

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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Table with 2 columns: Number of copies and Total. Rows include various circulation categories like 'Copies of this issue', 'Copies of other issues', etc.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 26th day of June, A. D. 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.

Judge Gordon still occupies a front place in the city council proceedings.

The county attorney should remove the bell from the cat when he starts it out to make a raid.

The penitentiary contains many more men who would consent to be pardoned to marry rich widows.

It is announced that Carnegie still has \$250,000,000 to give away. Mr. Carnegie must keep busy in order to avoid dying rich.

The Cuban constitutional convention is likely to adopt the system of plural voting. It has evidently taken advice from democratic ward politicians.

The embarrassing Kearney county treasurer was elected by the populists. What a roar there would have been along the reform lines had he been a republican.

Councilman Burkle has explained his vote on the paving and repaving question; so has Councilman Zimman; so also have Councilman Lobeck and several other distinguished municipal statesmen.

An advance of five cents apiece on brooms has been ordered by the broom trust under the pretext that broom corn is scarce, but no reference is made to the fact that the trust has the monopoly on broom making and a corner in broom corn.

Elaborate statistics collected in Great Britain show that the length of the average human life is greater than it formerly was. While there are no statistics available it is also certain that the birth rate of suckers is on the increase.

Bryan is among the prospective purchasers of an issue of Lincoln municipal bonds. With Towne, Hogz and other apostles of calamity becoming old magistrates and Bryan a bloated bondholder the party of distress is certainly in a hard way for duly qualified leaders.

The story of people falling into boiling springs has bobbed up. The next one of the perennials to appear will probably be that of the angry man feeding a boy into a threshing machine. The correspondents who must have something sensational should study up something new.

When there is no sensational news it is very easy to fabricate it. One of our yellow contemporaries has made the startling discovery that the republicans of Nebraska have decided to nominate a candidate for governor next month just to prevent the populists from stealing a march on them.

There is music in the air. Omaha union musicians are up in arms over the importation of a brass band from the interior of the state for the entertainment of the street fair fakirs at South Omaha. What dire calamity is likely to happen in consequence of this musical discord none can foretell.

The officers report they have the Great Northern train robbers cornered. The corner is so large, however, that it is impossible to get at them and they stand a good chance of escape. There is only one way to corner train robbers and the officers at Goodland, Kan., appear to have a monopoly on that method.

The spirit of liberty is not dead in this country. The New Yorker is following the example of the boys on Boston Common and refuses to pay tribute for a seat in public parks. It is refreshing to know that there are some impostions which the New Yorker will not submit to even at the hands of the Tammany bosses.

THE RUSSIAN PROPOSAL.

The Russian minister of finance has proposed to revoke his order imposing increased duties on certain American products, providing our government will revoke the order imposing the countervailing duty on Russian sugar, the duty on Russian petroleum being omitted from consideration. In response it is pointed out that the sugar question being before the courts it is not possible for the secretary of the treasury to avail himself of the Russian suggestion.

It would seem that notwithstanding the explanation of the action of the secretary of the treasury submitted to the Russian government by the Department of State the finance minister, M. de Witte, is still not well informed as to the limitations upon the authority of the executive branch of this government under the tariff law. Otherwise he would know that the secretary of the treasury cannot in the slightest degree change the law or depart from its plain mandatory requirements.

The tariff law imposes a countervailing duty on sugar imported from countries which pay an export bounty. Russia claims that she does not give an export bounty on sugar, but it is held here that her system of taxing sugar amounts to an indirect bounty and that therefore Russian sugar imported into the United States is subject to the countervailing or differential duty. Our government is not alone in this view. It was generally held by the representatives of the best sugar producing countries at the conference two years ago which considered the question of doing away with export bounties. The law officers of the treasury having decided that Russia pays indirectly an export bounty on her sugar, Secretary Gage was bound to take the action he did, which was sustained by the board of appraisers. The question having been taken to the courts nothing further can be done in the matter by the executive branch of the government.

The Russian finance minister appears not to understand the difference between his authority and that of the American secretary of the treasury, M. de Witte can, it seems, do as he pleases with the Russian tariff. Our treasury officials, on the other hand, must strictly carry out the provisions of the American tariff law and very little discretion is permitted them in the matter of constraining it. It is very doubtful, however, whether Secretary Gage would revoke his decision regarding Russian sugar if he were free to do so, since it would very likely cause controversy with Germany and other countries upon whose sugar the countervailing duty is imposed. The fact that those countries pay a direct export bounty would not prevent them protesting against what they would certainly regard as a discrimination in favor of Russia.

