

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss.: George B. Tschuck, 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 March, 1902, was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Number of copies and Total. Rows include Daily Bee (with/without Sunday), Sunday Bee, and Total.

Net total sales, 907,513. Net daily average, 29,277. GEO. B. TSCHUCK, Notary Public.

Anything from South Omaha? April showers are now due, according to the almanac.

Carrie Nation would doubtless feel worse had she not gathered in the gate receipts in advance.

When it comes to spring house cleaning, do not forget how effective a coat of fresh paint is as a contribution toward brightening up the city.

Wonder if the delegates assembling in Louisville to organize a consolidation of all the third parties secured permission in advance of Henry Watterson.

Lincoln has had a narrow escape from becoming another Topeka, where mayors are horsewhipped by gentle maidens who have an acute sense for prohibition whisky joints and bootleggers.

The outcome of the South Omaha election would indicate that the Omaha machine, by a long pull, a strong pull and a pull all together, as they say at sea, managed to land its candidate by an overwhelming majority.

The formal call for the republican state convention has been promulgated. Those Nebraska fusion committees may now govern themselves accordingly without apprehension that there is a string tied to the action of their opponents.

It turns out that the disinterested zeal of the grocers to fight the Standard Oil company was not so much to relieve the public of the grinding exactions of an odious monopoly as to force the monopoly to make concessions to the grocers.

As to the school census, Omaha taxpayers are not so much interested in the personnel of the force of enumerators as in having the work done well. The school census furnishes the gauge for our share of the state apportionment of school money.

No telegram of congratulation under date of Lincoln, Neb., has yet been given out for publication by Mr. Clark of Arkansas, who has practically received a certificate of election to succeed to Mr. Jones' seat in the United States senate.

Mayor Kelly's stool pigeon did not come out of the fray with much glory, having received only 25 out of 4,400 votes polled at the South Omaha election. Mr. Carley has a good case for heavy damages against the man who put him up for slaughter.

The total net earnings of the steel combine during the first year aggregate more than \$11,000,000. This certainly affords food for reflection, but it does not answer the question how much the same plants would have earned had they been operated separately without the trust organization.

The eighth annual convention of the national officials of bureau of labor statistics is in session in New Orleans. These statisticians may congratulate themselves that never before have capital and labor been productive of so much wealth to furnish them material to compile into statistics.

Des Moines has an opportunity to get reduced street railway fares at hours when workmen going to and from their work are the principal passengers, on condition that no other companies be granted franchises to use the streets. The Des Moines company must be afraid of prospective or possible competition to offer such concessions voluntarily.

A COUPLE OF TRUST LESSONS.

The disclosures just made regarding the National Asphalt and the National Salt companies are interesting and instructive. It appears that these disclosures did not come wholly as surprises, but they showed that the affairs of these corporations are in a far worse shape than anyone had imagined. The salt company acknowledged heavy losses in assets for the year and a decrease of \$750,000 in surplus after a payment of \$651,000 in dividends. It is stated that the surplus of the company now amounts to less than \$30,000, so that there is no likelihood of dividends the present year. The report upon the asphalt company disclosed a thoroughly rotten condition. The promoters of that corporation declared in 1900 that profits from May to December of that year were \$1,500,000, when they were really but a little over \$300,000. "A wild overcapitalization," says the New York Sun, "apparently deliberate misrepresentation on the part of the officers of the concern as to earnings and business prospects, fixed charges at \$2,150,000 a year and net earnings \$350,000 a year—that was the asphalt company."

What better argument could be desired than is furnished by such facts for legislation subjecting to supervision and publicity corporations engaged in interstate trade? With such legislation, honestly enforced, companies like the above could not exist. Their promoters and officers would not be able to mislead the public respecting their business affairs and attract investors by fraudulent statements of their prospects and earnings. Supervision and a reasonable degree of publicity would put an end to the organization of corporations unmistakably intended, as in the case of those referred to, to defraud the public, for we suppose that none but the most credulous will believe that the men who organized those companies were honest in their purpose and seriously thought that the business would be sufficiently profitable to pay dividends on the greatly excessive capitalization. They have undoubtedly made money, but by methods hardly less criminal than highway robbery, though the law may not reach them. There are other corporations, it is not to be doubted, that are just as bad as the National Asphalt and National Salt companies and which in due time will be compelled to disclose their rottenness.

Meanwhile there is no indication that these facts are attracting any attention at Washington. No step has been taken to put into the form of law the suggestion of President Roosevelt that publicity is the first essential in determining how to deal with the great industrial combinations. If there are men in congress who believe with the president that "in the interest of the public the government should have the right to inspect and examine the workings of the great corporations engaged in interstate business," they have as yet given no sign of such belief. Perhaps something will be done before the close of the session to give effect to the president's view of what is necessary, though at present there is nothing to warrant expectation of this.

