

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 26th day of November, A. D. 1901. M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

The first Christmas of the century will be remembered as a model of climatic perfection.

The treeless prairie states seem, nevertheless, to produce some of the best cabinet timber.

The army or navy officer without a reprimand in his pocket has reason to complain of being slighted.

It is estimated that Chicago consumed 1,500,000 turkeys Christmas day. It must be preparing to gobble up a few more suburbs.

Iowa has not yet managed to plant a favorite son in the presidential chair, but it is succeeding pretty well in preempting the top rounds of the ladder.

The sewer pipe manufacturers have formed a combination, with a capital stock of several million dollars. How do they ever expect such a combination to hold water?

The World-Herald's exclusive tip on the pardon that was to have been Bartley's Christmas present was doubtless only another case of the wish being father to the thought.

Forker and Hanna have buried the hatchet and the threatened political prize fight which was scheduled for New Year's day at Columbus will not be pulled off as advertised.

Weather sharks are greatly disturbed by the appearance of sun and moon "dogs." As they are well behaved dogs that never howl, there appears to be no good reason for objecting to their presence.

The session of the city council as a board of equalization is ten days off. That ought to give time enough to the representatives of the Real Estate exchange to formulate a strong showing against the tax shirkers.

The Civil Service commission has notified Historian Maclay that nothing in the law interferes in the least degree with his dropping the laborer's shovel and hammer and devoting all his time and attention to literary effort.

A bill is to be introduced in the New York legislature providing for a censorship of the drama. If it eliminates some of the "New York successes" which float out this way a suffering public will welcome its speedy enactment.

Candidates for the position on the district bench about to be vacated by Judge Baker still have two days in which to present their claims to the bar. These candidates should not overlook the fact that the court balliffs may have something to say.

Every man appointed on the committee to devise a plan for settling peacefully disputes between labor and capital has accepted. It is too much to hope that serious differences can be done away with entirely, but the makeup of the committee would seem to justify the belief that it can accomplish something if the members will devote their talents and energies to the task before them.

The regular mid-winter Indian war scare comes this year from Indian Territory. Evidently the fight-with-desperado story has been worked out in that section and correspondents are forced to go back to the old original. The Indians in the territory have accumulated a large amount of experience in past years and are not likely to seek any more instruction at the hands of the soldiers.

SECRETARY GAGE'S SUCCESSOR

The financial and commercial interests of the country will be well satisfied with the appointment of Governor Shaw of Iowa to succeed Mr. Gage as secretary of the treasury. He brings to the office the same preparation for its arduous duties that Mr. Gage possessed—practical experience in financial affairs and a very thorough knowledge of the science of finance.

Secretary Gage has made a record that places him in the very front rank of finance ministers. His administration has been singularly by the enactment of the gold standard law of March 14, 1900, the eminently successful financing of the Spanish war and the enhanced credit of the government.

Washington advises say that congress may consider the Panama proposal. The correspondent of the New York Times says that if the Frenchmen come to the United States prepared to trade according to American methods and really offer this country a bargain it is the prevailing opinion that there will be a possibility of a sale.

Other correspondents, however, say that the action of the Panama company shareholders is not expected to make any appreciable change in the program in regard to the passage of the Nicaragua canal bill.

It now appears probable that an earnest effort will be made to secure consideration for any reasonable offer the Panama company shall make, but it is doubtful if further negotiations will avail anything, so strongly committed are a majority of congressmen to the Nicaragua route.

THE COSTLY EXPERIENCE OF THE STATE AND THE various cities and counties of the state which have sought to recover from the sureties of defaulting treasurers the sums lost or embezzled has brought about a general abandonment of the old system of individual sureties for custodians of public funds.

THE PRESIDENT "RUNS THINGS." Good Results Likely to Follow His Attention to Detail. Minneapolis Journal (rep.)

It is reported that the members of the cabinet find President Roosevelt a hard man to get along with. The members are represented as complaining that the president undertakes to decide all the big questions in every department, reducing the secretaries to mere clerks.

