

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 29th day of July, A. D. 1901. M. B. HILTON, 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.

Central labor union boycotts are becoming altogether too promiscuous.

The republican state convention has effectively spiked the popocratic guns.

The weather bureau forecasters accurately predicted the blizzard at the conclusion of their convention.

The weather man may consider that he has a standing order for this variety of his wares from now until the close of the Ak-Sar-Ben carnival at least.

The newly formed plow combination is to have a capital stock of \$50,000,000.

Popocrats take little comfort out of the work of the republican state convention.

Nebraska even in a drought year holds its own right at the top of the list of agricultural states.

Police Judge Gordon will resume his normal place on the supreme court docket during the coming session.

The Colombian minister to Washington expresses the belief that peace will be preserved in South America.

Consul Stowe of Capetown reports that the American mule is popular in that part of the world.

The United States land office disposed of 15,002,700 acres of land during the past year.

The commander of the first United States war ship to reach the Isthmus of Panama reports that everything is quiet there now.

After all the people foolish enough to allow themselves to be inoculated with yellow fever serum have died off...

Austrian papers are warning Russia to keep its finger out of affairs in the Balkans.

The fragments of the late silver republican party have as yet not decided to call a county convention to join with the two-ringed circus that will convene in Washington hall and vicinity on September 14.

POSSIBILITIES IN THE ORIENT.

Representative Hull of Iowa, who has been investigating conditions in the Orient, thinks there are great possibilities in the new American possessions for men of brains and industry.

He says there is a practically unlimited field for commercial enterprise in the Philippines, with their vast mineral, agricultural and timber resources.

It does not know how extensive Mr. Hull's investigations were, but undoubtedly he had access to the best sources of information and besides there is a great deal of other testimony in support of what he says.

The fact that hitherto so little has been known regarding them is easily explained. Under Spanish rule the material development of the islands was not encouraged.

It was not the policy of Spain to promote the industrial and commercial growth of the archipelago.

That power did little for the advancement and progress of its colonial possessions. It wrung from their people all it could, but made no great effort to improve their condition.

Under American rule a new state of affairs will be inaugurated in the Philippines. Railroads will be built and other means of easy and rapid communication provided.

The development of the resources of the islands will be encouraged and all the methods of our higher civilization will be introduced.

The question is whether the benefits which the United States will get from the accomplishment of this will compensate for the outlay made in life and treasure to establish and maintain sovereignty over the islands.

The American people will not have a monopoly of industrial and commercial privileges in the archipelago.

European capital and enterprise will obtain its share. In the course of time our trade with the islands will, perhaps, be larger than that of any other country.

It will be necessary that we give other nations a fair chance in the Philippines in order that we shall have a fair chance in other portions of the Orient.

We cannot erect barriers against competition with us in the Philippines without having barriers erected against us in the Chinese possessions of other nations.

Hence the trade of the Philippines will be divided up and its benefits distributed among all the commercial nations.

How much our share will be at any time in the future it is of course impossible to foresee, but under the most favorable circumstances conceivable it must be a very long time before it will repay what has already been expended in the Philippines.

It cannot be said with certainty how soon pacification will be complete in the islands, but whenever that is accomplished capital will go there and fortunes will be made in developing the archipelago's resources.

IN THE INTEREST OF SCIENCE.

Several lives have been sacrificed in experimentation with the "mosquito theory" at Havana and it has been decided by the medical commission that made the experiments to discontinue them.

It has been conclusively demonstrated, according to the statement of the chief sanitary officer at Havana, that yellow fever can be conveyed by the mosquito and the experiments have further resulted in the discovery of an immunity serum, which will be administered by the sanitary department to any who desire to undergo the treatment.

As to the claim of Dr. Caldas, the Brazilian expert, it appears to be discredited by the American medical commission.

The persons who gave up their lives in the interest of science showed a high order of heroism, but one cannot regard of such sacrifice without a feeling of regret that some other way was not found to test the theory of mosquito infection.

