

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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REGULATION IS INEVITABLE

That some sort of regulation of the great combinations is inevitable there can be no doubt. The public sentiment is so overwhelmingly in favor of this that the demand cannot long go unheeded.

It would seem that the men who control the combinations, shrewd and sagacious as they are in affairs of business, would see that national supervision and regulation must come and that instead of placing themselves in opposition to this public demand would accept such reasonable and moderate regulation as the industrial commission has recommended.

Opposition of the great corporations engaged in interstate business to national supervision and regulation, on the moderate and conservative lines now recommended, is short-sighted. It operates to intensify public hostility to them and persistence in it may sooner or later bring on a social and industrial revolution of the most far-reaching character.

There is uncertainty as to whether congress will at this session provide for admission to statehood of New Mexico, Arizona and Oklahoma, but the prospect for such action is said to have improved since the cause of those territories was jointly laid before congress.

Democracy with axes to grind are warned by their editorial mentor to take to the rear. That ought to be comforting to the new recruits from the late silver republican fold who are always looking for front seats.

That Omaha's municipal credit is at the top notch is evidenced by the fact that the city continues to do business at the old stand, although it has as yet no tax levy against which it can draw a warrant to pay its bills.

It is officially announced that the strike in Pacific coast shipyards is ended. Possibly some progress will now be made on the cruiser Nebraska. This state has been waiting patiently for a char- to shine at a launching.

The Pacific would cost a great deal more than the estimates that had been made. In view of this and the opinion of the commission it is not probable that any serious attention will be given to other than the Nicaragua and Panama routes, with the indications at present very favorable to the selection of the latter, should no difficulties be encountered in obtaining the required concessions from Colombia, as to which negotiations are now going on.

DESTROYING POLICE DISCIPLINE. In the police force of cities, as in the army, the most important factor for efficiency is discipline. An army whose commanders are under a cloud or constantly changing is easily demoralized, while an army whose commanding officers are known to enjoy permanent tenure and ample authority to enforce military regulations may be depended on to stand almost any ordeal.

The blame for police demoralization is, however, not to be laid entirely at the door of self-seeking politicians. It is largely due to the courts, whose judges, unconsciously, perhaps, play into the hands of political schemers and lawyers who make a living out of discharged policemen's back salary claims. In giving publicity to their views on the constitutionality of charter provisions relating to the fire and police commission they give these lawyers a broad hint as to what they would hold if cases involving the point in question were brought before them, where the supreme court itself would, under its own rulings, be bound to decline to reopen the issue.

The effect upon the police and fire departments of judicial opinions privately expressed cannot but be extremely demoralizing to the force, and consequently damaging to the public. While judges of the lower courts have a right to dissent from the views embodied in supreme court decisions they are not expected to reverse the supreme court or to exercise its prerogatives if the supreme court itself feels constrained by its own record to acquiesce in existing conditions until they are changed by a legislature.

The University of Nebraska seniors ought to esteem themselves highly privileged to have their commencement address delivered by Booker T. Washington, who unquestionably stands head and shoulders above most of the men who have preceded him for similar functions at this institution. If our state university harbors any narrow-minded and bigoted students in its senior class who object to listening to Booker T. Washington because of the color of his skin, they should disclose their identity before the commencement period so that the faculty may take precautions against granting its degrees to any likely to disgrace them.

Nebraska real estate men in state convention have declared themselves by resolution on a number of questions with immediate bearing on the state's progress and prosperity. The real estate men have everything at stake on the development of Nebraska's latent resources and by united effort should be able to accomplish tangible results.

Andrew Carnegie is quoted as saying that only those books that have stood the test of time for at least a year should find a place in a public library. If the Omaha Public Library should adopt a rule to this effect what a shock it would be to the chronic fiction fiends who feed on new novels.

On his road to Mexico ex-Secretary J. Sterling Morton dropped an interview in which he took a parting shot at the free distribution of seeds by the government. How does the sage of Arbor Lodge expect the ordinary congressman to convince his constituents that he has not forgotten them?