There will be no change in the situation pending a judicial decision, unless the Russian government should conclude, as a matter of fairness and in the interest of friendly commercial intercourse, to revoke the order increasing duties on American products until our courts have passed upon the question before them. It is highly improbable, however, that this will be done, notwithstanding the friendly assurances that have been given by the Russian government.

THE OHIO DEMOCRATS.

The Ohio democratic convention was dominated by the conservative element of the party, though in the interest of harmony some concessions were made, as to local affairs, to the radical or Johnson faction. The most noteworthy fact in connection with the platform is that there is no mention of Bryan in it and little that savors of Bryanism, from which it would seem that the Ohio democratic leaders have not been greatly impressed by the recent utterances of the "peerless." It is also evident that the democrats of the Buckeye state have concluded that the free silver question is dead and that the gold standard has come to stay. But they are still devoted to a "tariff for revenue only," the platform declaration in regard to this having the old familiar sound. It is significant and will doubtless have a decided effect upon the democratic mind throughout the country, that there is no reference to the Chicago or Kansas City platforms. In short, the obvious purpose of the Ohio democrats was to make a departure, to cut loose from Bryanism, and they were quite successful in carrying this out.

Their candidate for governor, Colonel Kilbourne, is a wealthy manufacturer, who is able to contribute generously to the campaign and will undoubtedly do so. He is not particularly popular with the rank and file of the party, but is strong with the element controlled by John R. McLean, who wants to go to the United States senate as the successor of Senator Foraker. The Ohio democrats are not harmonious, but may get together as the campaign progresses.

MORTGAGING THE FUTURE.

The reform council of South Omaha has decided to fix the levy for city taxation at 40 mills. This reduction of 9 mills below the published estimate is manifestly a sop thrown to the home-going taxpayers of South Omaha, while in fact it is a concession to the stock yards and packing houses, who are thus enabled to evade the payment of their share of the taxes that should have been levied to pay the overlap of 1900.

On the basis of a valuation of \$2,500,000, as returned by the tax commissioner a levy of 40 mills will yield \$1,000,000. There is, however, no prospect of collecting that amount, and it is doubtful even whether the city treasurer can collect 80 per cent of the assessment, which would yield an aggregate of \$800,000, and leave a prospective deficit of fully \$100,000 for the next year. But an overlap of \$100,000 a year cuts no figure in South Omaha city financing! It is a simple matter to issue 1 per cent warrants, which are snapped up at a discount by the warrant shavers and then taken up as a funded floating debt by the issue of bonds.

How this method of financing

works is shown by the fact that the city to pay interest on bonds already outstanding is 7 1/2 mills; next year it will be 8 mills, and in following years it will be 9, 9 1/2, and 10 mills, in proportion to the increase in the overlaps and funded floating debt from year to year.

At this time there is an overlap of \$42,000, for which no provision was made in the levy, but which is to be taken care of later by voting general indebtedness bonds. This simply means that South Omaha will plaster another mortgage upon all the real estate within its limits this fall and continue the work of mortgage plastering from year to year until the town is bankrupt and its affairs have to be wound up by a receiver, just as were the affairs of Memphis, Tenn. Elizabeth, N. J., and several other cities managed on the overlap plan.

In the end, however, the entire mortgage debt of South Omaha will have to be assumed by Omaha, for Omaha and South Omaha are interlinked so intimately that their union must eventually be accomplished as a matter of self-preservation in order to stop the reckless, wasteful and corrupt management of municipal affairs and to put an end to the scandals which have been generated by democratic and republican administrations alike since the birth of the town.

CHINA WANTS INDEMNITY.

The Chinese government has filed in the Department of State claims for indemnity amounting to \$500,000. These are for alleged outrages committed at Butte, Mont., upon citizens of China, which it is said date back to 1886. The Chinese government has been rather slow in presenting these claims, but perhaps that is no reason why they should not receive consideration from our government, though it may interfere with obtaining satisfactory evidence to sustain the charges. Securing information, sufficient to support indemnity claims, as to what happened in a matter of this kind fifteen years ago is likely to be found pretty difficult, but doubtless the Chinese government has not fled its claim without having at least what it regards as abundant evidence to sustain the charges.

