

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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Printed in my presence and sworn to before me this 28th day of February, A. D. 1902.

Prince Henry evidently forgot to bring a present for the weather man.

There seems to be trouble on the Omaha reservation. And this time it is not to be charged up to the Indians, either.

Bellicent senators might take a tip from the member of the Greek cabinet who resigned before engaging in a personal encounter.

Prince Henry will make a great mistake if he neglects to exchange courtesies with his royal brother, the good King Al-Bar-Bey.

The United States Golf association has \$8,820 in its strongbox. Some treasurers would make the green with that kind of a ball on the first drive.

A magazine publisher has offered Miss Stone \$30,000 for a series of six articles. The country is full of people willing to be kidnaped to secure an offer like that.

If there are any sharp corners to be turned the school book trust may be depended on to make them. In the interval the taxpayers of Omaha can pay the bill.

An American girl has been commissioned to paint a portrait of the queen of England. The American girl certainly knows how to paint as well as any of them.

For some inscrutable reason all accounts of the piano christening at the Douglas County Democracy fail to state just what became of that fine bottle of old Bordeaux.

A hospital for Americans suffering from nostalgia is to be established in Paris. The treatment for those troubled with nostalgia is doubtless "pies like mother used to make."

The Charleston exposition is threatened with an attack of the Buffalo disease. Omaha is apparently in no danger of losing its prestige as the exposition city par excellence.

The weather man is starting in to vindicate the groundhog. If that animal needs any vindication. The wise man does not allow his coal pile to run out this early, groundhog shadow or no shadow.

At least one state in the union is in no fear of being called upon, like South Carolina, to bluish for its senators. All the blishes in Delaware are reserved for the legislature which failed to elect any senators.

If they only succeed in screwing the price of warrants up high enough the school teachers may be able to make good more than was taken out of the salary list in the late retrenchment of the school board.

Iowa and Nebraska wholesale grocers have organized to protect their trade territory against the invasion of outside competitors. If their organization is content to pursue this line no one will have any objection. Should the grocers combine to raise prices upon their own customers the reconstructions will come in thick and fast.

The captain of the battleship Iowa reports that the Chileans fairly outdid themselves in showing himself and the members of the ship's company courtesies during his recent visit. Like a good many other countries, Chile has much more respect for the United States navy since the Spanish war than it had a few years ago when the cruiser Baltimore carried in the port of Valparaiso.

NOT A SECTIONAL MATTER.

In his very instructive and interesting address at the dinner of the National Business League Secretary Shaw said that he had "little sympathy and scant patience with that provincialism which opposes any plan of developing any portion of our common country which has its root in the fear that it will create sectional competition." He had special reference to those who antagonize on this ground the reclamation of the arid and semi-arid regions and there are many such in the eastern and central states. The secretary of the treasury, before making that declaration, had presented facts to show that the limit of agricultural development, under existing conditions, has been nearly reached and he urged that the only hope of a material increase in agricultural products is through irrigation of arid lands.

It is indeed a very narrow provincialism that opposes irrigation from fear of sectional competition. As was said by Judge Gavin of New Mexico at the same dinner, every citizen of the country would feel a benefit from the development of the vast arid area. "The factories of New England, as well as the great plants of the middle west, would all receive their share of the business. Rinder this land tillable and every acre will be settled upon and improved by the homeseeker. Towns and cities will spring up, the wealth of our nation increase and, what is greater and better than all, an opportunity will be given for the better development of the typical American citizen."

President Roosevelt presented the national value of this policy in his message to congress. "The reclamation and settlement of the arid lands," he said, "will enrich every portion of our country, just as the settlement of the Ohio and Mississippi valleys brought prosperity to the Atlantic states. The increased demand for manufactured articles will stimulate industrial production, while wider home markets and the trade of Asia will consume the larger food supplies and effectually prevent western competition with eastern agriculture. Indeed, the products of irrigation will be consumed chiefly in upbuilding local centers of mining and other industries, which would otherwise not come into existence at all. Our people as a whole will profit, for successful home making is but another name for the upbuilding of the nation." This is the broad and enlightened view and there is no doubt it is growing, although the spirit of provincialism deprecated by Secretary Shaw is strong and undoubtedly will more or less vigorously manifest itself when this subject shall be taken up for consideration in congress.