Power Directing the Music. Saturday Evening Post. American labor is driven and permeated by intelligence, and that is the great thing after all. It is American brain behind American muscle that has wrought all this wonder which is bringing investigators from foreign climes on every steamship, and which is just beginning to make its real strength known.

Produce the Documents. New York Evening Post. Another revelation that about the attitude of the powers toward this government on the eve of the Spanish war, comes from Washington. It is credited to a "high official," who was "entirely familiar with the diplomacy of that period." But this "insider," however, is not the man who the controversy we must have names, dates, documents. Anything else is worth no man's attention. We have had quite enough of these mysterious, unnamed persons in the background, with their "I could as if I would." Neither a "high official" nor a person in close touch with the Foreign Office; neither a "semi-official endorsement" nor an account vouchered for as "substantially correct" will avail us now. We would not even take the word of "Historical" or "Ex-Attache" and as for "insider" we would not touch with the waste basket half enlarged its borders to swallow up their communications unread. We pine for the documents in the case.

Demagogue Leaders Waiting for Something to Turn Up. Denver Times. Senator James K. Jones, who acquired rather fitting fame as the under dog in two presidential fights, is inclined to think that anti-imperialism will be the paramount issue in the next great national political fight. He has been quoted in Boston as saying that the issues for which Bryan has stood for the last six years and more will be carefully eliminated, but this he now denies, yet warty darty hints that many things may happen in the course of the next two or three years—an observation which may be warmly commended for its spirit and its truth, even though it furnishes little enlightenment to those who sit in outer darkness.

Nobody has yet been able to suggest the common ground upon which the democratic party may yet unite for an offensive national campaign, chiefly, perhaps, for the reason that it is impossible to do so. In congress, so far, the leaders are simply sparring for wind. The treatment of the colonies and their relations or lack of relations to the country which governs them may be found to contain some political ammunition, but this has not yet assumed the form of a definite program, and as yet no effective means of winning votes. The trusts and the tariff, particularly so far as the latter may foster the trusts, may yet prove an effective implement of political warfare, but, with good times and general prosperity, it can be regarded as easy to crystallize issues which are likely to electrify the country.

Indeed, politics now is simply a waiting game—a case of trusting entirely to the chapter of accidents. The overshadowing issue has not yet leaved above the horizon and the democratic party, which once brought it to a head have not yet been grouped together, nor is their tendency in that direction so manifest that even the closest observer has been able to seize them. The very best that can be done is to watch the attitude of congress and through it learn the manifestations of public opinion as put forth by the dominant political party.

HOW HISTORY IS DISTORTED. Sample Cited from a Sketch of Former President Cleveland. St. Louis Globe-Democrat. The writer of an article on Grover Cleveland in one of the current magazines—the same writer who was recently scourged by some of the leading papers of the country for some of his slurs on Thomas C. Platt—states that the Democratic party, in its election of the ex-president. That writer says, for example, in referring to the election of Cleveland for governor in 1882, that "the revolt against republican rule was brutal, unplaned—a barbaric yawn of disgust." Nobody who knows anything about that canvass could have told that writer that it was the Conkling-Blaire fight in New York, and not any revolt against republican rule, for there was no such revolt, that gave Cleveland his 193,000 lead over Folger for governor in 1882. Cleveland got only 500 more votes in New York in that year than Hancock polled in that state, two years earlier, while Folger's vote was 213,000 short of that received by Garfield in the canvass two years prior. The factional fight simply kept these republicans away from the polls.

According to that writer, an anti-republican "torpedo broke out in 1884" and "hurled him (Cleveland) into the White House." The dimensions of this "torpedo" can be pretty accurately gauged by the right hostility of Cleveland to New York, out of an aggregate of 1,200,000 votes in the state, and that state decided the election in the whole country. A change of 600 votes from the democratic to the republican side in the state of New York in that year would have elected Blaine. The burdard candidate, St. John, carried the vote of 25,996, the defection of the Conkling section of the republicans in interior New York, and any one of the many other things which could be cited would undoubtedly account for more than this 600 votes. The Cleveland-Blaire fight is pretty effectively answered by Cleveland's "party party" and party dishonor assault on the Wilson-Gorman revenue and tax reduction measure, which he contemptuously refused to sign, allowing it to go on the statute book by the expiration of the time limit. Moreover, he increased the interest-bearing debt to the extent of \$32,000,000 in his second term, in a period of profound peace, by sales of bonds for gold to protect the treasury reserve.