GERMAN MEAT EXCLUSION.

It is possible that the opposition of the German preserved meat dealers to the proposed exclusion from Germany of meats preserved with borax, together with the declared purpose of our government to retaliate, may induce the German government to recede from its decision. The German meat men assert that there is nothing injurious in the use of borax, in which they are undoubtedly correct, and they also assert that the proposed regulations would work them much injury, which of course is the chief consideration. They have enlisted on their side some influential newspapers, one of which shows that the menace of retaliation has produced some effect, remarking that German industries "must foot the bill and receive severe blows as a result of American reprisals for the exclusion of borax-prepared meats." There could of course be no reasonable objection to reprisals when our government accepted the view of the German imperial health board in regard to the injurious nature of borax.

THE FINE CORONER.

The proposition to create the office of fire coroner will meet with no objections from Omaha taxpayers, providing the creation of the office will not increase the city payroll. This can readily be done if the city gas inspector, who now draws \$1,500 per year, is made fire coroner. At present the gas inspector's office is a sinecure that should have been abolished years ago, but if the gas inspector can be made useful as well as ornamental by performing the functions of fire coroner, he will be able to earn his salary.

RENEWING BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP.

The treaty of friendship between the United States and Spain, which only awaits the signature of the American minister in Madrid to make it effective, will give satisfaction to this country. The treaty between Spain and the United States has greatly increased since the close of the war in 1898. It is much larger now than it was before that conflict and the general tendency is upward. All the conditions point to a permanent peace between the two countries. This is a source of special gratification to the United States.

ST. LOUIS GLOBE-DEMOCRAT.

The sudden pain and sorrow of the railway combinations over the disposition of President Roosevelt to enforce the anti-trust law recalls the case of the countryman who was grinning at the way his bulldog got hold of people in his playful sly sort of way, until there happened along a stout young fellow with a walking stick as big as his arm, which he promptly uplifted. Horror answered to the dog owner's face. "Look out," he cried in accents of warning, "that's the way to spite dogs, that is." The man with the stick allowed that he had no particular objections to spilling dogs when it was necessary. The railway people think President Roosevelt is an excellent intimated young man, but given to spilling things.

NEW GREATNESS SPURNS TRIFLES.

St. Paul Pioneer Press. "It did not look very large to me," said J. Pierpont Morgan when on the witness stand in answer to a question about the purchase of \$25,000,000 of Northern Pacific stocks for J. J. Hill, as to which he was testified by the examining counsel for not remembering all the details of the transaction. "It did not look very large to me. The amount of cash involved was not more than \$2,000,000." Not more than \$2,000,000. Just think of it! These big financiers to their millions about with less concern than the ordinary housewife for the few dollars with which she pays her grocery bill. But then, as it was other people's money, not his own, that Morgan was talking about no wonder a man who has been a disorganizer in transactions which sometimes require the aggregation of hundreds of millions thought three million a mere bagatelle.

Minority Rule in the South

Property. The tribunal was given special jurisdiction by a legislative act in 1893 over all rights of action of any character whatever accruing to owners of obligations emitted by the Universal company of the Panama Interoceanic canal and over all actions emanating from the receiver. The decision of this tribunal therefore puts an end to all question as to title, so far as the Panama company is concerned, and it appears that the Colombian government fully concurs in the proposed cession and very earnestly desires that the United States shall accept the property and complete the canal. This being the situation, Senator Morgan and other opponents of the Panama route must find some new reason for their opposition, which may be somewhat difficult if the terms presented by Colombia are reasonable.

THE OUTCOME IN SOUTH OMAHA.

The people of South Omaha are to be congratulated upon the outcome of their city election, which is the culmination of their effort to secure better municipal government. In national and state elections South Omaha has always been a democratic stronghold. In 1900 it gave Bryan over 900 majority. The election of Frank Koutsky as mayor, together with most of the candidates on the republican city ticket, could not have been brought about without a general upheaval among the voters impelled by a desire to redeem South Omaha from disrepute.

The first victory for good government was scored in the republican primaries when Mayor Kelly and the boogie gang he represented were buried under an avalanche of votes, in spite of the fact that they had control of all the municipal and party machinery. The republicans rallied to Koutsky because he had a clean record and enjoyed the confidence of the community.

When the democrats in defiance of public sentiment placed at the head of their ticket a man identified with the recent school board frauds, the better element of the party repudiated the tainted candidate and gave their support to a clean republican. The attempt to stop the democratic defection by bug-bears and roorbarks failed to have its expected effect. Intelligent voters of South Omaha were not to be stampeded by such stupid tactics and the tidal wave in favor of Koutsky also carried with it nearly all of his associates on the republican ticket.