It is said that the claim raises some novel and interesting points of international law. There will be more or less interest to learn what these are, but whatever they may be it is safe to assume that the general government will treat the demand for indemnity as it has others of a similar character—that is, China will be informed that the federal government is not responsible for outrages committed in the states upon foreign citizens and that payment of indemnity for such outrages by the general government is simply a matter of courtesy, implying no legal obligation. However, China will probably realize on the claim, since our government will doubtless be willing to deduct the amount from its indemnity claim against China, and the Chinese government could not very well decline a proposition of this kind. As to the claimants, who are said to number several hundred, their chances of getting anything are small and remote.

The South Omaha city council is in the habit of roaring like a lion at sunrise and bleating like a lamb toward sunset. Two weeks ago it set up an awful roar about the outrageous undervaluation of corporate property by the new tax commissioner and went so far as to depose him while impeachment charges were pending. When the temporary suspension was dissolved by the court the council forgot all about the awful undervaluation and approved the figures of the tax commissioner without dotting an "i" or crossing a "t." What influence was exerted on the mayor and the indignant council has not yet transpired, and, in all probability, never will. Everybody is entitled to a guess and no premiums are offered.

The Salvation Army has planned a fresh air campaign in the neighborhood of Florence for the benefit of the children in the congested residence districts who are suffering for want of fresh air. There is a good deal of moonshine about this fresh air fad. There are no congested districts in Omaha and there is an abundance of fresh air for the poor as well as the rich. What the children of the poor need more than fresh air is fresh meat, fresh vegetables, fresh fruit and fresh dairy products. They would enjoy these reasonable articles of diet as well in the congested district as they would the pickings and the leavings of the back kitchen doled out to them in airy tents on the prairies.

An interesting question is before the immigration authorities. An escaped Boer prisoner who came into New York as a stowaway is held for examination under the pauper clause of the law. That he is without means is not denied and probably is clearly within the technical provisions of the law. When it comes to the question of returning him to his own country there arises a difficulty. In one sense he has no country. The difficulty will probably be bridged by someone becoming surety that he will not become a public charge. It would seem hard to return him to captivity, but under the law unless some such method is adopted there would appear no other resource.

State Superintendent Fowler addressed the National Teachers' association on "Fads" in the public schools and started in to define a "fad." An innovation in educational methods is not necessarily a fad, as he points out, but the teaching of a smattering of things not essential to the exclusion or curtailment of time for necessary branches is. Mr. Fowler is correct on the definition, but there is a vast difference of opinion between the taxpayer and the specialty teacher who wants a position as to what are necessary branches.

THE SWIFT CONSTITUTION.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat: The Constitution will defend the American yacht club and incidentally disclose to the contestants the winning streak in the American flag.

New York World: That the Independence was left completely out of the race was something of a disappointment all round. After her fast run across Massachusetts bay, much better work was expected of her. It was in her work to windward that she fell off, as some prophets with an eye to her pattern had said she would. Mr. Lawson's boat is booked to try again today, and her second record may be different from the first. Such a result would be most pleasing. The more great yachts the better for a great sport.

Philadelphia North American: The inglorious showing made by the Lawson yacht Independence in her first race at Newport cannot be explained, except on the ground that she is a half-breed slow boat. Her candidacy for a top defense honors, judging from her performance on Saturday, is at an end. Ordinarily one trial does not make or unmake a cup defender, but the Independence was so easily outfooted by both Columbia and Constitution that she has forfeited her claim to speed. To have fallen behind more than seven miles in a thirty-mile race in which her competitors finished within the time limit should absolutely disqualify her.

Minneapolis Times: Monday's trial in which the Constitution was again victorious over both the Columbia and the Independence, would seem to go far toward establishing the fact that Herreshoff has exceeded himself and that, good as the Columbia is, the new creation of the great boat builder is even better. The Independence would not appear to have any chance to recoup her losses in the estimation of yachting men. Even her owner seems to have agreed that light winds were those in which the Crownshield boat could show her best speed. All this is pleasant reading to those who desire to see the American cup stay on this side of the water. Meanwhile Shamrock I continues to administer drubblings to Shamrock II whenever opportunity serves. This is regrettable, as Lighton is so good a sportsman he deserves better fortune in his second essay—not, however, to the extent of final victory.

PERSONAL NOTES. The American mule has another advocate in the person of General Randolph, chief of artillery of the United States, who reports the Washington correspondent of the Globe-Democrat. The general has admitted a prejudice in the past against the mule and declared repeatedly that it was not adapted to the hauling of artillery. He is willing, however, to admit an error and now says that the experience of the British in South Africa with the Missouri has made the animal an important factor in future army operations.