Reclamation of the arid lands that can be made available for agriculture is a matter of national interest, the results of which would benefit all sections. It would add enormously to the country's wealth and power. These results would not be realized in a brief time; not fully perhaps for two or three generations, but there will never be a more favorable time than now for beginning the great work. And because it is of national scope the vast enterprise should be undertaken and consummated by the nation.

ANOTHER CLAIM ON TURKEY.

Are we to have another prolonged diplomatic controversy with the "unspeakable Turk"? That appears to be promised by the report that our government may present a claim against the Turkish government for the ransom money paid for the release of Miss Stone, in the event that it can be shown that any responsibility for the abduction rests upon Turkey. It is obvious, however, that it will be an extremely difficult matter to establish Turkish responsibility. Miss Stone, it is understood, will be asked by the Department of State to make a full report of her experience and all the assistance she can give in the task of making up a case to be submitted to the Turkish government.

But from the nature of the dispatches it seems that she will not be able to throw much light upon the question of Turkish responsibility. She probably cannot determine whether her captors were Bulgarians or Turks, the supposition being that they were the former disguised as Turks. While in captivity she was not given an opportunity to know much about her surroundings. The money for her ransom was paid on Bulgarian soil and she was released in Turkey, but this cannot be held to fix any responsibility upon the Turkish government. Doubtless a thorough investigation of the matter is desirable, since not to do so might encourage other outrages of the kind, but there is very small probability that the Turkish government can be shown to have any responsibility in the matter.

MOVING ON THE COMBINATIONS.

President Roosevelt has been much commended for his action in directing the Department of Justice to institute proceedings for testing the legality of the operations of the Northern Securities company in connection with the railroad merger in Minnesota. That portion of the public which is not interested in the combinations financially has welcomed this action of the president as evidence of his intention to enforce the federal anti-trust law, in accordance with the assurance he had given the public. It is stated, apparently upon good authority, that another application of the anti-trust law is to be made in this instance to corporations in California which are alleged to be operating in restraint of trade. It is not reported what the nature of these operations is, but more than likely it is similar in character to the Addyston pipe combination which was a few years ago declared by the supreme court to be in violation of the anti-trust law.

Such indications of the purpose of the Washington authorities to proceed against combinations to which the ex-

lecting law is believed to apply is altogether gratifying.

In this the president is performing his duty and he may be expected to persist in doing so regardless of what may be said of the possible danger to business from such a course. It has been reported that the president was urged not to take any action in the merger case lest it might check industrial development and the report is credible. It had no effect because Mr. Roosevelt, while certainly not desiring to do any injury to business, yet realizes that his duty is to execute the law as he finds it. Feeling thus, and believing also that the corporations engaged in interstate business should be subject to governmental regulation and supervision, it is safe to predict that the president will steadily and firmly pursue the course he has started upon. There is no way in which he can more surely strengthen his claim to public confidence.

THE WARRANT BROKERAGE ABUSE.

The rivalry that has sprung up over the privilege of cashing the salary warrants issued by the school district of Omaha as a result of the efforts of the finance committee of the board to save part of the interest to the taxpayers strikingly illustrates the high plane of credit enjoyed by the community. It has also, however, opened up to view the extent to which the warrant brokerage abuse has been carried among employes not only of the school board, but of the city, county and all departments of local government.

Few people realize how general the practice has become not only for discounting salary warrants drawn against the public treasury, but also for advancing the salary claims before they have accrued and in advance of issuing the warrant. The source of these abuses is to be traced to the pernicious practice of running the government on futures—in carrying on the operations of the schools, the city and county administrations in anticipation of revenues not yet collected instead of transacting the public business on a cash basis.

When school teachers find that their salary warrants must be registered for interest and held until the funds are available they naturally look with favor upon the offers of warrant brokers to take the paper of their hands, and once they find how easy it is to have money advanced to them in this way the step is short to the assignment of the salary before it is earned.

While everyone will concede that this condition of affairs is deplorable, the fault is not to be put upon the victims, but rather upon the system of which it is the direct outgrowth. It is hardly probable that any remedy can be devised without legislation, and it is doubtful whether legislation can put a stop to it until the public revenues are readjusted to enable the public authorities to pay as they go.

