

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily Bee (without Sunday), One Year, \$2.00...

DELIVERED BY CARRIER. Daily Bee (without Sunday), per copy, 10c...

OFFICES. Omaha—The Bee Building, South Omaha—City Hall Building, Twentieth and M Streets...

CORRESPONDENCE. Communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed to Omaha, Mo., Editorial Department.

REMITTANCES. Remit by draft, express or postal order, payable to The Bee Publishing Company.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.: George B. Tackach, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of January, 1902, was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Copies and Amount. Total 841,905. Less unsold and returned copies 9,840. Net total sales 832,079. Net daily average 30,097.

People who want to keep abreast of British politics will do well to keep an eye on Lord Rosebery.

If Bryan had only known that Cleveland had also been invited to that Tilden jubilee, would he have declined even to send his regrets?

For once The Bee agrees with J. B. Kitchen in his conclusion that grinding taxes to sharpen political axes is not good politics in the long run.

We wait with bated breath for the return attack on John L. Webster's second elucidation of the hidden beauties of the Declaration of Independence.

From the number of telephonic bills introduced into the Iowa legislature there must be a surplus of talk chargeable to overproduction in the Hawkeye state.

Chief Donahue's crusade against "untidly" public dancing was doubtless inspired by an anxiety to prevent young people from catching cold after midnight.

If Fighting Joe Wheeler were still on deck in the house he would doubtless have jumped into the breach with a hot reply to the gallery play of his namesake, Wheeler of Kentucky.

Hot water and hot sand may serve the purpose for midwinter foundations of the Union Pacific shops, but hot air in midwinter and midsummer creates that red feeling for the patrons of the Omaha Bakery.

If Marconi's wireless telegraphy could only connect Omaha with the Platte river canal and power plant it would, score a prompt and lasting victory over the slow-going processes on which the promoters have been relying up to date.

Governor Taft asserts as a result of his observation that 90 per cent of the Filipinos are too ignorant to sit on a jury. Taking the standard of jurors as they usually run, this is the severest arraignment that has yet been laid against our new wards.

Pat Crowe has a right to claim a place a few rounds higher up the ladder than those Bulgarian brigands. When Crowe's demand for ransom was met he promptly executed his part of the bargain by releasing the hostage like an honorable bandit.

The county board has adopted a resolution notifying the various county officers and department heads to cut their garments according to their cloth—and if they need any more cloth they will have to step up to the counter run by the county board for a fresh supply.

People who read signs in the stars may see in the postponement of the meeting of the Nebraska Exposition commission called to block out plans for the state's participation in the St. Louis world's fair a forerunner of the postponement of the fair just to give Nebraska plenty of time to get ready.

On the same principle that a man's shirt is nearer to him than his overcoat, the question of just distribution of tax burdens here in Omaha concerns us a great deal more vitally than the question whether the Tagalogs should rule the other races in the Philippines or the Americans should rule the Tagalogs.

For the health department to issue precautionary proclamations is all right, but they should be followed up with a more stringent enforcement of the health regulations. Omaha is naturally a healthy community, with the best of climatic conditions and municipal sanitation, and if the people will only do their share no difficulty will be encountered.

A BRIEF EXPLANATION.

When the yellow journals and frenzied swashbucklers were shouting themselves hoarse for war in the spring of 1898, they stigmatized everybody who favored a peaceable settlement of the Cuban conflict as an enemy of freedom.

The Bee has never dodged an issue nor does it propose to run away from its record. The Bee opposed the acquisition of Hawaii when President Harrison sought to annex it.

The World-Herald, which urged the democrats and populists in the senate to ratify the treaty, The Bee pointed out the inevitable consequences of the treaty—namely, the permanent annexation of the islands with all the burdens and responsibilities the United States would have to assume.

In this case The Bee has been consistent, as well as outspoken. The time for talking independence for the Filipinos was before the transfer of sovereignty in the islands to the United States. Those who were parties to the ratification of the treaty and those who favored ratification have no right now to assail the president or congress for discharging the duties imposed on them under the treaty.

While the amount of public funds alleged to have been embezzled by Mr. Meserve is comparatively small, the charge is absolutely the same as that for which Joseph S. Bartley was convicted and sentenced to a twenty-year term. When Mr. Meserve accepted the position of state treasurer he assumed all of the grave responsibilities devolving upon the custodian of public funds for the state of Nebraska.

The announcement by the postmaster general that hereafter fourth class postmasters will not be removed from office except for inefficiency or misconduct and that the department will no longer consider these places as political patronage, will be heartily approved by the 75,000 postmasters of the fourth class throughout the country.