Especially pathetic is the case of the trained nurse, Clara Mass, who is described as a beautiful and accomplished young woman. She, it seems, believed herself to be immune and fearlessly submitted to be bitten by two mosquitos, resulting in her death in a short time.

The yellow fever experiments at Havana will undoubtedly have most valuable results, but there are many who will think that the sacrifice is too great. The work done since the American occupation of Cuba toward eliminating yellow fever has been so effective that there is felt to be little danger of a recurrence of the disease in virulent form.

ADMIRAL HOWISON EXPLAINS.

The letter of Rear Admiral Howison, the third member of the Schley court of inquiry, in regard to the statement that he had publicly expressed opinions on the conduct of the naval battle of Santiago, is so frank and straightforward that it must remove any doubt which may have been created by newspaper reports as to his ability to judge impartially the matters that will be submitted to the court.

The admiral denies having made certain observations credited to him by the interview in a Boston paper which caused objection to be made to his being a member of the court of inquiry, and while quite willing to withdraw from the court if the department should so desire, he declares he is ready to do his duty without partiality.

In reply Acting Secretary of the Navy Hackett assured Admiral Howison that the department has no purpose of relieving him, having implicit confidence in his sense of justice and fair-mindedness. This will doubtless end the matter, as it is not likely that Rear Admiral Schley will decline to accept the explanation and assurances given the department by Rear Admiral Howison, since to do so would be an imputation on the latter that could hardly fail to have an influence upon public opinion.

UNFAVORABLE TO SCHLEY.

It is safe to say, therefore, that no further objection will be made to Howison and his fine record warrants the belief that he will perform his duty fairly and impartially.

A BUNGLED GERRYMANDER.

In his call for a primary election and county convention the democratic county committee calls for the nomination of one county commissioner for the Second commissioner district, comprising the First, Second and Third wards.

If this program is carried out, what district is Commissioner Harte to represent in the board for the next two years?

The statute authorizing the redistricting of the counties into commissioner districts declares that "the three commissioners of such county whose terms of office will expire after said election (meaning the election following the redistricting) shall continue to represent the districts in which they reside after the redistricting of such county until the expiration of the terms for which they were elected."

Commissioner Harte was elected for a term of three years, beginning January, 1901. His term will therefore not expire until January, 1904. His residence, at the time of his election, was in the Second ward, in which he still resides.

Under the law he will represent the district in which he resides until his term shall expire. In other words, the redistricting is not an edict that compels him to remove to some other district in order to accommodate any candidate who desires to represent the Second district.

If the gerrymander is legal, as there can be but one commissioner to represent any district, it is manifest that no election can be held legally in the Second district, made up of the First, Second and Third wards, in the year 1901.

If the gerrymander is not legal, the election can be no new commissioner elected out of the Second ward, because that ward already has a member on the board under the old district boundaries.

That fact certainly ought to be clear to everybody. It strikes us that the democratic lawyers who have figured out that an election is to be held in the district comprising the First, Second and Third wards should have taken some steps to test the correctness of their theory in the courts before the call was issued for the election of a commissioner in the gerrymandered Second district and in case the courts should decide that no such election can be had legally they would have been in position to revise their call so as to provide for the nomination of commissioners in the districts from which commissioners are to be elected this fall.

Their failure to take such action will compel the calling of a separate convention for the nomination of commissioners in accordance with law.

The fact that the bidders made this year leave only a small margin of profit, while if the work of repaving can be raised to make it more profitable. Every move in the controversy goes to confirm this suspicion. It is inexplicable, therefore, how any of the property owners who must eventually bear the expense should want to put off improving their streets rather than take advantage of bids which the contractors prefer to avoid.