Some consolation may be had in the knowledge that Omaha is not the only city that suffers from the warrant brokerage abuse, nor the worst sufferer; it prevails in every growing American city to a greater or lesser degree, but the evils entailed are none the less real and grievous.

As was to have been expected, the release of Miss Stone, the missionary, on payment of a handsome ransom has started anew the experiments of imitators in various parts of the country, just as did Pat Crowe's exploit at Omaha. The worst effect of these compromises with outlaws is the encouragement given for emulating their example. Would-be kidnapers, however, are informed that Nebraska now has a law made to fit their case and that they will do well to steer clear of this state.

Our amiable hyphenated contemporary wants some practical philanthropist to start in Omaha a plant to supply houses with hot air for cooking and heating, and thus do away with the tremendous waste of fuel that now obtains. Why not establish a pipe line system connecting with the sanctum where those Salvation Army exhortations are evolved, arranged so that stop-cocks can be turned on whenever the editorial temperature has been worked up to the proper pitch?

If the big railroad magnates are disposed to look upon themselves as representing the large end of the financial affairs of this country, a few figures from the speech of Secretary Shaw might open their eyes. He stated that the value of the live stock sold in the Chicago yards alone was 85 per cent of the gross earnings of all the railroads in the country. When it is all added up it will appear that the farmer is the biggest financial factor we have.

The next point of attack for the Real Estate exchange in its campaign for tax reform is the body of precinct assessors, who make up the tax rolls for state and county purposes. These assessors will start to work within a month and should have some preliminary words of admonition poured into their ears against pursuing the old path of favoritism and discrimination.

The annual battle between the "wets" and the "drys" is about to be opened throughout the Nebraska towns and will this time include a fierce struggle between the contending forces at the state capital. Should they win out in the second city of the state the "drys" would have a trophy not to be matched in this part of the country.

King Edward should not be jealous if Uncle Sam is showing Prince Henry a bigger time than he did his royal highness when he was over here. The United States has a lot more to show now than it had then.

Chicago News. If Secretary Shaw is not careful he will offend the sensitive east in delivering a

A Receiver's Hopes.

The Detroit banker who saw the bank to the extent of \$1,000,000 is troubled with nervous prostration. What does he think the depositors have?

Threatened Run of Royalty.

Kansas City Journal. It is just possible that the other powers will be sending blue-blood representatives over to partake of America's hospitality, to keep even with Germany. We may have entered upon a strenuous era of gorgonous entertaining.

A Terrible Alternative.

Globe-Democrat. Unless the appropriation bills can be hurried through it is feared that the Cherokee Indians may be forced to resort to manual labor in order to maintain themselves in anything like their accustomed luxurious mode of living.

Going Away Back for Rest.

Cleveland Plain Dealer. Millionaire Whitney says he means to take an old-fashioned rest. This must indicate that he is going somewhere beyond the reach of telegrams, and daily papers, and interviewers, and solicitors and stock tickers. Such a place is hard to find.

All Share Alike.

Minneapolis Times. Secretary Ross of the Nebraska board of bank examiners has issued a report indicating unprecedented prosperity in Colonel Bryan's state. The state and national banks there are deposits amounting to \$87,000,000, an average of \$70 for every inhabitant. The increase in deposits as compared with a year ago is \$15,000,000. Of this prosperity we are glad to say that Colonel Bryan has enjoyed a liberal share.

Chinese in the Philippines.

Philadelphia Ledger. The Philippine commission favors a modification of the order prohibiting Chinese from entering the Philippines, and all the information obtainable supports its view. The Chinese are by far the best workers in the islands and the process of reconstruction would be greatly facilitated by their employment. They would give rise to political complications, as the prohibited race is permitted to invade one portion of American territory. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to prevent its moving to all the rest.

Branding "Renovated" Butter.

Indianapolis Journal. The senate committee on agriculture has reported back the house oleomargarine bill with an amendment requiring "renovated" butter to be stamped. Why should not a better mark of all kinds of imaginative and profitable frauds in much of the butter collected and worked over so as to appear as a good and genuine article of dairy butter be stamped so that the consumer, who may have scruples of stomach against butter washed, colored and otherwise treated so as to give a deceptive appearance, can know what he is buying?