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AMERICAN LEADERSHIP

A Mexican newspaper, referring to the return to the United States of a member of our delegation to the Pan-American congress just as important questions are coming up for consideration by the congress, says "it's now coming to be believed that at Washington there is discontent over the fact that the Latin nations do not show docility in accepting the leadership of the United States."

There is in this a suggestion of the spirit that prevails to a considerable extent among the people of the Spanish-American countries and leads them to distrust this country. Almost any suggestion proceeding from the United States is regarded with suspicion.

This country has not attempted to assume leadership of the Latin nations. All it has undertaken is to bring about closer political and commercial relations between the republics of this hemisphere, with a view to the advancement of their welfare and prosperity.

In proposing a conference of the republics there was no purpose on the part of our government to assume leadership in that body or to dictate policies and principles. The United States stands upon an equal footing with the other countries represented in the congress, with the same privilege of suggestion and recommendation that is enjoyed by the other republics.

So far as the authorities at Washington are concerned they are probably not greatly concerned themselves with what is taking place in the City of Mexico—certainly not to such an extent as to attempt to exert any undue influence upon the deliberations of the congress.

The representatives of the United States in that body will urge the acceptance of American principles and what is believed here to be the proper policy for the southern republics. That is their duty, but they will perform it in no offensive way and with no assumption of leadership, in the sense conveyed by the Mexican newspaper.

It is very remarkable that after all the effort which has been made to assure the Latin-American countries of the hearty and sincere friendship of the United States and of the earnest solicitude of this country for their peace and prosperity, we are still distrusted and doubted.

This feeling is not so general and strong now as it was immediately after the close of the war with Spain, when the idea was fostered that this country had entered upon a career of territorial aggrandizement that menaced the southern republics, but there is no sound reason why any of the feeling should continue.

The assurances given by President McKinley and by President Roosevelt ought to have swept away all feeling of distrust of the United States in its relations to the southern republics.

The policy of the United States in regard to those countries was expressed by Mr. Roosevelt when he said that "we wish to work with them hand in hand, so that all of us may be uplifted together."

We desire to cultivate the friendship and good will of our sister republics and this we shall best accomplish by leaving them to work out their own salvation in their own way.

The announcement is made that the provision in the articles of incorporation of the auditorium association prohibiting the corporation from assuming a mortgage liability has been abrogated by a vote of more than two-thirds of the subscribers to the stock, and the managers anticipate no further trouble in raising the money required for the erection of the auditorium building by a building loan, or in case of failure to negotiate such a loan, to induce responsible contractors to assume all risks in the collection of balances due them after the building has been completed.

We apprehend, however, that some snags may still have to be removed before the channel is clear. It is an open question whether all parties who were induced to subscribe to the auditorium stock on condition that the grounds and building should never be mortgaged will acquiesce in the very radical change in the conditions that constituted the contract between them and the association.

It also remains to be seen whether any contractor with sufficient means to complete the building can be induced to venture on the undertaking unless he has something more than a lien on the property to insure to him repayment for material and labor within a reasonable time. Assuming that the auditorium company can raise one-half of the cost of the building, the contractor would still have to carry from \$75,000 to \$100,000 and take his chances on realizing that amount by foreclosure of the lien.

The proprietors of the Denver pool rooms and bucket shops and the Denver Mining and Stock exchange have been notified by the sheriff that they must discontinue business at once or be arraigned for violating the criminal code of Colorado. The postscript to this announcement gives the additional information that this judicial notice is not to be taken seriously, but is merely an edict issued in technical compliance with law. The actual closing of the places designated by the sheriff of Arapahoe county would precipitate a riot.

The county commissioners are again besieged by franchise speculators who desire to secure right-of-way over county roads for suburban electric motor lines. The board has heretofore managed to resist the blandishments of various sets of promoters and dealers in franchise options and it is to be hoped it will continue firmly in this course and reject all

proposals not known to be backed by ample capital.

