

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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Table with 2 columns: Circulation category and Number of copies. Includes categories like 'Copies of this issue', 'Copies of other issues', 'Total', and 'Less unsold and returned copies'.

Net total sales, 933,157. Net daily average, 30,101. Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 31st day of December, A. D. 1919.

The Rubber trust has failed, but then it was a crude affair. A pointer for South Omaha—Keep your public library as far out of politics as you can.

How will the Commercial club be able to survive the shock of an executive committee without Superintendent Pearce? And now we have a resurrection of the specious plea that the kindergartens do not cost anything.

It would be a little premature anyway to send out invitations for trolley parties on that air line suburban railroad this early in the season.

It will take a few days without a serious wreck to get back to the point where we pride ourselves upon the perfection of our railroad systems.

The senator from Union Stock yards scoring the trusts and combines must have sent an audible smile around the Jacksonian banquet table.

Speaker Sears' letter reviewing the history of the Burt county bond deal makes interesting reading.

The proceedings of the senate are painfully peaceful since the retirement of Pettigrew of South Dakota.

Michigan does not appear to be a healthy place for men who start in to bribe public officials.

Police Judge Gordon would be in much better position to ask for the payment of his disputed back salary if he first ceased to dispute with the mandate of the people who voted his official commission to another person.

The Jacksonian club's annual democratic roundup found the party herd badly drifted and with slight hopes of recovering any of the missing.

Railroad and shipping men have been accustomed to look upon Interstate Commerce Commission investigations as a farce.

Young Carter Harrison is certainly doing his best to get into line as a promising candidate of calamity when he assures the democrats of Bryan's state that "it requires no pessimistic temper to conceive alarm at the aspects of our times."

Russia and the United States are in no danger of going to war because a few sailors of this country and a few soldiers of the other happened to have a little fist fight.

Mining statistics show that the United States has passed the \$1,000,000,000 mark in production and of this vast sum coal and iron make up more than half.

The United States leads the world in these two industrial fields. With such figures staring the old world in the face, no wonder its people are discussing the "American peril."

CANNOT BE GLOSSED OVER

The public statement made by Speaker Sears reviewing the facts relating to the Burt county bond deal and his own position in relation to it brings out the points at issue in a clear light and shows in the most convincing manner that the incident cannot be considered closed, much as the treasurer and his apologists desire.

It is not disputed that Treasurer Stuefer had an opportunity to make an offer for the Burt county bonds for the school fund and that he neglected to do so.

It is not disputed that the bonds were bought by a close friend and business associate of the treasurer, who immediately went through the form of disposing of them as a school fund investment.

It is not disputed that the middleman paid for the bonds with two checks, drawn on deposits of state school money in Omaha banks and signed by Treasurer Stuefer.

It is not disputed that before the bonds were turned into the school fund interest coupons, amounting to more than \$3,000, were detached and appropriated by the middleman.

It is not disputed that the state school fund has been used for private gain, at a loss to the state of the difference between the amount received by Burt county and the face of the bonds and coupons delivered to the state.

The conclusion reached by Speaker Sears that if this bond purchase was made with money belonging to the state school fund, the bonds and all the interest coupons, including those detached by the middleman in excess of the premium paid, belong to the state, is irresistible.

In my opinion the matter should be thoroughly investigated and the proper action taken to protect the interests of the state. If the coupons belong to the state that were taken away by Mr. Neligh, they should be recovered, if possible.

What is true of the Burt county bond purchase is equally true of the Cumming county bond exchange. In Cumming county the same middleman effected his transaction, not by the use of checks signed by the treasurer, but by the use of securities belonging to the school fund investment.

Republicans as well as democrats would do well to keep a watchful eye on Arthur Pue Gorman.

RETIREMENT OF JUDGE NORVAL

The accession of Judge Samuel H. Sedgwick to the supreme bench marks the retirement of Chief Justice Norval after a service of twelve years as a member of that court.

The people of Nebraska without respect to party affiliation will recognize the great value of Judge Norval's part in the judicial history of the state.

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THE NEW ILLUMINANT

Coal prices are soaring and gas bills are big. But Mr. Peter Cooper Hewitt tells us that with the use of electricity applied to mercurial vapors he can give us an illuminant better and cheaper than the gas jet or the electric bulb.

It is evident that the Everett-Moore syndicate has been successful in its attempt to secure the franchise for the asphalt trust and two or three other distasteful trusts in the business world.

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Bartley Pardon from Afar

St. Louis Tribune (dem.): It is evident that Governor Savage considers that a man who takes in excess of \$200,000 is a financier, rather than an embezzler.

Washington Post (ind.): The governor of Nebraska has given the taxpayers much unpleasant provocation by pardoning the defaulting state treasurer. Why do state exchequers continue to place a premium upon dishonesty?

Buffalo Express (rep.): Republican politicians in Nebraska have kept sympathizing with the state treasurer who defaulted until finally the governor has made excuses for pardoning him. It is not a creditable act.

Washington Star (rep.): As to the pardon of the Nebraska man who, while state treasurer made away with \$500,000, it may be that a man who had pulled enough to get the place necessarily had pulled enough to secure the pardon.

Detroit Free Press (dem.): A Nebraska state treasurer who stole \$500,000 has been pardoned after serving five years in the penitentiary. If he could have managed to steal a million, possibly the state would have tendered him a vote of thanks.