Limited Opportunities for Learning.

Philadelphia Record. Rushing from city to city on lightning express trains, listening perfunctorily to dull flattery proffered by dull-witted officials, the center of a whirl of strange and artificial public agitation, and viewing sections of this magnificent country such as a spectator objects to, is a picture with film however great his appetite for general restoration will be fortunate, indeed, if Prince Henry can get home from his tour of the world with a few scraps of information as to our national possessions, possibilities, capacity and sanity. No man alien to this republic, however great his aptitude or opportunities, can glean more than a vague notion of truth concerning its institutions and achievements in a hurried and phantasmagorical trip over thousands of miles of railway line.

INCREASING COST OF CITY LIFE.

Growth of Municipal Debts and the Burden They Impose. Atlanta Constitution. For many years our ablest public economists have been deprecating the strength of population into the cities. Yet the fascinations of city life and the glittering prizes offered in its lotteries of opportunity have proved against the arguments of moderation. Urban population has continued to increase and country life to become more distasteful to educated and enterprising youth.

But the law of compensation is beginning to operate upon the problem and promises to bring about a check on the rush to the cities than all the arguments of economists, sociologists and statesmen. The greatest attraction exerted by the city upon the rural spirit is the promise of easier and quicker material gains. But all districts make him prefer the sure, safer and more independent profits of rural life. Counting, for our present purpose, nothing more than the increased cost of city life and consequently of city taxation, which in the last event always comes out of the pocket of the common citizen, city life is getting to be one of the costliest luxuries of the American workingman and taxpayer. The rich persons and corporations may pay into the city treasuries large wads of taxes, but they get the money out of the levies they make upon the dollars of the wage-earner and the hand-to-mouth laborer—more pay 50 per cent more for the privilege of living in Chicago today than they needed to pay six years ago.

Jump over to Boston. There the debt six years ago was \$25,000,000; now it is \$45,000,000. In 1895 the debt was \$15,000,000; now it is \$35,000,000. Kansas City \$6,400,000; now it is \$15,000,000. St. Louis \$4,000,000; now it is \$10,000,000. That is 50 per cent increase! Detroit then owed \$3,100,000; now \$4,700,000. Louisville then had a debt of \$2,500,000, while now it is \$5,000,000. Hartford in the same period, jumped from \$250,000 to \$2,500,000, and Jersey City from \$4,400,000 to \$15,300,000. We might name fifty other cities that show the same enormous increases of their public debts within the same space of time.

And now the people are beginning to consider these appalling figures of debt and think twice before moving into cities where they must go about the paying of the interest and principal of these vast obligations. People in the cities, who have small properties and businesses, are beginning to feel the pressure of taxation so sensibly that they are considering the question of taking the back track to the country districts. So that we begin to see that the great law of compensation is working toward a restoration of the equilibrium between the cost of the necessities of the city and the cheaper contentment of the country.

Co-operative dairies in Denmark have been in existence twenty years.

There are now a thousand of them, with an average number of shareholders of 146 and an average number of cows of 832. As this is an average of less than six cows to the farmer, it is evident that the system accomplishes its purpose of giving the individual cultivators of the soil the advantages of scientific manufacture of butter and cheese and facilities for export which the great landlords already enjoyed. Nowhere else has scientific dairying been carried to the perfection. It has attained in Denmark, one result of this is that the quantity of butter exported in 1900 was eight times as great as the amount exported ten or eleven years earlier. The dairies make more butter from a given quantity of milk than the individual farmer can get; they are able to employ the most perfect methods and appliances, and they are in a position to deal directly with importers in England and other countries. They have been driving other imported butter out of the market. One complaint that they cannot get so good a price as is paid for imported butter. The importation of bran and oilseeds, mostly from the United States, has increased greatly.

The German emperor will not, if he can help it, permit the w. A to think that

What Would Lincoln Do?

Nashville American (dem.).