It is not contemplated to make the new regulation strictly applicable to cases where senators or representatives have already asked for changes in fourth class postoffices. It is stated not to be the intention of the department to run counter to senators and representatives in carrying the new policy into execution.

It is to be expected that the spoliators will kick vigorously against this change, but it is said that the president and postmaster general expect it to meet with all the encouragement necessary to establish it successfully and permanently. The civil service reform principle has encountered opposition from the spoils politicians at every step of its progress and there is still a goodly number of such politicians. They manifest their hostility to the reform at every session of congress.

The rule that fourth class postmasters will not be removed except for inefficiency or misconduct is reasonably expected to prove of benefit to the service. It is believed that its effect will be to induce fourth class postmasters to exercise greater care and take more interest in the service, thus conducing to more efficiency. At all events, the postal service cannot suffer any injury from the new policy, while it is a very notable extension of the civil service reform principle. Reducing the number of offices that have served for political patronage to the extent of 75,000 is a circumstance of more than ordinary interest.

The hot-spurred Edgar Howard hurries the opprobrious epithet "ingrate" at the noble form of former United States Senator William V. Allen in response to the latter's repudiation of the Hon. T. Jefferson as the only and exclusive originator and patron of the self-evident truth of man's equality in the enjoyment of natural rights.

No SYMPATHETIC PROSECUTION. The trial of the late state treasurer, J. B. Meserve, who was indicted by the Douglas county grand jury for the embezzlement of state funds, is set for next Thursday.

John N. Westberg in his capacity as a private citizen has entered a complaint with John N. Westberg as a member of the Advisory board against the Dodge street motor cars and we may confidently predict that John N. Westberg sitting in judgment on the Advisory board will order the street railway company to furnish a more commodious equipment for Private Citizen Westberg as he journeys from the city hall to his home in the Sixth ward.

The tendency among the great American universities to seek locations where, although within the confines of large cities, they may yet have room to grow and enjoy comparative isolation, is seen again in the determination of Johns Hopkins university to abandon its present site in the heart of Baltimore for one in the near suburbs of that city.

If the salaries of our federal judges are increased according to the proposal already endorsed by the senate, it may be safely accepted as settled that they will never be reduced again. The federal constitution expressly prohibits congress from diminishing the compensation of members of the judiciary during the terms for which they are appointed, the object being to prevent the infliction of punishment in the nature of a fine by congress reducing their salaries to get even for some objectionable decision they might render.

Unless the dream whom the Douglas County Democracy has projected into the congressional arena can be induced to step down from the second-story sanctum to the ground floor business office to arrange the differences between himself and the dream whom the Jacksonians have in mind for the same position during the coming campaign, the confusionists of this district may discover that two bodies cannot occupy the same space at the same time.

Some Corners that Fall. Washington Post. The collapse of the last Ice Wet corner reminded us quite forcibly of the grain operations of young Mr. Phillips.

Friendly After the Fight. Baltimore American. In the new treaty of amity, the United States and Spain are shaking hands after the late unpleasantness. And long may this hearty handshake be registered in the memory of both nations!

Profits of the Trade. Boston Transcript. Mr. Brodick has stated to the House of Commons that 446,088 horses have been bought by the British government for the war, of which 77,733 came from the United States and 1,184 from Canada. At the average price given of \$140 to \$150, American breeders have had a good time of it, but it has been death to the horses.

Another Myth Exploded. Chicago Inter-Ocean. From Austria, France and Italy we received a host of letters and cables congratulating us on our victory over the Austrians. The Austrians were not so much as we were, but they seem to be doing an excellent work in the face of whatever difficulties and discouragements may be inevitable. Orders of these schools have been opened and much progress has been already made in the education and enlightenment of the children of the natives.

"Ancient Landmarks"

Washington Post. Since Mr. Bryan and his followers carried out Lincoln's views on equal rights and the consent of the governed, let us look at the facts of his official record.

Slavery was certainly a denial of equal rights and the consent theory. Mr. Lincoln respected the constitutional right in the premises. He and the leaders generally of his party were not only willing, but anxious, early in 1861, to have a constitutional amendment adopted prohibiting any interference with slavery in any state wherein that institution existed.

Lincoln's mission, the work to which Lincoln's party addressed itself, was, as we have said, to prevent the extension of slavery. That task was fully accomplished before Lincoln's life ended. When and where has the republican party been unfaithful to the great mission which it was born to accomplish?

