

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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INDEPENDENCE DAY

The one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the Declaration of Independence finds the republic that was heralded to the world July 4, 1776, still firm on its foundations.

The recurrence of this anniversary appeals to the patriotism and the loyalty of every citizen and its influence should give strength and vigor to these sentiments.

What a mighty nation we have grown to be in the century and a quarter since it was proclaimed to the world that the united colonies "are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states."

In that period our free institutions have been subjected to the severest tests and have been strengthened and more firmly established by every trial.

While our material development has given us leadership among the nations. We have become the greatest industrial nation of the world.

Knowledge of this must stir the pride and stimulate the patriotism of every American citizen.

Conditions which are not satisfactory and which many regard with fear and distrust. Vast aggregations of wealth controlling transportation and production are felt by not a few of our people to be a serious menace to republican government.

There is conflict between those who labor and those who employ labor. Social conditions are not all that could be desired and political corruption still to be found.

All this is to be deplored, but shall it cause us to despair of the security of free institutions or the permanence of the republic?

Distrust of the success of our political system is as old as free institutions. The eye of pessimism that can see naught but disaster ahead is not peculiar to our time.

All ages and all countries have had their prophets of evil and will have until the millennium. The American people, with a century and a quarter of republican government, maintained through foreign wars and civil strife, and with a marvelous progress in wealth and power, have abundant reason for faith in the permanence of the republic and for looking hopefully to the future.

While we celebrate this anniversary and honor the great and brave men who proclaimed the independence of the American colonies, pledging thereto their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor, let us not forget the eternal truths of the Declaration of Independence.

The South Carolina Exposition: Preparations for the South Carolina Interstate and West Indian exposition, to be held at Charleston from December 1, 1901, to May 31, 1902, are being pushed with vigor and the promise is ray that the exposition will be fully ready at the date fixed for the opening.

The plan of the exposition is comprehensive and if fully carried out will make this the most attractive exposition ever held in the south.

It is contemplated to have an exhibition of the industries and resources of the south on a very extensive scale, while a number of northern states will of course send exhibits, but it is expected that the chief and crowning feature, that which will be most interesting and instructive, will be the West Indian exhibit.

Great efforts are being made to have this as complete as possible and the prospect is favorable for a very large and thorough display of the products and resources of the West Indies. Central and South American republics will also participate and the leading countries of Europe will be represented.

It will thus be seen that the South Carolina exposition has been planned and is being projected on broad lines. It is not a mere local enterprise, but is designed to command national and even international attention and interest.

Its chief purpose, of course, is to show the marvelous development of the south during the last quarter of a century, but this will by no means be its only attractive, interesting and instructive feature. The undertaking merits hearty encouragement.

The Volunteer Army: The mustering out of the last of the volunteer army, which was accomplished within the time limit fixed by law, suggests some consideration of the splendid service rendered by these soldiers.

An official of the War department, speaking of the passing of the volunteer army, said the country can well feel proud of the record that army has made. It is just about two years since the first recruits were enlisted and the months that ensued were filled with exciting scenes that tried the new soldiers to the utmost, but there is no record of cowardice to show against even a corporal's guard of the volunteers.

They met every duty assigned them with zeal and valor, fully sustaining the high character for courage, fortitude and discipline of the American soldier.

The army was organized by act of congress of March 2, 1899, one of the last acts of the Fifty-fifth congress. This act gave the president authority to raise twenty-five regiments of volunteers to serve in the Philippines, to be mustered out not later than June 30, 1901. President McKinley did not exercise this authority until July 5, 1899, when orders were issued to raise ten of the twenty-five regiments. Subsequently at different dates orders were issued for recruiting fifteen more regiments.

As rapidly as they were recruited the volunteer regiments were sent to the Philippines, the first regiment reaching Manila on October 11, 1899, and the last on January 25, 1900. Their efficiency dispelled the fears of a long and bloody war and the condition in which they returned has effectually silenced the tales of horrid diseases decimating the army's ranks and destroying the health of the soldier.