If Mr. Lincoln were president today his Philippine policy would not be affected by any consent of the governed theory. He would wear no stars over the Philippines with guns in their hands fighting American soldiers, but would urge the American forces to unrelenting activity until they compelled peace in those islands. That was his policy when fighting the south and against a people among whom he was born, for whom he had the kindest personal feelings and against whom in all the rancor of political debate and bloody war he never uttered a word of bitterness or hate.

When a man who has fought four years to escape the rule and authority of the United States government and to set up a separate and distinct government has been forced at last to yield and to submit without any consent of the governed, to the rule and dominion of the United States government, lives peacefully, prosperously and contentedly under that government for nearly forty years and is elected to a seat in congress of that government and helps to make its laws, he is hardly in a position to discourse very consistently on the consent-of-the-governed theory. When he lifts his voice in lament over the condition of the Philippines and expresses sympathy for them in their war against the United States, after he has been elected into the possession of the United States by every law known to nations is he to be understood as having a

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

Italy presents a marked contrast to France in point of increase of population. We commented the other day upon the fact that in the latter country the population is about stationary, the death and birth rates being nearly equal. The returns of the recent census in Italy are now published and they show a gratifying, extraordinary growth of population in the peninsula, despite the large immigration and the hard times which have prevailed there in late years. In round numbers the population of Italy is now 32,500,000. That is an increase of more than 1,000,000 since the last twenty years. That is not a large increase, but it is, on the whole, satisfactory. It is not, of course, the whole increase of the Italian race. In these twenty years more than 2,000,000 Italians have immigrated to other lands. The actual growth of the race has therefore, been more than 3,000,000 in twenty years, or more than 1 per cent a year. This does not, however, confirm the common idea that the Italians are an exceptionally prolific race. The growth of other nations has been proportionately more rapid. That of France has not been so. Great Britain has grown from 14,000,000 to 41,000,000 and Germany from 24,000,000 to 54,000,000 and each of these countries suffered as great a loss from wars as Italy and a considerably greater loss through immigration.

France, like Germany, has been seized with an ambition to improve and extend her canal system. For that purpose bills involving the expenditure of \$122,500,000 passed the Chamber of Deputies on January 23. The passage of these large appropriation bills means a general restoration of old canals and the building of new ones to meet pressing commercial demands, such as exist in the Lorraine canal fields. Among the new enterprises planned are the Loire-Rhone and the Marcellis-Rhône canals. United States General Roubaix reports that the French government is also arranging for the construction of the Scheldt-Meuse canal. This will be 90.7 miles in length. Five and one-half miles of this internal waterway has been built already. It passes over an elevation of 100 feet and the sea level and requires fifty locks. The estimated cost is \$13,184,000. The plans provide for a continuation of this enterprise by an extension fifty-eight miles long, terminating at Mount St. Martin, to be known as the Chiers canal and to be completed in the latter part of the century. The canal will start at Arlier and terminate at Noyon, passing through Peronne and Ham. This will be fifty-nine miles in length and is estimated to cost \$11,550,000.

Where was Wheeler when the prince entered the house?

A Colorado paper presents the following Roosevelt-Funston ticket for 1904: "For president, Ted; for vice president, Fred; platform, spread."

Should congress establish the proposed department of physical culture, it will be necessary to go beyond the attic clerks of the senate for suitable cabinet timber. Rev. Dr. Washington Gladden, a noted minister of Columbus, O., who is closing one term in the city council, declines to stand for re-election. His efforts to reform the city government have been fruitless. The question of the probable contents of the New York City budget with this reversion: "The people of the state of New York, by the grace of God free and independent." This glowing apostrophe was in use long before the overthrow of Tammany.

"We democrats," says Colonel Henry Waterson "must get away from visionary and theorizing politics and address ourselves to the business interests of the country." This is a delicate way of urging the push to forsake the graveyard. Congressman Champ Clark of Missouri remarked in a speech the other day that the election of Mr. Cleveland was the "greatest calamity that had befallen the human race since the fall of Adam." Mr. Clark's reputation as a humorist needs revision.

Dr. Seward Webb, candidate for the republican nomination for governor of Vermont, has just completed a barn coating \$100,000. Grand state politics are being given an object lesson of the doctor's ability to maintain his fences and their rejoice accordingly.