Omaha and Douglas county are vitally interested in the construction of a system of suburban motor lines that will accommodate the constantly growing traffic between this city and towns and villages within a radius of forty miles. But these much-needed improvements should not be allowed to become the stock-in-trade of impetuous promoters and adventurers.

A big hole has been knocked in the new German tariff bill before it is even enacted into law. On demand of Russia the minimum grain duties have been stricken out and by the time other neighbors are accommodated little or the original spirit of the bill will remain. With the possible exception of the meat provisions, those relating to grain are of the most concern in the United States and with the minimum duty provision removed the door is left open for admission of American grain through treaty provisions. The political necessities of Europe are proving the best agency for warding off the hostile sentiment against American trade advancement.

The fickleness of Cuban character could not be better illustrated than by the treatment of General Gomez, who is now touring the island in behalf of the candidacy of Senor Palma. The old general has given years to the service of Cuba, been the mainstay of its efforts for independence, and asks nothing for himself in return. Yet, because he is supporting a candidate who is unpopular in a particular regard, he is hoisted and hissed. Decent regard for the sacrifices of Gomez would at least suggest a respectful hearing.

It will be noticed that Marconi used the old-fashioned practice of hanging the Indianapolis girl whom he is to wed.

Jerry Spills the Cream. Philadelphia Ledger.

Jerry Simpson confesses that most of his popularizing in congress was for political effect—so everybody outside of Kansas suspected at the time.

Schley and the Prize Money. Indianapolis News.

The Treasury department has sent to Admiral Schley a check for \$3,354, the share of the prize money due him for the destruction of the Spanish fleet at Santiago. So the man that, according to Dewey and the people, commanded at the battle and is entitled to the glory of the victory, does not receive one-eighth as much prize money as Admiral Sampson, who was not in the fight, while Captain Chadwick, who was so fortunate as to command the vessel that bore the absent Sampson, received four times as much as the man who commanded and won the fight.

Concerning "Penny Postage." Philadelphia Ledger.

Henry C. Payne, the new postmaster general, is quoted as saying in an interview that he favors "penny" which probably means one cent—postage and will do all in his power to bring it about. That, however, is a matter for congress and not the Postoffice department to decide. He is also reported as saying that he "strongly favors civil service in all departments," and this will be reassuring to many who have looked upon his appointment with some apprehension, because his reputation is somewhat of the other way.

A Royal Tip from Siam. Philadelphia North American.

The king of Siam deigns to notify the government of the United States that it is his royal pleasure to visit this country between the 1st of January and the 15th of February, and to be accompanied by the government or a syndicate of beautifiers and kow-towing citizens to pay his expenses. He will condescend to accept an official invitation from the president to come as the guest of the nation. The national committee on the matter, would extend a cordial invitation to the royal party to stay where he is or travel like a gentleman at his own cost.

Omens that Failed. Cleveland Plain Dealer.

There has been a general hunting up of ominous precedents in connection with English coronations, enough at least to give King Edward a bad quarter of an hour. Crowns have toppled, attendants have fallen, and other unpleasant mishaps have occurred. Perhaps it will encourage him to read that some of the most awkward of these happenings occurred at the crowning of his mother of blessed memory, Queen Victoria.

THE FIGHT AGAINST THE DEPOLLERS OF THE Fallades along the Jersey coast of the Hudson river is bringing fruit. The Interstate Park commission is acquiring all the land between the Law and Piedmont and the states of New York and New Jersey are expected to open their purses again to pay for the new tracts yet unpurchased. It is the intention to make a public park along the river and when this is done the west shore of the Hudson will be as beautiful as the east shore, which is now lined by Riverside park, one of the most picturesque breathing spots in America.