The records of the medical branch of the army show the soldiers when mustered out at San Francisco to have been in better health than when they enlisted to go to the Philippines. For the most part they have returned to their homes stronger and better men than when they left them.

At the War department, says a Washington dispatch, the record of the volunteer army is exhibited with pride and satisfaction. The volunteers shared fully and faithfully every demand made upon them. No better or braver men ever wore the American uniform and so long as this republic has such sons to defend its rights and honor and uphold its flag it will not need a great regular army.

Euclid Martin's Three Classes: According to Mr. Euclid Martin there are three classes of men opposed to the Municipal League: (1) Those who are so weak and cowardly that they would rather suffer than try to change existing conditions; (2) Those who are so selfish that they cannot conceive of other men doing anything except for personal gain, or from ulterior motives; (3) Those who fear the league may interfere with their business; that is, those who are now at the public crib and able to take care of all the swell in it and who do not want to be pushed aside.

Mr. Martin is known all over this state as a sagacious politician. He has been chairman of the democratic state committee in several campaigns and has given out a figure in national politics. Mr. Martin has also enjoyed the fruits of political labor as postmaster of Omaha, and hence knows something about political pap. But Mr. Martin laments under a delusion when he assumes that anybody is seriously opposed to the Municipal League.

There is an apparent reluctance on the part of 30 per cent of our citizens to affiliate with the league for fear it would prove just such a lamentable failure as the municipal league organized in Omaha some years ago. In other words, people who are familiar with municipal reformers, sham and real, do not want their names connected with a movement that is premature and lacks virility and sincerity of purpose.

There is no considerable number of people, either, so weak and cowardly that they would rather suffer than try to change existing conditions, but there are thousands of people that have no faith in the ability of the Municipal League to materially change existing conditions. There is no considerable number of people in Omaha who are so selfish that they cannot conceive of other men doing anything except for personal gain, and there is just as great a proportion of people belonging to that class in the Municipal League as there is outside of it.

It would not have been decimated as it has.

If they have really repented of their sins those who take an interest in same preservation will be thankful. It would be advisable for the game warden to keep awake, however, and not go to sleep on the promise.

The first thing General Maximo Gomez called for after he landed in this country was a glass of beer. And yet there are those who contend that the Cubans are not ripe for annexation.

Portland Oregonian: Edward will be crowned next June and then he will know he king. This is worse suspense if anything than our presidential candidates suffer between nomination and notification.

Resecuting an Insult: A South Carolina man killed his father-in-law the other day because the latter objected to his disinclination to work for his living. There are times when one is compelled to go to extreme in order to maintain the position of gentleman.

Successful Financier: At the close of 1899 the annual interest charge of the government was a little over \$400,000,000; now it is a little less than \$300,000,000, which is largely due to the refunding into 2 per cent bonds. The debt has been reduced \$1,000,000 in two years.

Assertion and Action: The assumption that New England was the birthplace and has remained the preserve of the Puritans is a relic of a bygone era, has entered on its third century of restoration. It has more foundation in assertion than in action, but folk are too lazy to explore history to find out the real truth about it, and hence the fallacy grows with its persistence to fluency is undisturbed.

Shy on Intellectual Greatness: Says Pres. Roosevelt, his Cornell commencement address: "Let me speak with the utmost frankness. Apart from the domain of politics and invention, America has not produced a single man or woman who will shine in the intellectual firmament with Raphael, Shakespeare, Copernicus, Newton, La Place, Goethe and Darwin." But then we have such mighty financiers!

Out for the Staff: It is awful to behold the way in which the corroding desire for riches is demoralizing the ranks of the erstwhile calamity howlers. Towns and Bailey and many another names in Texas oil and a state route to Alaska on some wealth-making scheme and says "D—a free rider!" According to Mr. Butler's remarks incidentally given in his observation just quoted, these are times above reproach and populists wanted was plenty of money; now they've got it or are getting it. Populism was an expression of economic discontent. With the passing of the discontent the expression disappears.