Of course that party's record is not free from mistakes, and some of them have been disastrous to the country. Its greatest mistake was the enfranchisement of the ex-slaves, but that was giving some millions of men a chance to consent to that error, was it not? It is quite different on the equality of rights and consent of the governed theory. Is it not somewhat significant that the republican party's most calamitous blunder was an attempt to change its policy with the Declaration of Independence?

Republicans Discuss Favorites. Hastings Tribune. The Tribune would not be surprised in the least if the friends of W. E. Howard would soon start a movement for his nomination for congress in the Fifth district.

Superior Journal: Frank A. Dean of Holdrege is spoken of quite favorably by some of the Fifth district papers for the nomination for governor on the republican ticket.

Kearney Hub: Senator Arends of Otoe and F. M. Wetherald of Thayer are candidates for governor. It is said it is also announced that H. H. Wilson of Lincoln is a candidate.

Valentine Frontier: The O'Neil Frontier announces Judge Kinkaid as a candidate for congress from the Sixth district and sets forth good and sufficient reasons why he should be nominated.

Columbus Times: Columbus, in presenting a candidate for congressional honors is the peer of an aspirant, to say the least, is simply the new Columbus way of being supreme in all things.

Stanton Register: As a candidate for governor John C. Sprecher of Schuyler is one of the strongest men that has been mentioned. He is fearless in his advocacy of right and no one ever knew him to shrink a duty. His honesty is unquestioned, his integrity and ability is equalled by few men in the state.

Senator Sprecher served two terms in the state legislature and he was easily one of the brightest men who were elected. His legislative record is clean in every particular. Always perfectly square in his dealings, as a governor he would do right and punish wrong. Loved and respected by his friends, his enemies cannot help but admire his sterling qualities.

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PERSONAL NOTES.

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Dr. Butler, the new president of Columbia, is said to have declined fourteen college presidencies before he got the offer that he wanted.

The chiefs of the fire departments of Waterbury, Conn., and Paterson, N. J., are respectively Stagg and Stage. A hoodoo must lurk in the combats.

It is related of Samuel Alvin Sperry, who has just died in Reno county, Kansas, that he was one of a family of fourteen children, all of whom lived to be more than 75 years old.

Henry Kayton, the veteran artist of Baltimore, has just celebrated his 93rd birthday. Among his best works as an artist were his portraits of President John Tyler and Governor Iredell of North Carolina.

A writer in the London Saturday Review speaks of "Mr. Senator Toll of the United States House of (elected) Lords." This reference is undoubtedly to Senator Teller of Colorado, but it is a joke or an exhibition of ignorance?

Sir Conrad Reeves, chief justice of Barbadoes, who died a short time ago, was a mulatto who rose from the humblest social condition. He began life as a newspaper reporter and eventually came to be regarded as the greatest statesman, able lawyer and most patriotic of all native West Indians. At the time of his death he was 80 years old.

Alphonse G. Caron lived as a clown for a quarter of a century, traveling with big circus shows in this country and abroad. Now he has stepped into the arena as an artist with a vengeance, having opened an undertaker's establishment uptown in New York. Caron's father was a clown and his mother was Zsuzfretta, known to half of Europe as a clever dancer and tragedienne.

It now appears that Carnegie plagiarized in choosing for his epitaph the words: "Here lies a man who knew enough to surround himself with men wiser than he." The late Emperor Frederick of Germany made a speech shortly after his father's death in which he said: "He was a great man—great especially because he knew how to surround himself with men greater than he was."

Judge Landford—The rent of this suite of rooms is \$50 a week, including water. Colonel Kentuck—How much without the water?

Chicago News: Tom—But perhaps she doesn't love you. Jack—O, yes, she does. Tom—How do you know? Jack—When I told her that I had no money to get married she offered to borrow some from her father.

Chicago Tribune: "What kind of soup is this?" asked the professor, as the waiter plied his dish with the words: "Ox tail," replied the waiter. "That's the last part of the ox I'd ever use for soup," said the professor.

Baltimore American: "As to my merit," said the young man who was asking the lady's father for her hand, "you will have taken me at my word, because I know how to surround himself with men greater than he was."

Pittsburg Chronicle: "The League of American Wheelmen has lost a large proportion of its membership," said the Observer Boarder. "In other words, it is doing considerable business," added the Cross-Eyed Boarder.

Washington Star: "Cholly Chubb is raising a mustache," said one young woman. "Ain't observed it," said the other. "Probably not. He's raising it on his valve. Not nearly so much trouble and he can watch it grow."