Kansas City Journal (rep.): The republican governor of Nebraska has assured the democrats of a promising state issue in his pardon of a defaulting treasurer, who was sentenced to twenty years and had served but four. It is quite possible that this action may lose Nebraska to the republicans in the next election.

Louisville Courier-Journal (dem.): Bartley, treasurer of Nebraska, sentenced to the penitentiary for twenty-one years for embezzling about \$500,000 of the state's funds, has been pardoned by Governor Savage after serving only four years of his term.

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REASSEMBLY OF GORMAN

The unanimous choice by the democratic members of the Maryland legislature in their caucus of Arthur Pue Gorman for United States senator proclaims his reassembly and assures the early reappearance of that well known figure in the upper branch of the national legislature.

Senator Gorman has had a variegated public career, yet in spite of his ups and downs has maintained his position as a potent political factor not only in his own state, but in the national field of democratic politics.

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BURDENS OF THE PRESIDENT

Minneapolis Times: Ex-Secretary and Senator Chandler is justified in his assertion that the president of the United States is persecuted and hampered by petty things. If there is any man in this country who should be guarded from politicians, place-seekers, visionaries, schemers and quitters, it is the chief executive whose duties are so onerous and whose responsibilities are so heavy.

New York Tribune: The objections to a general reform of the sort contemplated by Mr. Chandler are easily met. There might be a little grumbling at first on the part of those individuals who look upon the president as the chief executive, but the executives of other republics are pitted to no such strain, and the common sense of the American people would not be long in recognizing the necessity for the change and approving the action of the president who should make it.

Philadelphia Press: President Roosevelt is unusually strong and vigorous and is able to withstand the strain better than almost any one of his predecessors. But he should have all the time possible to devote to the best interests of the people and should not be compelled to devote the greater part of it to the work of dealing with the chief executive of other republics who are pitted to no such strain, and the common sense of the American people would not be long in recognizing the necessity for the change and approving the action of the president who should make it.

Philadelphia Ledger: It is a well known fact that there is very little time at the disposal of the president for the study of great national and international questions. Hours of his precious time are wasted by senators and representatives who importune him with their requests for favors or to places from the highest to his gift to a village or cross-roads postmaster.

Detroit Free Press: Constant strain is liable to unloose a temper that is naturally stormy. His mind, mental fiber can be pounded until brittle by the constant requirement, with the alternative of hasty and perturbed judgment. He is too much of a thoroughbred not to chafe under drudgery, even though it be self-imposed.

Chicago Plain Dealer: "The coming secretary of the treasury has been saying something quite pleasant about nutritious 'Mints of course'."

Brooklyn Life: Bridges-It won't be long now before the treasury has been saying something quite pleasant about nutritious 'Mints of course'."

Chicago Tribune: Mr. Pincherford (inspecting hats)-You say there is plenty of steam heat in your office, the hot water? "Real Estate Agent-Hot water? Oh, er, the janitor will keep you in that."

Chicago Post: "Of course we have the Gibson girl and the Stansbury girl and the McKinley girl and the O'Connell girl and the Latham girl and it's rather confusing. But what matter of fact, which do you prefer?" "Well, you know, there's always a real frank with you, I think I like the real girl a little better than any of them."

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BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE

Scenes and incidents sketched at the National Capital. History has a habit of repeating itself, to some extent. A writer in the Washington Post, in poring over the naval records, found a conspicuous instance of naval jealousy of which Winfield Scott Schley was the target.

A messenger boy from the War department last Tuesday delivered to the president 1,800 parchment army commissions for his signature. Having to sign such commissions is one of the hardships of being president, for it is hard to write on parchment with a pen. If it had not been discovered that powdered sulphur applied to the place where the president's office sign makes the work much easier he would be a month at the job.

These 1,800 commissions cover the officers appointed and promoted during the congressional recess and confirmed after congress met. Each parchment costs the government 50 cents, and as many are injured while being engrossed, this particular batch of commissions will cost about \$1,000. The president and the secretary of war both have to sign them. No rubber stamps or secretaries' signatures will do.

Senator Burrows of Michigan was at the Navy department at 4 o'clock a couple of hours ago, and left a number of newspaper men waiting in the ante-room while he went in to see the secretary. The hour was growing late, and the newspaper men were impatient, but the secretary, when he came out from the secretary's office, caught their humor, and said, in his basso profundo, and with the serious and deliberate manner which characterizes his utterances: "My dear boys, I am sorry to have kept you waiting, but I have a piece of news for you. I have not declined the portfolio of the Navy department, and it has not been offered me, but if it is I will positively decline it. Good evening, gentlemen."

A newspaper man, anxious for an item, followed him out of the room. "What have you been doing today, senator?" he queried. "Now, let me see. What have I been doing today? Oh, yes; I was over at the Agricultural department, and they gave me a pretty plant for my wife. That is the only thing I could find that was not in the classified service."

Possibilities of Water. Chicago Tribune. First of all, the merger is usually a sub-merger.

Advertisement for Ayer's Pills. Text: 'Every good druggist keeps a full supply of Ayer's Standard Family Medicines. When stock is taken, these represent just so much money, for they will surely be sold. People have confidence in that word, "Ayer's." There's something secure, substantial, safe, about it. Ayer's Pills for the liver. Ayer's Sarsaparilla for the blood. Ayer's Cherry Pectoral for the lungs. J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.'