Retirement of General Shafter: In the retirement of Major General Shafter the active army loses a valiant and useful soldier. Never generous and possessing absolutely no capacity to impress himself upon the people, he has not been a popular hero, although his services have been much more noteworthy than those of many a man who has succeeded in winning the applause of the masses. In the civil war, in long and trying operations against the Indians and in the Cuban campaign General Shafter proved himself at all times an efficient commander. He retires as a brigadier general of the regular establishment on a salary of \$14,525 per annum.

Steam Versus Electricity: This is the age of electricity. Everybody admits that the invention, the results of the most extensive use of this mysterious power are almost innumerable. But who is the inventor whose genius will discover a way to prevent the occasional breaks and interruptions in the currents which are now at the front of modern progress, and are changing the face of the world? Up to this time steam is still a more docile and tractable servant of mankind than electricity. Electric lights, electric engines, electric systems sometimes betray their lack of power. They may be fast and frequently, but they do fall at times. Steam never disappoints its users. Who will make electricity a slave that will never rebel?

One Result of Prosperity: The people of Nebraska are beginning to realize the results of the choice they made at the election last fall. The Omaha World-Herald gives it out that \$3,000,000 of eastern capital is about to be invested in the new Platte river dam project and the population of the city will be doubled in a few years. The last barrier to the prosperity of Nebraska that has been removed and with the return of the party of prosperity to power, continues, much of commercial and industrial development may be expected. If the population of the city of Omaha should be doubled, consisting of happy, prosperous workers and businessmen, the city would be a much more potent force of population agitation and eloquence it would require to convince them that they are all paupers, one of the prerequisites of their voting the populist ticket. If \$3,000,000 is invested in Nebraska, and Omaha and vicinity and the population is doubled by new industrial enterprises, the populist party of Nebraska is doomed.

Prediction in National Politics: Here's a prediction. The next national democratic convention will dodge silver, will oppose the administration's "colonial" policy, will hedge and straddle on everything and try to sneak into power. Needs to be a strong candidate in the caucus. The candidate in the last two campaigns will lead a bolt and insist upon the Chicago and Kansas City platforms. The radical democrats will all be populists and nothing else and they will be steering the party in the direction of a radical organization. This is the plan that the radicals have in mind, though they have not explicitly formulated it. To offset this the reorganizers will put a southern man on their ticket, to hold the solid south in line, but it is thought that the radicals, even in the south, will be strong enough in their defection to defeat the regulars. The perpetual editor-candidate and his followers are determined to destroy the democratic party if they cannot dictate its policy. They are strong enough to do it. The editor-candidate will be a candidate again in 1904, if he lives, but not on the regular democratic ticket. The regular democrats want none of him and he will before long declare he wants none of them. The situation is now being shaped up to this end.

The democratic politicians are preparing to turn down the fanatics and the fanatics are preparing to defeat the politicians. Both will succeed in their design. Only time will tell. The party has gathered data for a harmonious reallignment of the forces that were once the democratic party.

ALL THE VOLUNTEERS OUT.

Closing the Records of Gallant and Effective Service. Boston Transcript.

With the mustering out of the three regiments at the Presidio, San Francisco, the volunteer army raised after the war with Spain, under the act of March, 1899, turns in its colors and passes into history. It is a comparatively small force, its maximum being 25,000, but it was gallant and effective in its services in the Philippines.

It differed from the other volunteer armies in our history in that it was not composed of state regiments, but was raised and officered directly by the United States. The "field" of these regiments was made up of officers detailed from the regular army. In effect these regiments were short-service regulars, congress having thought it necessary by calling them volunteers, a sort of stop-over to sentiment.

