

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 14th day of April, 1902. GEORGE HAMMUSSEN, Notary Public.

The best sugar men have won a famous victory. Santos Dumont will be ready to fly from St. Louis before the hot weather sets in.

It is to be hoped that Governor Savage will not keep murderer Khea too long in suspense.

At the coming state fair the State Board of Agriculture proposes to exhibit the resources of Nebraska from the grand stand on the race track.

The bill for the relief of Cuban reciprocity has been temporarily laid upon the table, but that fact will not seriously impair the prosperity on the island.

And now the Beef trust is charged with sending up the price of boots and shoes. This is only another striking proof that corporations have no souls even when they deal in raw hides.

William E. Curtis, who has reached Syria in his foreign travels, says there are no public buildings in Damascus. Can it be possible that they have no Cadet Taylor in the oldest city of the world?

Before the commissioners of Douglas county venture upon the construction of half a dozen new bridges across various streams they had better confer with the county treasurer and the taxpayers to ascertain where the money is coming from.

The Illinois Congress of Mothers, which has just concluded its session in Chicago, was largely attended by women who never had any children to raise, but are very anxious to help to raise the children of other people.

Down in Mexico, Mo., a court has just decided that school teachers may whip pupils whenever it is deemed necessary. Up here in Nebraska the teacher would have to first consider the size of the boy or ascertain whether the girl has a big brother.

Denver never loses an opportunity to advertise itself. The mere fact that the Colorado volunteers have invited Admiral Dewey to a banquet is heralded far and wide by telegraph. Whether Dewey accepts or rejects the invitation, Denver gets the benefit of the announcement.

Now that the agitation for a double standard of coinage has subsided in Colorado, Denver is agitated from center to circumference over the case of Robert H. Beggs, principal of one of the public schools, who before a meeting of women teachers affirmed his belief in a double standard of morals.

One of the most deplorable events of recent times is the reported sudden demise of the man who was about to locate a glove factory in Omaha. The diagnosis of the medical experts was "heart failure," but the political mind readers of the Commercial club will doubtless ascribe the lamentable fatality to the hostile attitude of The Bee toward the renunciation of Mercer for a sixth term.

As between Asheville and Omaha for next year's entertainment, the free ride and free lunch aggregation that pretends to represent the press of America under the name of "The National Editorial Association" has given preference to Omaha. Nobody in the far west summer resort would have spent \$5 to entertain the junketers. The scenery in the yellow pines is too monotonous and trolley car rides are out of the question.

SMASHING THE TRUSTS.

The recent rise in the price of beef which is generally charged up to the Beef trust affords an opportunity for the local Bryanite organ to exhibit its lack of common sense and common honesty by slashing around promiscuously against the trusts in general and the republican party in particular. In one of its double-shotted, double-column editorials the popocratic megaphone declares that "Destruction, not regulation, is the remedy for the trusts! It was not the fear of bimetallism which prompted the trust magnates to contribute millions of dollars to the campaign fund of the republican party in 1896 and 1900 for the purpose of defeating William J. Bryan. These men knew that with William J. Bryan in the White House public interests would be protected and the trusts destroyed. Mr. Roosevelt has the same power today. It cannot be expected, however, that he would successfully wield that power even were he so inclined."

Such drivel may impose upon ignorant partisans, but it will not down with intelligent thinking people. Did not Bryan and all of the Bryanite organs proclaim in 1896 that the battle against bimetallism was waged by the money power, which had entered into a conspiracy to make money scarce and dear in order to depress the prices of all commodities, impoverish and enslave the producers and finally monopolize the wealth of the nation?

Did not Bryan declare free silver to be the paramount issue in 1896 and did he not declare free silver and imperialism to be the paramount issues of 1900 with the trust question as a mere incident? Were not the Standard Oil trust, the Whisky trust, the Sugar trust and scores of other trusts in existence when Bryan was in congress, and why did he do nothing?

Suppose Bryan had been elected president. Could he have done any more to smash the trusts than Roosevelt, or any other president? Could he have dictated a trust-smashing law to congress if the majority of that body, or even the senate alone, stood as a barrier against such legislation?