Even in his particulars in which Cleveland was right, that writer is hopelessly astray. He says that when Cleveland in 1885 "ascended the platform to make his inaugural address, not fifty men in the world could have guessed what position he would take on any pending problem." This was ten days after the president-elect had written that letter to A. J. Warner of Ohio, in which he pointed out that the only way to save the country from the ruin which silver coinage threatened to inflict upon it was to stop the coinage of silver. Many of Cleveland's addresses in the campaign of 1884 showed that he was against further silver coinage. That Warner letter ten days before he took office showed that he would hit silver as soon as he could reach it and hit it just as hard a blow as he could get. There were not fifty newspaper readers in the United States on the day of Cleveland's first inauguration who had the slightest doubt as to his exact position on the silver question, one of the two most important issues of the day. This is one of the ways in which the writer has shown that he is not qualified to deal with it while lacking a knowledge of history's elementary facts.

Japan Holds the Key. Chicago Chronicle. Japan is the "key to the Pacific," but a treaty between Japan and England is not likely to prevent Russia picking the lock quietly when she is quite ready and England is not looking on.

Hawaii Working for Results. Baltimore American. There is nothing slow about Hawaii. Its delegate comes forward with a bill to double the president's salary and extend the benefits all along the line. The new dependency is not wasting time on sentimental legislation, but is starting right at the fountainhead of practicality.

Let Cuba Help Itself

The latest scare got up in all of "starving Cuba" is to the effect that if we do not let in Cuban sugar and tobacco Senator Palma will refuse the presidency of the island, on the ground that the "refugee" of the United States to "help Cuba" will render it "impossible to maintain a stable government." If Senator Palma should decline on any such ground it would be one of the most monumental exhibitions of pure "cheek" in the annals of political history. The Cuban government is not the only government in the world. Its sugar planters, as we recently showed, were not long ago receiving higher prices for their sugar than those which are found "perfectly satisfactory" to the Germans, whose industry and skill must be applied to the thin, cold soil of northern Europe. If, with all the necessities of the Cuban cannot earn a living in the face of German competition, we are under no obligation whatever to support them. We may regret the misery even of the utterly shiftless, but the United States does not set up a great democracy as an institution for the support of the paupers of the world.

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS. The expenses of the maintenance of the German settlement at Kiao-Chau continue to increase. Last year they were 10,000,000 marks. This year they will be 12,000,000. The corresponding profits are indistinguishable. Although the railway from Tsing-tau to the Chinese town of Kiao-Chau (a distance of twenty-four kilometers) has been open for traffic since April 1, 1901, and although the line has since been extended to Kau-mi and Chang-Ling, the recently published official report has not a word to say of the traffic on sections which have been open for several months. The German officials at Kiao-Chau continue to increase. Last year they were 10,000,000 marks. This year they will be 12,000,000. The corresponding profits are indistinguishable. Although the railway from Tsing-tau to the Chinese town of Kiao-Chau (a distance of twenty-four kilometers) has been open for traffic since April 1, 1901, and although the line has since been extended to Kau-mi and Chang-Ling, the recently published official report has not a word to say of the traffic on sections which have been open for several months.

The Russianification of Finland proceeds apace. A correspondent of a London paper writing from Odessa says that scarcely a week passes but some new imperial ukase, ministerial edict or gubernatorial order deprives the Finns of one or another of their old self-governing institutions, rights and privileges. Finland, he says, can no longer be called an autonomous grand duchy appanage of the crown. The latest ministerial edict, promulgated at Helsinki, orders the disbandment of the Finnish metropolitan police, who are forthwith to be replaced by Russians and the Russian system of organization and administration. According to an announcement in the Hufvudstadsbladet, the imperial government annual subsidies, for many years past granted, of 3,000,000 sterling to the Steamship company for keeping open the water traffic between Hango and Stockholm, and of 2,000,000 sterling to the "Bore" company for maintaining winter communication between Abo and Stockholm, have been withdrawn. The reason ostensibly assigned for this deprivation is that the companies in question permitted their vessels to be inspected and searched by the Finnish police, but refused the same right to the Russian gendarmes.