A report of a British field officer in regard to the mule campaign in the Sudan, while the mules followed the troops easily it was with great difficulty that the horses kept with the line, even when they had no draft. He reported that for draft purposes the mule is a superior animal to the horse and that guns can be kept up with mounted troops more easily when drawn by mules than when drawn by horses. An objection to the mule is his well known obstinacy and tendency to bolt in the wrong direction. It is also said that they do not stand up as well as horses under shell fire. Taking it all in all, however, he regarded, however, as better adapted for severe field service than the horse. It is not improbable, therefore, that the mule may supersede the horse to a certain extent in the American artillery service.

When the emperor of Greater Britain assumes that title he will have a navy worthy to support it. Queen Wilhelmina of Holland is said to have borne the fatality and attention of her reception in Germany without any bad effects on her disposition. She gives not a thought to the domestic affairs of her country. Dr. Niels Finson of Copenhagen, the discoverer of the new medicinal rays, is a young man, shy, slender, but full of enthusiasm. He says sunlight will do more good in the end than any adaptation of electricity.

Chairman Burton and eleven members of the river and harbor committee, after their return from Alaska, expect to visit the "Inland empire." They will inspect the Columbia and Snake rivers from Portland, Ore., to Lewiston, Idaho. Mrs. Elvira Mason, widow of David Mason, a millionaire resident of Bristol, N. H., has given, that town \$10,000 for the start of a school for the aged, and adds that the gift will be increased from time to time as the work on the home proceeds.

Beginning this week a Topeka barber shop will open daily with a session of prayer. A stock company owns the place, headed by two ministers who have aided in the building of the church. It is expected that shaving will be done with a hatchet.

Mrs. F. H. Briggs of Auburn, Me., daughter of Senator Frye, is the owner of the box which was used to carry the electoral votes for President McKinley and Vice President Roosevelt from the senate to the White House. It is a mahogany, two feet long, eight inches deep, and bound with brass. When Prof. Virchow was out walking the other day he was blown by a very high wind against a tree and sustained an injury to the head. Happily, assistance was quickly obtained and the professor, who was unable to walk further, was taken home in a carriage and the requisite surgical aid rendered by his medical attendant. Prof. Virchow is approaching his eightieth anniversary.

WHO SHALL DECIDE? Is a Musician a Musician, or is He a Mere Laborer? Chicago Chronicle.

When is a musician a musician? When is he only a laborer? Musical labor unions are bringing pressure to bear on the federal authorities to exclude foreign-born musicians under the alien labor law.

Many of the existing musical organizations are continually recruited from among accomplished immigrants, with some of whom contracts are made in advance as an inducement to quit their own countries and make new homes in the United States. Others are persuaded to come by a tacit understanding that regular employment will be ready on their arrival.

This practically inexhaustible source of supply irritates the fractious temper of bassoon blowers and fiddle scrapers and assures a measure of peace for theater managers and others in their relations with the most fractious of all tollers, the professional musicians.

To yield to the demand of the unions in this instance would spread bedlam over the breadth and length of a still jejune nation, jejune in all the arts and especially so in musical skill of the orchestral type.

Should a Paderewski be prevented from returning because an American manager makes a contract for his fingers and hair and a Tombratone labor music body feels that thus its members will be deprived of income from perpetrating the same kind of what was called "Coco" piano keys?

Paderewski is a laborer. No farmer ever works harder while he works than the hirsute Pole when working the piano pedals with neither power and its ivory with manual strength.

Such a law to these musicians would call into operation by their interpretation of the alien labor law would have kept out Theodor Thomas, the elder Damrosch, Anton Seidl and every other orchestral director of distinction for this country has not yet produced an orchestral leader of high rank, Walter Damrosch, however, giving rich promise and being already a recognized personality in the musical world.

Such an interpretation of the alien labor law would bar all foreign musical and histrionic talent from American audiences, a bar repugnant to fundamental ideas of education, justice and common sense. Without European music and European executives we should be left to our own devices.

The right course for the music labor unions to pursue is to practice diligently, to play so superbly that criticism and employments shall find no reason for wishing to bring better players from other countries. No other course is calculated to make American labor unions in music esteemed or estimable above superior foreign talent.

The constitution of the United States has been subjected to considerable strain on occasion. To evolve from between its lines an arbiter to discriminate an artist in music from a laborer might fracture the instrument and practical application of such an arbiter will inevitably lead to riots, in which trombones, drums, harps, French horns, saxophones, clarinets, cymbals and oboes would become more deadly than catapults.

HITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Assistant Secretary of State Ade, who is very deaf, has a unique device for assisting him of the intrusion of a visitor. He has a teapot slung over the back of his chair by a string, the end of which is tied to the doorknob. When a visitor enters, the door, swinging open, raises the teapot to a level with the assistant's forehead. As the visitor advances the door, closing, lets the teapot swing down till it touches the floor with a crash. The visitor usually gives a leap of surprise and fear and the assistant secretary of state, apprised by the crash, looks up with a glad smile, extends his hand and says to the unperceived visitor: "What can I do for you?"

Postmaster General Smith is a newspaper man and appreciates the enterprise to land a big exclusive story or " scoop," as it is known to the guild, says the Washington correspondent of the Record-Herald. This, however, did not prevent him from becoming greatly annoyed one day when he picked up a paper containing a complete advance publication of his annual report. He made some caustic comment on the propriety of such misdirected reportorial energy, all of which, of course, reached the ears of the correspondent who had secured the "beat."

The next morning Mr. Smith found on his desk a copy of his own paper with an article included in heavy blue lines. It had been laid there by the correspondent at whom the previous day's roasts had been aimed and the marked portion was a full advance abstract of the secretary of agriculture's annual report. What should be his course in the circumstances it was hard for him to decide. As a member of the cabinet he sought to deny such journalistic zeal, but as an editor it was out of the question for him to call to account the bright young man who had secured the important piece of news for his own paper.

So Mr. Smith did the only sensible thing—kept quiet and bore good-naturedly the quiet chaff that he was subjected to. Since then, however, Mr. Smith has declined all offers to lecture on "The Ethics of Journalism."

IN MERRY MOOD. Puck: Percy—Your father seems to have a grudge against me. Edith—Have patience, dear! He acted the same way toward finger bowls at first.

Somerville Journal: The most dangerous of all men is the one that quarrel with you without getting mad.

Catholic Standard: "It's funny," remarked the star boarder, "what an eccentric thing a fellow's appetite is." "Yes," said the fellow, "I've seen Mr. Hall-rum, as he removed a stray lock from his hair, and sometimes trifles light as air will destroy an specialist."

Philadelphia Press: "Senator," asked the interviewer, "do I understand you to say there is very little money made in politics?" "Well—er—you might say," replied the senator, "there is a great deal of money made out of it."

Washington Star: "It's kind of discouraging," Ethel, said Mr. Curock, "kind of discouraging." "What is rather?" "It's nearly a month since you've had your graduation essay, and they've never told you advice on how to run the government yet."

Catholic Standard: "There's quite a lively discussion going on in the magazine." "I didn't notice it. What is it?" "As to whose soup, whiskey, bicycle, baby food, etc., is the best."

Brooklyn Life: The Father—You have rescued me from this drowning, sir. What shall be your reward? The Stranger—Don't mention it. I'll send you a specialist from New York.

Chicago Record-Herald: Agent—Now here's a man who's the one that ought to keep your screen doors from banging. Mr. Man—Yes; we have used many and by which we can keep our neighbor's screen doors from banging."

Chicago Tribune: The theological argument in this case is the one that ought to be used. "But my dear sir," protested Deacon Ironside, "agreed that you had the Apostle Peter did, do you?" "What is the Apostle Peter know?" returned the man with the aggressive pompadour, "about the higher criticism?"

TO A MODERN BREW. Robert T. Miller in Chicago Post. A maid appeared to me one day When I was reading Placcus. And frowning saw upon the page An ode to brother Bacchus.

"Let me," she said, "essay a line To praise a draught delicious." "Agreed," said I, "could one deny Olympus once comports today?"

"I sing," she said, "in juice divine Whose praise is seldom sounded— A juice excelling far the brew That maiden sweet, capricious."

"'Tis not the juice that Omar sang In quills of quaint and golden. 'Tis not the wine to Bacchus drunk In amphora gray and olden."

"'Tis not the brew Galambinus brewed, For in its rich, enchanting depths 'Tis not the mead of Saxon kings Quaffed deep to sound of tambour."

"'Tis none of these—devoid of fame, Unknown to history's pages, Its charms are such it need not seek A part among the ages."

"But 'tis to modern maids most dear, Their most beloved potato. For in its rich, enchanting depths Lie joy and inspiration."

"Evanescence effervescent, How I do adore thee! Frazzles chant I over thee— Noted and quitted, quittedness, There is none before thee."

"What is this juice for which I thus Would fain invoke the gods? Now need I blush to tell thee, I sing the strawberry soda!"

And then she smiled in sensitive mood, Her song of praise was ended— I saw the print—we rose at once And to the corner wended.

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