Viewing the question from a purely practical standpoint, would it be more prudent to destroy the great combinations of capital engaged in colossal industrial enterprises than to regulate and supervise them, so as to make them harmless?

Take the Beef trust for example. Suppose Bryan were king and could smash the Beef trust with one single blow. Suppose he could close the doors of all meat packing concerns in America by one single edict, what would follow? Would it be to the advantage of the American stock-raiser to lose the advantage of the foreign export of American meats and cattle, which can only be carried on with organized capital? Would it be of an advantage to restore the old system of individual cattle buying for the use of retail butchers in the various cities and villages of the country? Would the consumers of beef, mutton, pork and canned meat products be better off than they now are, or would they not have to pay a great deal more for their meats by reason of the unsettled state of markets and lack of facilities for storage and transportation?

Suppose that the packing houses were all closed and we had to depend on the individual soapmaker for our soaps and other by-products of the packing house, would not the users of these indispensable commodities have to pay more for an inferior quality of goods? Would the price of leather and leather goods be cheaper if the meat packing houses were closed and the old system of buying hides from each butcher in all of the villages and towns of America were restored? A comparison of prices twenty-five years ago and today would afford ample proof that the new system of organized systematic production and distribution has introduced economies that could not possibly have been obtained through small cattle buying and individual butchering.

What is true of the meat packing industry is equally true of nearly every industry controlled by combinations of capital. The most gigantic trust of all, the Steel trust, has enabled America to invade the markets of the world with American rails, American structural iron, American locomotives and American steel and iron products, thus furnishing steady employment for thousands upon thousands of American workmen at living wages in the production of commodities that would otherwise have been manufactured abroad.

What would the American people gain by destroying the Steel trust and scattering the hundreds of millions now invested in its vast plant among independent factories operated by ordinary capitalists? Would not the destruction of this concern be disastrous not only to several hundred thousand workmen now on its payroll, but also to the whole country in deranging industry and commerce? Would it not be more rational and prudent to enact laws under which the interests of investors, consumers and working people could be safeguarded and protected against trust extortion and other abuses that are the natural consequence of the new industrial evolution?

Would it not be more rational for the men who are clamoring for the destruction of the trusts to tell us what they would do with the broken pieces and what they would substitute for the captives of industry that are now conducting the vast enterprises in which the American people are vitally interested?

According to a decision just rendered by the supreme court of Ohio, 11:27 is declared to be high noon in Akron. This scientific astronomical observation from the supreme bench was brought about by a contest over a fire insurance policy, taken out by an Akron saloon keeper at 11:30, standard time, but worded to take effect at noon. Ohio law makes standard time legal time. At the very moment that the policy was delivered the

saloon caught fire and was burned. The refusal of the company to pay the insurance brought the case into the supreme court, which decided that noon at any locality is the time the sun passes the meridian. At Akron 11:27, standard time, is noon. Consequently the court ordered the insurance company to pay the loss. Such a controversy could not, however, occur in Omaha, because meridian time here is twenty-four minutes less than standard time, so that when the clock strikes 12 it is only 11:36, sun time.

QUESTIONABLE FINANCIAL EXPERIMENTS.

A leading financial journal calls attention to the multiplication of national banks and trust companies which is going on in the east and expresses the opinion that it is of doubtful financial expediency. It appears that recently there has sprung up a number of small institutions with slender capital and little prospect of acquiring any commanding position. Some of these are designed merely to serve the neighborhood needs of the districts in which they are situated, but it is pointed out that such a subdivision of banking power is hostile to the best interests of banking business and to safe financial development.

One of the very marked results or incidents of the last few years of extraordinary prosperity is the unparalleled development of the banking institutions that are called trust companies. Until recently these companies were deemed to be simply allies of the national banks, but it is now a question whether the relation has not been reversed, so that the more influential and powerful banking institutions of New York are the trust companies, with the national banks as allies, either equal or subordinate.