It was all very nice for the register of the O'Neill land office, Mr. Weeks, to portray the awful disappointment which the democrats and populists of Holt county will experience over the demand for the republican state convention for the revocation of the Bartley parole. But Mr. Weeks has failed to explain why the solid vote of the Holt county delegation was cast against the adoption of the republican platform.

Nothing could better indicate the abject poverty of the masses in Russia than the famine reports which follow every failure of the crops in that country. Emancipation to the serf in Russia has meant nothing in the way of material improvement, surrounded as he is by conditions which must keep him almost a perpetual pauper.

During the coming visit of the czar of Russia to Germany the two rulers will meet behind a high board fence in precaution against anarchists. The president of the United States has his troubles with office seekers, but he has the consciousness of being free to circulate among the people with safety.

The National Boot and Shoe association proposes to limit the number of styles of footwear to be put on the market. If the association will only cut out a few of the extraordinary freaks now offered, the public will forgive it for its arbitrary action.

SOMEWHAT SPORTY OURSELVES.

Indianapolis News. Nobody will begrudge Lipton the cup if he wins it, for he is a true sportsman, but we shall not let our regard for him personally influence the contest. We are true sportsmen ourselves.

SHADOWY CROWNS UNSOUGHT.

Baltimore American. Science's offer of a martyr's crown to volunteers for yellow fever experiments is not being grabbed at these days. The majority of people prefer to take their chances the natural way.

CONSIDER THE DISTANCE.

Indianapolis Journal. When we realize that the Philippine islands are scattered over an area as long as from Maine to Florida and as wide as from Boston to Chicago, we are able to get an idea of the difficulties which our officials meet in their efforts to establish government in so vast an expanse without any kind of wagon roads.

SUGAR BEET CULTURE.

New York Press. The commercial success of the beet root plants, the increase by hundreds of percent of the beet sugar output, and the fact that despite the great growth of the population in numbers and greater in purchasing power since 1898 there has been an actual decline in raw sugar importations...

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

With a view of providing feeders for their exports, old and new, the Belgians are deepening and widening canals that even the inland city of Brussels is now capable of receiving vessels of a considerable size.

The already intricate network of their steam railways is being more closely woven, and supplemented by light railroads along the highways. With an eye to the evolution of a Belgian merchant navy, it is proposed that the state shall subsidize shipping companies, and encourage the establishment of shipbuilding yards, with the help of English or other shipwrights, who may be further tempted by the fact that the cost of labor in Belgium is 35 per cent lower than in England or Germany.

While Belgium is now looking forward to becoming an ocean carrier, she has for some time had the certainty of figuring among the colonial powers. On the death of her present sovereign, if not earlier, she will formally acquire possession of the Congo Free State. Belgian capital is already employed in the Middle Kingdom, and there is no doubt that should it fall to her to pay the promised indemnity or to maintain peace and order, she would demand a share of the partitioned sea-coast. In a word, the maritime rebirth of Belgium is likely to be one of the notable phenomena of the twentieth century.

WHERE FARMING IS NOT OVERDONE.

Portland Oregonian. Alaska is a great country—great in expanse, great in scenic splendors, great in production of gold. It is however, short when it comes to agriculture. According to census reports there are twelve farms in the territory having a total area of 159 acres. Of these 104 acres are devoted to raising hay and vegetables. The small remainder is pasture land. These farms, five of which are less than three acres in extent, are on the southern coast. There are a few small gardens in the Yukon settlement that are not taken into this account. The total value of farm products in 1900 was \$5,046.

COMMON LAW AND THE TRUSTS.

Chicago Post. It has been said that the common law alone, if resolutely applied by the courts, would free us from monopolies and trusts. So it would, but it would free us from much else besides. The common law prohibited all combinations for the control or regulation of prices, for the fixing of wages or the reduction of products. Under it trades unions were held illegal and strikes punished as crimes against the state. A little study of early American industrial life would open the eyes of those who are so ready to invoke the common law. We require a new body of law concerning corporations and it is being evolved, slowly but surely. The old notions of conspiracy and combinations will not answer.