New York has decided that it does not care to purchase tombstones. There has been much land recently condemned for public purposes in Westchester county and other suburbs, and among the parcels have been a large number of private grounds. In these are many tombstones, some of which are fifty or more years old. The thrifty farmers have been compelling the city to pay for these, in addition to the land, and it is surprising how a moss-covered stone that has been standing over the grave of somebody who was a grandfather to someone who once owned the land can increase in value when it comes to a matter of sale. Bills for hundreds of such stones are now in the city's hands.

The officials have now decided that they will hereafter pay for no slabs, vaults, stones or other evidences of a time-worn grief.

Rosebery and Roosevelt. Philadelphia Press.

Lord Rosebery's new doctrine is that a nation, like a man, must hustle for all it gets. "Blessed are the hustlers," he says in substance, "for they shall get the earth." This President Roosevelt's favorite beattitude is also. The men who hustle are the ones that get the earth. The hustlers are the ones that get the earth.

Equal to the Task. Minneapolis Journal.

The show would be pleased to see Governor Shaw of Iowa enter the cabinet. We believe that he is fully equal to the treasury portfolio. As a business man he knows the practice of finance, as a politician he has thoroughly learned its theory.

Second the Motion. Atlanta Constitution.

We rise to a question of privilege and move a vote of the thanks to the London judge who sent the unpalatable Dea Bar to the penitentiary for seven years.

Jim Hill's Explanation

President Hill's statement of the circumstances that gave rise to the Northern Securities company is a testimonial to the power of public opinion. As such no fault is to be found in it, for it deals with matters of which it is proper that the public should be informed. But it is also a revelation of weakness, of conscious weakness, on the part of Mr. Hill, his friends and his enemies. This revelation is presented in Mr. Hill's argument, the essence of which is that the great and good men who direct the destinies of the public must have been forced into this position at tremendous sacrifice to themselves for the protection of the dear people. And for this heroic self-sacrifice are they criticized by an unfeeling public.

One need not quarrel with Mr. Hill's statement of facts in order to see the fallacy of his insidious conclusions, though it is news that the Harriman people were first to attempt the capture of the Burlington system. But the Burlington having finally been secured for the northern lines and at least temporary control of the Northern Pacific having been obtained by the Union Pacific, seems no justification for the organization of a new corporation, the apparent purpose of which was to crystallize in permanent form the extravagant "values" that had been manipulated into certain railroad shares. Less than \$250,000,000 of Northern Pacific and Great Northern stock constitute the assets of the Northern Securities company, yet that company is expected to earn between 4 and 5 per cent on the capital of \$400,000,000. By this process the \$250,000,000 is made to yield a sum that would be legitimate return on \$400,000,000, and it is done in a way calculated to protect the investors from public scrutiny.

The 5 per cent does not seem too large an income from legitimate investments, but 5 per cent on \$400,000,000 is 3 per cent on \$250,000,000, and a combination having

for its object the throttling of competition in order that such great profits may be taken from the people very reasonably arouses public hostility. True, as Mr. Hill says, the railroad kings in the Northern combination might have sold their stock at a handsome advance had they so taken Mr. Hill a long time to convince the public that it was consideration for the interests of the people of Minnesota that deterred them from doing so. They did what it was for their private, selfish interests to do and if the interests of the public were to reap benefit in any way, this would be entirely incidental to the main object of the deal. It is nonsense for Mr. Hill to seek to convey the impression that all this laborer manipulation of colossal railroad interests was for the particular purpose of keeping the spirit of the anti-consolidation laws and at serious financial loss to the men responsible for the action. It is all gammon.

"Let time determine," says Mr. Hill, "whether the public will be benefited or injured by what we have done and will continue to do." This is a specious plea. It is the plea of Guiteau or a Colquhoun, not of the magnificent railroad builder and business organizer we have been accustomed to recognize in James J. Hill. Time may be an essential element in proving the wisdom of some course of action, but an act that is morally and legally and economically wrong cannot be made otherwise by lapse of time. Mr. Hill's entire explanation is obviously addressed to the people in order to keep them from seeing that it is illegal and harmful. If it is so today time cannot justify it. A plea for tolerance, for time to entrench more securely the new railroad policy of non-competition, will find a most favor with the general public, but it is an independent candidate for president to be so determined against the combination.