Though these regiments did an immense amount of work in the Philippines, yet the distinction between them and the regulars was ineffaceable. A name does not make a great difference after all and the volunteer regiments accordingly felt the distinction seriously. Yet in this sense that they were set apart from regiments that they equaled at least in zeal and efficiency never affected the courage and energy of the volunteers. They performed good service. Perhaps the most distinguished single feat of arms performed in the Philippines was the heroic defense of Cebu by a detachment of the Forty-third, which fought doggedly and successfully against tremendous odds. The volunteer regiments were hardy and intelligent. These qualities, regulated and directed by officers of the regular army, professional soldiers, account in great measure for the slight losses by disease suffered by the volunteers.

The prophets of pessimism said that half of the volunteers could never come home, save in their coffins. But the regular army of the Philippines did not have such terrible effect on the stamina of the volunteers as these prophets predicted. The very Forty-third regiment we have mentioned, which did a great deal of "hiking," fighting and sweltered in the tropics for over a year, came home from all causes out of the 1,300 it took to the Philippines. With the mustering out of the last of the volunteer regiments our military establishment is almost 30,000 smaller than it was a year ago, which does not look much like militarism.

Another incident prior to the Declaration and doubtless one that had great influence in ripening the sentiment that made that document possible, deserves more than passing remark. On July 4, 1768, John Dickinson's famous "Liberty Song," was published in the Philadelphia Chronicle at Philadelphia and that day sent by him to James Otis, one of the leading patriots of Massachusetts, through whose influence it was published in Boston and given wide scope in New England. It was also reprinted in the patriotic newspapers in New York and other cities and was seen throughout the colonies. Its popularity was unprecedented. It was parodied and imitated and the effect it had in rousing and raising the spirit of opposition to England cannot be estimated. The following is the song, sung to the tune of "Hearts of Oak," then universally popular: Come, join hand in hand, brave Americans all, And rouse your bold hearts at Fair Liberty's call. No tyrannous act shall oppress your just claim, Or stain with dishonor America's name. In freedom we're born, in freedom we'll live. Our purses are ready, Steady, friends, steady—Not as slaves, but as free men, our money we'll give.

Dickinson was one of the committee that assisted to draft the Declaration, took an active part, both as a soldier and a statesman, in the Revolutionary War and was one of the framers of the Constitution.

On the Fourth of July, 1826, the fiftieth anniversary of the country, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams, who, though they were mortal antagonists, had both been prominent in the labor to emancipate and benefit their country, died within a few hours of each other, Jefferson at his home in Virginia and Adams in Massachusetts.

The civil war began in April and congress was called to order in session the following day. On July 4, 1861, Andrew Johnson, then senator from Tennessee and afterward president, was the only senator present from the states in secession and only two members of the house from that section attended. It was upon that day that Lincoln, seeing the impossibility of closing the struggle in three months, as had been anticipated, asked congress to vote \$400,000,000 and 400,000 men for that purpose. While congress was in session the battle of Bull Run was fought and the defeat of the union forces stirred congress to vigorous action.

Lee invaded Pennsylvania and upon the first three days of July, 1862, the battle of Gettysburg was fought. This was the only fighting of any importance on union soil, and on July 4, 1862, Lee retreated into Maryland. After this date union successes were constant. On the same day another decisive victory was gained by General Grant, when General Pemberton surrendered at Vicksburg and his army, after severe fighting during a long siege.

On July 4, 1870, the Spanish government issued its edict abolishing hereditary slavery in Cuba. Prior to this date the children of women in bondage remained in slavery. The decree also gave freedom to slaves who had helped Spain against Cuban insurgents.

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Several famous men were born on this day, among them Nathaniel Hawthorne, in 1804; Alexander Dumas, pere, in 1802; and Garibaldi, the Italian patriot, in 1807.

PERSONAL NOTES: The polar bear, floating about on his ice-bergs in the Arctic sea, is a pleasant thing to think of.

Switzerland beats the world in its commerce per capita and it hasn't had to increase its navy to protect its shores.

Lord Dufferin, who has recently completed his 75th year, once referred to himself, on account of the numerous offices he has held, as "maid-of-all-work to British governments."

Mrs. Nation, whose husband was compelled to give up living with her, expressed pleasure over his abandonment to the consideration of others. "He bothers me and God" was her comment.