SIZE OF THE COAL BARON'S GRIFT.

New York World. Coal will be advanced 25 cents per ton on September 1, making a total increase of 50 cents since May 1, when the price was already above the average.

Last summer's strike of the coal miners was by the influence of the republican campaign managers, settled by conceding increased wages to the men. These increases, varying slightly with circumstances, raised the average cost of mining coal to about 10 cents a ton.

In the early spring of the present year the "general understanding" hitherto prevailing among coal operators was succeeded by a trust which has three times advanced prices at will.

The householder at tidewater will this winter pay for his coal at least seventy per cent more than the average price for ten years past. The men at the mines will get 10 cents of the increase.

TOWNS AS AN OCTOPUS.

Chicago Inter Ocean. The current rumor is that the Export Oil and Pipe Line company of Beaumont, Tex., contains, in addition to other interesting information, the following cheerful telegraphic communication from its president:

"BEAUMONT, Tex., Aug. 18.—'Walter G. Hudson & Co., 342 Exchange building, Boston—Oil struck top of derrick at twelve fifteen; turned off at once. Will send photograph horizontal gusher soon and of perpendicular when weather permits. My opinion says no bigger or better well on Spindle Top at least seventy thousand barrels a day. Will place on pipe line soon as possible.

"CHARLES A. TOWNE." While the news contained in this dispatch will doubtless be received with great interest by the directors of the Export Oil and Pipe Line company, the interest of the general public will center upon the signature attached to it. The average citizen does not care particularly, of course, whether oil struck the top of the derrick or whether it struck the top at all. Neither can it be struck there is likely to be any demand from the masses for photographs of the perpendicular gusher that Mr. Towne proposes to take when the weather permits. Nor can it truthfully be said that the plain people are concerned in what the experts say of the relative size and quality of the Spindle Top wells.

What the great American public is interested in is the fact that the Hon. Charles A. Towne, the willow champion of William Jennings Bryan, the silver-tongued apostle of populism, who less than a year ago saw a menace to the happiness and liberties of the people in corporations, combines, and trusts—the man who was wont to hurl fiery epithets at oil, coal, steel or any other trust that developed a monopoly, an octopus, and that his tentacles are already reaching out for sustenance toward the hated money power of the northeast.

TRAINING OUR WARDS.

American Educational Methods in Operation in the Philippines. New York Mail and Express. Completion of the report of the superintendent of public instruction in the Philippines appears the care that is taken in the selection of the teachers whom our administration of the archipelago is appointing for the instruction of its youth. Much attention has been attracted by our sending teachers to the Philippines who are not only their fullest capacity with young American men and women, eager to begin their chosen task of opening the minds of Filipino children to our language and literature, but also to the fact that they are in their future self-educating to take part in the government of the country. It now appears that there were more than 8,000 applicants for the 1,000 appointments as teachers, so that there was abundant material for selection.

It is fortunate that the instruments may thus be carefully chosen for the work of first importance to which our government has addressed itself in all the territories where it exercises sovereignty or temporary authority. We do not forget that the fathers, not at home, the creed of the fathers that the public school is the foundation of the republic. It is the public schools that Americanize and assimilate here the millions of children of immigrants. It is the public schools that give the native-born a higher and freer life for all the people of our insular possessions. The finely organized school system established under our military administration in Cuba is strong enough to survive the shock of a change in government. The native children are so eager for learning that the chief difficulty is to find suitable accommodations for the pupils.

Similar conditions have arisen in the Philippines. Complaints of overcrowding come from the interior. The native children are eager to learn English, as are the native teachers. Such progress has been made that in the schools opened last month English alone is used. With the establishment of a public school system, the need of money from local taxation will be needed to support these schools, and thus they will help to hasten the framing of a revenue law for the Philippines, probably upon lines similar to the act that has proved successful in Porto Rico.

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