The advent of the new administration will, we confidently believe, inaugurate a new era in the management of the municipal affairs of South Omaha. With the assurance of an economic and efficient city government the Magic city should enter upon a period of unexampled progress and prosperity.

REVISOR'S VERSION.

Detroit Free Press. Cecil Rhodes' last lament might more properly have been: "So many to do, and so few done."

EXPLANATIONS IN ORDER.

Philadelphia Press. Colonel Watterson has been compelled to send out a diagram to explain what he meant. An explanation of the diagram will come later.

IT WAS ENOUGH.

Washington Post. Many of the members of that Colorado mob were not so much concerned over the guilt of innocence of their victim. It was enough for them to know that he was a Pullman porter.

IS THE CIVIL WAR OVER?

Brooklyn Eagle. Gentlemen of congress, it is not possible that over 200 worthy orphans of union soldiers should have been overlooked for forty years. It is too late to pension them now. Please to consider the civil war as over. It was a cruel war and some pensions are as cruel.

EFFECT OF THE REBATE.

New York Tribune. Illegal rebates on railroads have had much to do with the growth of the power of the combination which has raised the price of meat in most of the cities, towns and villages of the country. Will the interstate commerce commission succeed in lessening this abuse?

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WHY BEEF HAS GONE UP.

Large Supply of Prosperity and Short Crop of Corn. Chicago Tribune. There has been an advance in the price of beef—an advance which from the point of view of the consumer has no redeeming features. There are widely varying explanations of this rise in price. The one which seems to meet with the most favor in New York is that the Chicago packers constitute a "combine" which has the consumers of the country by the throat. It is alleged that they are raising the sectional price of beef to such an exorbitant level that to make many poor New Yorkers become vegetarians much against their will.

A BUNCH OF SMILES.

Chicago Post: "What's the matter with grandfather?" "He's insured, you see, he's nearly 80, and he happened to hear you remark that the good die young."

Judge: Gladys—is young Mr. Jackson in business for himself? Ethel—Well, hardly. We have been engaged for two weeks now.

Somerville Journal: Ned—Why don't you play golf, old man? Tom—To tell the truth, I haven't got the right kind of legs.

Boston Transcript: Horkins—Bother birth and opportunity! A man has his future in his own hands. What I am I? Synnex—Oh, well; I wouldn't feel about it, Horkins. Of course you wouldn't do it again.

Chicago Tribune: "Why do they call these congressional appropriations for rivers and harbors 'pork'?" asked one of the visitors. "I have sometimes wondered at that myself," said Senator Lotismun. "The localities that don't get anything always do a lot of beefing over it."

Philadelphia Press: The tenderfoot was announcing his intention of showing the football westerners a thing or two about high life. "I," he asserted, "have plenty of dough. Do you care to hear my strategy?" "You," murmured the Mexican monte dealer, "will be a puddling for us."

Judge: "What's this bill, 'To flowers for church, 600?" "That is for the Easter flowers," explained the chairman. "What did you do—try to get a hat for the building?"

Washington Star: "What do you think we had better do about this man who keeps saying things against you?" "Let him alone," answered the practical politician. "When the people get tired of hearing him, they'll say that he's a bore and that I'm probably a much-misrepresented man."

TELL THE POLICEMAN.

James Barton Adams in Denver Post. If you hear a load of trouble that you think may bend you double and the burden grows no lighter as you nod along the way. If today is one of sorrow and no joy in sight tomorrow, if the sun of golden promise sends to you no cheery ray.

Do not cloak your face with sadness and in sort of semi-madness pour your story in the ears of friends who meet upon the street. They have cares too great to mention that require their whole attention to go and sing your doleful song to the policeman on the beat.

Every man upon his shoulders bears some burdens big as boulders and none of them cares to have you pile your own upon the load. Do not care to bear you chewing at the rag in grim reviewing of the way you see and sing your doleful misfortune's cruel gaud. Though he listens to your fretting he is not earnestly regretting you cannot bid you wander to the land of Beryllia.

Or, to more properly put it, he is wishing you would cut it and would go and tell your troubles to the copper on the beat.

Bear the load (nath which you labor; do not seek to have a neighbor gape ahead and bray and then throw that in your path are thrown. For, although he may not show it, may not care to let you know, if you can bet your frowning features he has troubles of his own.

If it gives you satisfaction thus to keep your jaw in action seek a sympathetic ear out upon the quiet street—when you see a big policeman there you'll find an ear to listen and your troubles you can tell to the policeman on the beat.

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