ROUND ABOUT NEW YORK. Rippling on the Current of Life in the Metropolis.

A widow from San Francisco residing in New York City appeared in court recently as defendant in a novel suit brought by a grafting specialist for services rendered. The defense of the widow revealed a somewhat common practice among society people in Greater New York, that of working as agents for various money-making schemes. The plaintiff in the case was a "somatopathist," defined as a practitioner who "corrects physical irregularities or diseases by manipulation and desensitization of the patient." The widow had a few physical defects which the "somatopathist" manipulated to her profit. In her defense the widow declared he had agreed to accept in exchange for his services her introduction to her friends and acquaintances and in addition would induce them to patronize the manipulator. The plea satisfied the jury, and the plaintiff was awarded the sum of \$10,000. Women are the chief workers. They are supposed to be people of influence. They go to a dealer in some commodity and suggest that if he will keep them supplied they will praise his wares to all their friends. A new and aspiring florist has a dozen society women "on his list" in this way. There are numbers of dames of greater or less prominence who would never think of paying anything for having photographs taken. Societies, lodges and various beautifiers are to be had gratis by those who are adroit enough to show how they can advertise the articles among their acquaintances. A woman who bears one of the best known names in New York and who is nothing less than the paid agent of a certain brand of champagne, nor is all her pay taken "in trade," either. She is supplied with the wine, ad libitum, and gets a nice little amount of pin money every month also. It has remained for the ingenuity of the San Francisco widow to introduce this method into the learned profession.

New York makes daily use of 1,000,000 quarts of milk. When there is a big storm and the trains are late, as was the case last Saturday, there is trouble in homes and on the streets. The city is compelled to get along with but 600,000 quarts. The hotels, hospitals and restaurants were given the preference and private consumers compelled to go without.

Five years ago a man could have bought a seat of the New York Stock exchange for \$15,000. In 1908 a sale was made at \$27,500, which was the highest that had been given in ten years. Several weeks ago two or three sales were made at \$73,000 and now the record price of \$75,000 has been made. This indicates the immense expansion in the buying and selling of stocks and the money there is in it for the brokers.

The fight against the depollers of the Fallades along the Jersey coast of the Hudson river is bringing fruit. The Interstate Park commission is acquiring all the land between the Law and Piedmont and the states of New York and New Jersey are expected to open their purses again to pay for the new tracts yet unpurchased. It is the intention to make a public park along the river and when this is done the west shore of the Hudson will be as beautiful as the east shore, which is now lined by Riverside park, one of the most picturesque breathing spots in America.

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LABOR LEADERS FOR AWHILE.

Great Strike Leaders Are Often Quickly Forgotten.

The sudden and unexpected bounce of President Burns of the Knights of Labor, following the total eclipse of President Shaffer of the Amalgamated Association of Sheet Workers, calls attention to the remarkable frequency of the fall of labor leaders and how quickly they are forgotten by the general public. The fall is particularly emphatic with leaders of strikes who are independent candidates for office or labor organizations and movements there are today but three men who, holding the confidence of the men they lead, are still at the helm. Each one has been known for his conservatism. They are: Samuel Gompers, president of the Amalgamated Federation of Labor; President Arthur of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, and John Mitchell, who led the miners in their recent struggle. All three believed in arbitration and used all means at their disposal to avoid strife.

Only a few years ago the name of James Sovereign was prominent in all labor circles. He was the general master workman of the Knights of Labor. It was said of him and he could, in the event of a labor war, call out on strike almost 1,000,000 men.

Sovereign has now disappeared entirely from the horizon of labor politics. He is now employed by an insurance company in his native Vermont.

There is scarcely a labor union man in the country who has not heard and known of P. J. McGuire, who for years was secretary-treasurer of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America. He is no longer an officer of the federation and has now no influence in labor circles.