At Forest City, Ill., according to the News of that place, "a crowd of men and boys ply the vocation of pitching horsehoes from early morn till the little birds tuck their heads beneath their wings and go to sleep."

A judge in Philadelphia has found it necessary to inform two policemen, tried for killing a man attempting to escape arrest, that the law does not confer on them the right to execute a criminal when his offense is not a capital one.

General Lew Wallace, who is at work upon his autobiography, recently made a trip to Kentucky to confer with some veterans from whom he gathered data for a description of the battle of Shiloh. An account of that battle will be included in his work.

Nat Goodwin, the comedian, has a brother who is known as J. A. Carson. He travels for a machinery house. He changed his surname, "because," he says, "if I travel under my own I would be unable to transact business. Nat has swarms of friends all over the country and whenever one of them finds me out it's goodbye to business for the day." Before becoming a drummer he was on the stage with his brother.

SMILEMAKERS.

New York Marine Journal: "Just a few freerackers for the Fourth of July," said Neptune, as he handed the box over to the delighted merchant. "And, gins, be sure you put them where they won't get wet," he added, dryly.

Detroit Free Press: "What is the remedy for poverty?" demanded the lecturer. "I cannot tell," said the questioner, "but I can tell you a man in the rear of the hall called out: 'You might try the gold cure!'"

Brooklyn Life: Mrs. Jasper-Mrs. Sub-bull is too mean for anything. They bought a new baby chair, which her husband had bought for the baby. "Just a hint and hinted for a month that she let us have her baby chair, but her boy has outgrown and she didn't notice, but as soon as I went and bought one she said: 'Why you might have had mine.'"

Cleveland Plain Dealer: The strawberry to the prune. "Hello, old purple back, where are you now?" "I'm taking a little vacation. But please don't forget, old red face, that I'm here all the time." "Why do you say so?" "Well, I've been here all the time."

Baltimore American: "The legless man is always putting his foot in it," observed the living skeleton to the Snake Charmer. "What has he done now?" "Last night we were having a friendly little game and he asked the armless wrestler to perform the 'Pettit' revenue stamps on checks."

Boston Transcript: Harry-Wonder why it was that Frank and Bertha broke off their engagement? "I understood it was all right," Dick said to the wedding ring, which was held by non-union labor, so the clergyman refused to perform the ceremony, and no other minister in town dare do so."

Chicago Post: The hobo settled himself comfortably and lit his pipe. "I'm feelin' a good deal easier now, 'gim me a hand with that great burden has been taken off my feller's." "What burden?" asked Shorty. "Puttin' revenue stamps on checks."

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "Your wife," said to the husband of the great authoress, "is the woman of the hour." "Indeed she is," responded with a finge of sadness in his voice; "she is the woman of the hour and a half when she is dressing for the theater."

OUR BIRTHDAY.

W. J. Lampton, in New York Sun. Bang! Boom! Get out of the way! And give us room! Watch us proceed! White and Blue rise Till the staff that bears it To its swelling folds, unfurled. Sweep round and hug the world To its swelling folds, unfurled. And what a boom that is! Broom all the land and seas are. We are it. We are the grandest family Old Mother Earth ever gave birth to. Ever think of it, please. These are they: Uncle Sam, the strong man who swings in his hand Over the land the flag. And beyond it, over two seas, With the greatest ease Banner of Liberty. Touch it a hand. To unnumbered millions Yet in their night. The Dock and the League. Glorious bird. For the eagle's wings are Freedom Is everywhere heard. The Yankee Nation, The Dock and the League. Whose soldier boys And sailors of every sea, Over against a smiling sky For the brave millions pattern by: These are they Who celebrate this day. The Glorious Fourth, The day when we Whoop it up For the land of the Free. Let 'em bang the artillery. Let 'em bang the cannon. Let the flowers of fireworks bloom! Let 'em blaze, and white. And size; Let 'em smack And crack; Let 'em bang, and And tear; Let 'em go everywhere. Shoot the guns And ring the bells; And the story tells; And the story tells; Of a nation with a hand Full of blessings. Which expands As the glorious nation does. The Fourth of July is the Fourth of July! Oh, my!