The educational test introduced into the constitution of Alabama for the disfranchisement of the negro vote is proving to be a boomerang. Out of a possible 200,000 white voters and of 140,000 who actually voted in 1900, 43,000 have proved to be illiterate and are excluded from the suffrage. The Washington correspondent of the New York World says that Delegate Dennis Flynn had an Oklahoma candidate who was charged with drinking too much liquor. When Flynn called the man's attention to the charge, he responded as follows: "My dear Dennis—I haven't tasted a drop of red-eye for eighteen months and do not expect to for a long time to come. Prior to that time, I frankly admit that I went all the paces in the direction of developing

various brands of red-eye. If I missed anything at all, it was through ignorance, and not intention." Flynn took this letter to the president. The president read it and said: "That man is all right. He tells the truth. I won't hold the drinking against him."

David Bennett Hill is throwing out enticing political bait these stormy days. He candidly declares the battle ground in 1904 will be New York state. And with Roosevelt at the head of the republican column the democrat must meet him with a leader from the Empire state. Who that leader should be the sage of Wolcott's Root declined to say.

Senators or representatives sometimes introduce "by request" bills for which they are in no way responsible. Senator Mason of Illinois has just introduced in that way a bill which provides for the creation of a department of physical culture, whose head is to be a member of the cabinet. The bill provides that there shall be in each state a commissioner of physical culture at a salary of \$4,000, who is to prepare plans for playgrounds, gymnasiums, parks, public baths and other facilities for physical culture compatible with public health, and to have general charge of such matters within the state limits. To defray the expenses of the department the bill authorizes the issue of a special currency to circulate as money.

SMILING REMARKS.

Philadelphia Press: "Ah!" sighed the young bard, "you take little notice of the truth." "That's right," replied the crusty editor, "but I'd like to be on the jury in just one

Washington Star: "What you lack," said the person who reads your character, "is self-confidence." "You see, I was for a number of years employed in the work of preparing weather forecasts," said the person who reads your character, "and I know that you might have

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "I see that those Chicago men who kissed King Edward's hand were little aviators at the time. Did they signify anything?" "I think not. My impression is that they were merely a little finer quality of the ordinary stockyard, but they signify nothing more mortifying than to think of the clever retort that you might have made if you had better.

Chicago Tribune: "Can you imagine anything more mortifying than to think of the clever retort that you might have made if you had better?" "Well, it's a heap more mortifying to think of the alleged clever retort you did make that you had better have left unmade."

Brooklyn Life: "It is too bad, Charlie, that I did not find your mamma at home. Will you please tell her that I can leave a message for her?" "Charlie—well, yes—but I'd rather not leave you all alone." "Oh, how kind, but that doesn't matter." "Charlie—No, I mean, all alone with that cake over there."

Washington Star: "All Joshua wants," said Farmer Cornstossel, "is a chance to show what he can do." "I suppose so, Josh. It is one of those things which never seem to get a chance to do anything except something they can't do."

Baltimore American: "What" ejaculated the man. "Four hundred dollars for that dress?" "I answered the wife, scoldingly. 'It is the train that makes it so expensive.' 'Ah-h-h!" groaned the husband, "that cursed railroad trust again!"

POLITICAL DRIFT.

Chicago Post: "How's business?" asked the stranger who had drifted in. "The shoekeeper eyed him suspiciously for a moment before replying. 'Do you want to buy or sell?' he inquired, at last.

Washington Star: "I hope that the differences between these two gentlemen," said the dignified statesman, "will be patched up."

"I'm afraid it will not be." "It must be patched up, for we shall be continually interrupted in our business by the necessity of patching up the senators themselves."

THE TRAMP PRINTER.

He used to call around and borrow a dollar. There was printer and printer's ink upon his collar. At times he used to get quite drunk—hey he was! To indicate his strong contempt for the editor. He used to eat tobacco at his case. And, what is more, he spat quite freely anywhere. Upon the floor; I haven't seen him since the latter foreman couldn't even tell you what he was doing. Perhaps he's gone the way of all the earth—Mayhap to jail; But if he ever shows up here again He will not fail To have on that same And strike you for the His state of mind. And he doesn't get it From me. Not this time! See?

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