The fact that M. Delcasse, the French minister of foreign affairs, has been more or less ironically called "the Gladstone of France" by a Paris paper has aroused curiosity to learn the cause of the appellation. In a recent debate in the Chamber of Deputies, M. Delcasse, in replying on the debate on an interpellation brought forward by M. Rouquet on the Armenian massacre, declared that the Armenian question was essentially an international one. France alone could not bring about a solution, but it could give itself upon that it had fallen into its power to lessen the hardships of the Armenians, and was successful in preventing the massacres. Any international convention at the present moment would be likely to raise numerous delicate questions. Such a convention was, however, not impossible. For the time being the question was to secure an equitable administration and absolute tranquility for all the subjects of the Turkish empire. The question was to defend deserving populations from the violence which they had been subjected to in France. He concluded, who had already put forth so many efforts, was ready to renew them and to associate itself with this work. It was ready to prove itself Turkey's sincere friend by pointing out how prejudicial the situation of Armenia might be to its best interests.

Aprons of the recent duel in Prussia, in which Herr von Bennisgen, the governor of Springe, was murdered by an altogether worthless person, Herr Pakenhagen, an attempt has been made in official quarters to curb the growing public movement against the duello. The attitude which even the most zealous guardians of the law assume toward dueling is well illustrated by a speech made by Herr Cuny, one of the chief crown prosecutors. He denounced those persons who opposed the "knightly duel."

"We hold fast," he said, "to the old German custom of our forefathers, who took pleasure in the play of weapons. We must not carry the sword only as an ornament. We must use it in joyful battle. We must also recognize that in many cases where honor is concerned no other solution is possible than recourse to weapons. Let the Philistines object as they like, we shall hold fast to an unsurpassed method of training our youth."

The speech has attracted much attention in the Prussian press, especially as a large majority of the population regard the "Mensur" in German universities as the reverse of training in any highly quality, and as a practice inconsistent with modern notions of good breeding.

San Francisco Chronicle (rep.).

San Francisco Chronicle (rep.). The matter is long delayed. I recently took a trip to the mountain districts and found the petrores absolutely bare of cattle and the inhabitants almost too poor to obtain the bare necessities of life and utterly discouraged over the situation. While many of them have large tracts of land, they cannot raise a dollar to stock them or for any other purpose, and never taste a morsel of meat."

On the face of it this story is false. It will be noted that it has nothing to do with sugar. It refers to a cattle country. There was never a better market for beef than that now is. If anybody owns land in a cattle country he needs no trouble whatever to get cattle to feed upon it. There are men in the cattle business who only need know of the chance. Meanwhile an "important official" is said to represent the president and secretary of war as hoping "to avoid the grave contingency of Senator Palma's refusal to assume office." We do not think they need worry and don't believe that they are worrying. If the salary is satisfactory and he has Uncle Sam's guaranty for "order" back of him we suspect he will take his job. Very likely he never thought of anything else. It is unsafe to believe anything whatever about this Cuban business. If there were any truth in the stories which are told the trust would be only too glad to give the names of the witnesses. It would not alter the situation if they were true, except that the country might be willing to relieve temporary distress by general taxation. To put the entire burden of the support of a childless race on the American beet sugar farmers would be an outrage.

The sudden enforcement in France of the law passed in 1884 forbidding working people of both sexes, for reasons of health, to take their meals on their employer's premises, is declared to be a real hardship by Le Petit Journal of Paris. Some of the wealthier Parisian firms had established refresheries where ample meals were provided at cost, but the smaller employers in the crowded districts were unable to do so. The poor work girls have now been driven into the public streets and squares to the detriment of their health and in many cases of their morals. An outcry has been raised to interpret the law more humanely, and not to inflict fines upon employers who allow work people to take their meals in workrooms if the rules of hygiene are observed.