Martin Irons, whose work in the great strikes of a decade or so ago is still talked of in labor circles, is dead. Not a friend was near him when he passed away in St. Louis and none of his former associates knew he was ill or where he was, or his whereabouts. He sought that state, it is claimed, because of the ingratitude of labor men. He had, like all the strike leaders who had failed, been reviled by the very men for whom he had sacrificed everything.

Terence V. Powderly is alive today, but shorn of his power to a great extent in labor circles. The strike of the Great Southwestern railroad system, which tied up all the freight lines, was the beginning of the end so far as he was concerned. He settled that strike after a short conference with the late Jay Gould, while the other members of the executive committee were seated in an ante-room. After the conference had closed, he came out and announced that the strike was settled, and the executive committee, which was there to argue matters, retired in disorder. The inevitable row followed, with serious results to Powderly as a labor leader.

Scores of labor leaders have vanished from the stage. Some are dead, some are afterthoughts, but even the living are forgotten.

CHERRY CHAFF.

Washington Star: "Some folks," said Uncle Eben, "seems to make dat no matter how much you try to get away from dey's puffed gentleness if dey saya 'some me' afterward."

Somerville Journal: Mr. Hicks—Don't think of the long line of labor leaders. Mr. Wicks—M-m: Well—possibly, when he cries.

Baltimore American: "You" sneered the Angry Man, "are very small potatoes, indeed."

At the present price of potatoes I am compelled, said the our host, "to consider your remark a compliment."

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "He doesn't amount to shucks," said the girl from the Kansas coast, "but he really isn't on an equality with a lot of boys."

Philadelphia Press: "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you," said Markley. "That's the golden rule, and I believe in it," replied the other. "Well," replied Markley, "if I did, I'd be offering to lend you \$10 this minute."

Philadelphia Press: Actor—No, smoking doesn't hurt me, rather to do me good. Friend—Well, you know smoking is good for him.

Boston Post: Employer—How does it come you get around to the office so late these mornings? Employee—Well, we get up later than usual at our home these days, you see we're getting to give our little boy a hor and a drum for Christmas, so we're trying to get ahead on our sleep.

Somerville Journal: Nell—Mrs. Walker says she can't do it. Belle—No, he asked her the other day what the difference was between a woman and an umbrella.

Philadelphia Press: "Your Majesty," said the Court Chamberlain, "this is the page who has been behaving so scandalously."

Who exclaimed the King, "a loose page! He must be brought to me, and I will have a royal just, I'll be bound," said the page with a shrug, "and a laugh. 'Thou shalt not have a loose page'—Thou shalt not have a loose page."

IT'S MORGAN'S.

Philadelphia Record.

I came to a mill by the river side, I found a forest of stumps and a mill and a man with a shovel and an ax of my men, furnace and shovels and pen. "What a most magnificent plant!" I cried. And a man with a smudge on his face replied: "It's Morgan's."

I entered a train and rode all day I reached my coach and a right of way which reached to give me a lot of land in a system too large to understand. A splendid property that I tried. And a man with a plate on his hat replied: "It's Morgan's."

I sailed on a great ship, trim and true. From pennant to keel, my husband and I. And the ship was one of a monster fleet. What a beautiful sight, I thought. And a man with a smudge on his face replied: "It's Morgan's."

I went to a nation filled with pride. Her people are a many, her lands were wide. Her record in war and science and art. Her greatness of soul and her heart. "What a most old country it is!" I cried. And a man with his chest in his lap replied: "It's Morgan's."

I went to Heaven. The Jasper walls towered high and wide, and the golden halls. Shone bright beyond. But a strange new mark. Why over the gate, viz: "Private Park?" Why, what is the meaning of this?" I cried. And a saint with a heavy on replied: "It's Morgan's."

I went to the only place left. "You take a chance on the box on the bastion. Or perhaps I may be allowed to sit. On the gridded floor of the bottomies of the pl." But kneeling low, with thorns on his face, Cried out, as he forked me off the place: "It's Morgan's."