UNION JACK AT SKAGWAY.

Some Remarks on Cutting Down the British Flag. Washington Post.

We make our compliments to Mr. George Miller, attorney-at-law, Eugene, Ore. Mr. Miller seems to be the kind of man we need along our frontier—especially that which touches British America. We need about 75,000 of him, stationed in small detachments at very brief intervals and so equipped as to be able to shoot down British flags instead of resorting to the comparatively respectful method adopted by Mr. Miller.

We have needed such men in large numbers for some years past. We need them more than ever. But the climate of the demonstration of the Anglo-American policy of our government, with each new modus vivendi and each additional recrudescence of the High Treason. We have been dwelling in an atmosphere of affectionate international good will under cover of which British encroachment and American groveling have gone steadily along with government approval on either side. England has buried our seal fisheries rights in the tomb we call the High Joint commission; it has acquired a slice of our Alaskan territory about the size of the state of Rhode Island in the name of a modus vivendi; it has resurrected, with the eager assistance of our State department, the long dead and thrice dishonored Clayton-Bulwer treaty of 1850; it has put our whole official establishment under a spell of funkiness and we have received in return for all this the banquetting of a few American tradesmen and politicians, some inexpensive guff in the London newspapers and a puddle or two of British slobber stirred by nothing.

But the American people ought to have something to say to this. Their rights are at stake. In the Porcupine district, where our frontier was pushed back 100 miles, Americans by their thousand were expatriated against their wills—to their shame and indignation. And now we have from the Skagway News an account of the British aggression and systematic insolence which provoked Mr. George Miller to check the march of England's pirate flag last week. It will repay perusal:

"The question which bids fair to assume international proportions as soon as the news of it can reach Ottawa and Washington is being discussed today, with the mass it has put our whole official establishment under a spell of funkiness and we have received in return for all this the banquetting of a few American tradesmen and politicians, some inexpensive guff in the London newspapers and a puddle or two of British slobber stirred by nothing."

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By leaps and bounds the Canadian customs house advanced toward tidewater. From Tagish to Bennett, then to Lok Cabin and lastly to the summit, and with the customs ensign of Canada was hoisted at Skagway it is small wonder that some John Brown would not wait for action from Washington and cut down the flag."

"Upon the whole, it was well he didn't wait for 'action' from Washington. Had he done so the British flag would have moved proudly on to tidewater without let or hindrance. Action from Washington, when it interferes with any of England's schemes, has not been a feature of our national policy since Cleveland trod upon the

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Switzerland beats the world in its commerce per capita and it hasn't had to increase its navy to protect its shores.

Lord Dufferin, who has recently completed his 75th year, once referred to himself, on account of the numerous offices he has held, as "maid-of-all-work to British governments."

Mrs. Nation, whose husband was compelled to give up living with her, expressed pleasure over his abandonment to the consideration of others. "He bothers me and God" was her comment.

At Forest City, Ill., according to the News of that place, "a crowd of men and boys ply the vocation of pitching horsehoes from early morn till the little birds tuck their heads beneath their wings and go to sleep."

A judge in Philadelphia has found it necessary to inform two policemen, tried for killing a man attempting to escape arrest, that the law does not confer on them the right to execute a criminal when his offense is not a capital one.

General Lew Wallace, who is at work upon his autobiography, recently made a trip to Kentucky to confer with some veterans from whom he gathered data for a description of the battle of Shiloh. An account of that battle will be included in his work.

Nat Goodwin, the comedian, has a brother who is known as J. A. Carson. He travels for a machinery house. He changed his surname, "because," he says, "if I travel under my own I would be unable to transact business. Nat has swarms of friends all over the country and whenever one of them finds me out it's goodbye to business for the day." Before becoming a drummer he was on the stage with his brother.

SMILEMAKERS.