engaged in newspaper work and was up to the time of his going to Washington, the editor of the Memphis Commercial-Appeal.

The Captain Rowan of the Nineteenth infantry, whose course in burning a town in the island of Bobol because a corporal was murdered by a native is under investigation, proves to be the officer who bore the message to Garcia at the opening of the Spanish war.

General Harris C. Hobart, who has resigned from the Milwaukee public library board after a service of twenty-five years, was one of the union prisoners who tunneled their way out of Libby prison, at Richmond, during the civil war. He is now in his eighty-ninth year.

John G. Woolley, who was the prohibition candidate for the presidency, has started on a trip around the world for the purpose of collecting data on the liquor traffic in the various countries visited preparatory to issuing a book on the results of the prohibition movement.

When the recent Austrian census was taken Emperor Francis Joseph filled in the usual form in his own hand and answered every question with great care. Among other things he had to state how many windows his residence contained and whether or not he could read or write.

Miss Ellen Terry the other day objected to the number of her photographs in various characters scattered throughout the house of a friend. "Why, it's embarrassing," she said. "I'm weeping in your bedroom, mad in your diningroom and dying three different ways in your drawing-room."

GETTING DOWN TO HARDPAN.

Transition of the Missouri Pacific to a Dividend-Paying Road. Louisville Courier-Journal. The action of the directors of the Missouri Pacific railroad this week in putting their stock on a 5 per cent dividend basis doesn't excite much comment now when such things are common, and yet it is a considerable change of financial recuperation. It has been only a few years when all the securities of this road went begging in Wall street, the stock being quoted at 10. Nothing saved the road from hopeless bankruptcy and reorganization but the determination of Mr. George Gould to buy back the property in full. He had invested so largely and regarded favorably. Now both the bonds and the shares are among the most fashionable securities of the day and appear to have passed into the hands of investors.

The rise in the quotations of the stock has been about 150 per cent within the past year, a record which has been rarely equaled even in this period of wonderful prosperity.

The Missouri Pacific has followed the course of the Atchison, the Northern and Union Pacific and other great lines which have risen from bankruptcy a few years back to a high pitch of prosperity at present. However, it has moved much more slowly because of its financial reorganization did not clear off each year's capitalization and provide funds for the physical regeneration of the property. Its improvements have been largely made out of current earnings, but while its progress has been slow, it is now one of the great factors in the financial world. It is an example of financing that has paid off a mountain of debt and finally established the road on what seems a permanent dividend-paying basis. This has unquestionably been the case after the failure of the Missouri Pacific in the world. Much has been done already in the acquisition of the Denver & Rio Grande and other lines, but there are many more yet to be added.

The re-education of the Missouri Pacific is a more particular interest because it is bound up inextricably with the destiny of the great southwestern empire of the United States. Unless Texas and Missouri and all the other parts of this imperial domain rise to their proper place in the constellation of the world, the Missouri Pacific cannot hope to rank with the greatest trunk lines of the east. Mr. Gould is serenely confident of the outcome and is evidently carrying out the definite plans his father left him as a legacy. Unfortunately his father had not a more particular interest because it is bound up inextricably with the destiny of the great southwestern empire of the United States. Unless Texas and Missouri and all the other parts of this imperial domain rise to their proper place in the constellation of the world, the Missouri Pacific cannot hope to rank with the greatest trunk lines of the east. 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