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "Ma, is pa right?" "What about?" "I asked him how the bald eagle got its name and he said it was because it differed from the rest of the birds. And he said it differed because the bald eagle is a married bird."

Chicago Post: "What are you going to give up in Lent?" asked the assistant recorder. "I pondered the matter deeply for a moment. I'll give up one of my engagements. I'll give up the girl I don't think it's very nice for a girl to be engaged to two men in Lent, do you?"

PAYNE MAYDE AND PALACE KNIGHT. W. D. Nesbit in Saturday Evening Post. Ye Payne Mayde in Palace satts, And wept full doleful; With reddened nose and streaming eye, A sorry sight to see; Ye Payne Mayde rode a-downe ye Prye, Erytht frode ye lanceing Gynges; But stopt full suddenly whynas; Her weepings smote his Ears.

"Gadsdookes!" he called. "What means these weeps?" "Why, 'twas because ye said 'I shall rescue thee.' Now, marry, I shall rescue thee." "For I have said 'I shall rescue thee.' But fytate, Payne Mayde, telle me ye woe That thide me crovs ye Moote, And these th' Ears, and once more, Else I'm a Billie Groat."

Ye Payne Mayde wepte; ye Payne Mayde cryed; "Aye, and lackaday!" My Papa is ye cruell knight; My mak mees by ye 'Brave Knight' "O'ldfellow!" ye 'Brave Knight' spake hym thenne. "Your Papa shall be tochte That manne there be who have ye myght To showe hym what is what!"

He reyned hys graunching Charger thenne, And wote hys name, 'Brave Knighte'; Ye Payne Mayde lode dide wyle agayne; "My hearte is sore oppressed; I have not tyme to lanceing Gynges; To go upon my backe; But fytate, Payne Mayde, telle me ye woe That thide me crovs ye Moote, And these th' Ears, and once more, Else I'm a Billie Groat."

Ye Payne Mayde dide deplore, "But Payne—cruelle Payne—saye He will notte bye me myghte!" "But nowe, sence that you have velle ye 'You'll rescue me, 'Brave Knighte'; I'll drye my Tears, wyl knowinge you 'Will see me 'lugged out' 17bite. I onle wate—"

But suddene sounde Upon her Ears dide stryke; "Ye Payne Mayde, telle me ye woe That thide me crovs ye Moote, And these th' Ears, and once more, Else I'm a Billie Groat."

Ye LEBSON. Oh, Maydene fayre, ye Lefson is; Telle notte ye foolish menne; 'Boutte ye 'Brave Knighte'; They may notte see you thenne.

How They Are Said to Be Affected by the Bankruptcy Law. Boston Advertiser. Senator Dolliver of Iowa is credited with a determination to try to get the present bankruptcy law abolished. He says that a reason that it makes it so easy for young men to rush into debt and then secure a discharge in bankruptcy, and many previously honest young men are now borrowing all they can, with the purpose of appealing to the bankruptcy law in order to defraud their creditors. On moral grounds he thinks that the law should be repealed.

We agree with Mr. Dolliver in the statement that the present bankruptcy law puts a premium upon dishonesty by affording no remedy for the honest and honorable man who can escape paying his debts. We do not agree with him as to the practical workings of the law. It really tends to lessen credits instead of increasing them. Time was when the average merchant could go to banks and borrow money for his needs. The bankruptcy law has mightily changed this. The large banks no longer buy commercial paper. Some still accommodate old and well-tried customers, but they are gradually withdrawing from these discounts. In the large cities commercial paper, except that of great corporations, is handled to but a small fraction of what was done a few years ago. In smaller places, where individual borrowers are better known, the change is

Not so radical, but it is going on there. The bankruptcy law was passed in order to help credits, in order to secure a federal engine of collection. It has hurt them, because it makes the way of refusing to pay and of getting a clean discharge too easy. The true foundation of credits is the danger of willingness felt by bankers to loan. For they in the end carry all credits. And the bankruptcy law has already, in part, dried up the confidence of the banking world in lending money upon commercial paper and the distrust is increasing. The result is that the banks were never so strong and never made so few loans, but the small merchant and manufacturer, honest many times, suffering the same as the dishonest, is finding the sources of credit closed and is going out of business or being absorbed into larger concerns of established capital and credit.

We have no idea that the present bankruptcy law will be abolished or seriously changed. We believe that in some regards it is serving a good purpose, but a very different one from what was anticipated by some of those who expected much from it.

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