Dr. Samuel Webb of Wagner sleeping car fame, who owns a large slice of Vermont, is a candidate for the republican nomination for governor of that state. The justice party, which proposes to apply the golden rule to politics, will hold a convention in Washington, April 5. The new party is not very large, but its task is immense. During the last six months of Tammany rule in New York City, enough securities were attached to the municipal payroll to draw \$615,866. One-third of the barnacles had been scraped off. Senator Beveridge of Indiana promptly contradicted the story that he employs a valet. The idea of public men having a valet is a dangerous one to get abroad in the Blue Jeans state.

The saddest spectacle witnessed in the south since the war was the stranding of the Cook County Democratic club, on its way to the Charleston exposition, in a dry Georgia town, last Sunday. The speaker of the Illinois house remarks: "Let me make the maps and I do not care what the rest of you do. I wouldn't belong to a party that would not gerrymander the other fellow."

Former Senator Gray of Delaware, now a federal judge, sought to enter the senate chamber the other day, but found the doors barred. A bunch of lights announced that the august senate was in executive session. The judge gazed on the danger signals for a moment, and, turning away, muttered, "Well, if the senate of the United States has got into the red light district, I am glad I am not of it."

Indiana politics has developed a new idea. An ambitious office-seeker wants a court to issue a mandamus compelling his party to nominate him. The office-seeking man is a lost art in Woodstock.

Washington Star.

Washington Star. "I suppose you hope to make a very cultivated young man of your boy John." "Yes," answered Farmer Cortnessel. "We're cultivating him the best we can. Every now and then mother and me gives him a rakin' over." Philadelphia Press: Customer—Yes, I like this piece of goods. How much? Tailor—Pair of pants? Five—Customer—I want a pair of pants. I want a pair of trousers. Tailor—To be sure. We will make you a pair of trousers for \$10. Chicago Tribune. The waiter brought to the professor a sandwich in which a broad slice of ham overlapped the thin and insubstantial slices of beef that were supposed to conceal it. "Take it away," said the professor, "and bring me one not quite so deceitful."

Puck: First Burglar—What did you take that brickbat for? "Tain't no good!" Second Burglar—Tain't! First Burglar—Tain't yer, Jimmy, if yer want make a first-class success in dis business yer got to knut-somethin' about art." Judge: First Dear Mute—You get twisted in your talk, mister, who is interested in art. Second Dear Mute—That's because my fingers are crooked.

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R. L. Taylor in Chicago Tribune. Aufwiedersehen, brother mine! Farewells will soon be kissed; And ere you leave to break the brine, Give me one of those 'Goin' Home' bottles. That muffed fist, clenched high in air On many a foreign shore, Enforcing cooling stations where No stations were before.

That fist, which weaker nations view As if 'twere Michael's own, And which appalls the heathen who Bow down to wood and stone. And, should you get a chance, find out—If anybody know—Exactly what it's all about, That Doctrine of Monroe's, That's entire nous. My present plan You know as well as I; Be just as Yankee as you can; If needs be, eat some pie. Cut out the 'krut, cut out Rhine wine, Cut out the Schutzenputz, The Sangarbutz, The Kommerz, and the rest. And if some fool society "Die Waent an Rhein" should sing, YOU sing "My Country, 'Tis of Thee—The tune 'Goin' Home' Save the King!" To our own kindred in that land, There's not much you need tell, Just tell them that you saw me, and That's all's looking well.

FOUNDED REMARKS.

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Advertisement for Spring Hats "are ready" by John B. Stetson. Features a logo with 'B.K.' and 'STETSON' and text: 'Spring Hats "are ready" Everything that is nice and right in line in head wear waits your choosing here at a new price— "Especially" the Celebrated John B. Stetson famous Alpine, Panama and Derby Spring and Summer Hats for 1902 at the new price— \$3.50 We would be pleased to show you their good qualities, style and becomingness, as they are gems of the hatters' art. Our hat window blooms with spring pickings, and there's a bud in the bunch for you. Browning King & Co Exclusive Clothiers and Furnishers. R. S. Wilcox, Manager.