According to late statistics the trust companies of New York have nearly \$45,000,000 capital and more than \$80,000,000 surplus and profits, and they possess total resources of nearly \$900,000,000. They are said to be gaining in resources so rapidly that if the same comparative gain is reported at the end of this year which it was possible to report at the end of December last then these companies will possess by January 1, 1903, nearly \$1,200,000,000 of resources.

It is chiefly through these companies that the colossal fortunes of industrial and corporate securities have been made in the last year or two. Last year the trust companies of New York made loans upon collateral securities aggregating \$500,000,000. They carry deposits upon which interest is paid of about \$700,000,000, a deposit line which is rapidly paralleling that which marks the boundaries of the deposits in the national banks. One of the peculiarities of these companies is that they are accustomed to carry very little cash on hand. Their profits are very large, having been reported last year at fully 100 per cent upon the capital.

While these financial institutions and other ventures or experiments have prospered under the exceptional conditions of the last few years, paying liberal dividends and accumulating a surplus, the question is how long such expedients can be maintained. The sort of business by which the trust companies have made their great profits in the last few years, that of floating industrial and corporate securities, cannot last forever. It has perhaps already nearly reached the limit. What will these companies do when this means of earning money is no longer available? And in the possible event of a great change in business conditions, where would these companies, or such of them as may be carrying a large load of industrial and corporate securities, find themselves? They may go on smoothly enough while the prevailing prosperity continues, but let a radical change come and disaster would ensue to many of them, with enormous injury to the financial affairs of the country. This is a phase of the present situation which is worthy of serious attention.

RETALIATION NOT FEARED.

Leading republicans at Washington are not disturbed by the threat of Canadian tariff retaliation if the United States does not enter into a reciprocity agreement with that country. They say that there can be no negotiations with Canada on the subject of trade relations so long as the Canadian government makes it a prerequisite to such negotiations that the United States shall settle the Alaskan boundary question to the satisfaction of Canada. The threat of retaliation is regarded as absurd, for as a prominent official pointed out, there are two sides to that matter and we could practically ruin the trade of Ontario and Quebec, too, for that matter, for six months of the year, by the mere stroke of the pen, which would prevent Canada importing through United States ports goods in bond. In that event she would have to enter her goods at our custom houses and pay duties in order to get them into Canada, because her own ports are closed during the winter season, excepting in the maritime provinces. Of course nothing of this kind is now being thought of, but it is mentioned simply to show that two can play at the game of retaliation.

As to the Alaskan boundary question, there has been no change in the position of our government regarding it. An official of the State department is reported as saying: "The boundary question, as our Canadian friends call it, has no existence excepting in their own imagination. The boundary is the same now that it always has been since the United States purchased Alaska of Russia and as it was during all the time Russia owned that territory. The Canadians have made certain demands in recent years, but we do not recognize them and do not propose to do anything more about the matter." It is presumed that the official did not mean by this that our government will do nothing looking to a final settlement of the dispute, but simply that it will pay no further attention to the extraordinary Canadian demands. As a matter of fact

the government has sent to Alaska an army and a naval officer with the understood object of making a thorough investigation of the boundary question on the ground, which it is fair to assume has in view the settlement of a difficulty precipitated by the hunger of Canada for an outlet to the sea from its rich possessions on the Yukon. As to surrendering any territory claimed by the United States, it is out of the question and the sooner Canada becomes convinced of this the better it will be for her in respect to the question of closer trade relations.

A CHANGE IN INDIAN POLICY.

The latest plan of Indian Commissioner Jones for reforming the Indians is likely to be viewed with some concern by those who are interested in the welfare of the nation's wards. The new policy, a decidedly radical departure, is to let out to employers of labor in various parts of the country the able-bodied men on the reservations and it is stated that the agent at the Standing Rock reservation has offered to stockmen, farmers, railroads or any other class of employers of labor the 534 able-bodied Indians who live there. It has heretofore been the policy to encourage the Indians to remain at home and work on their farms, but it seems that this has not worked satisfactorily and so it has been decided to farm them out to whoever is willing to employ them. The object of the commissioner is in part, it is said, to cut down the rations allowed to adults. Agents have been instructed not to supply rations to able-bodied Indians, not already self-supporting, who shall refuse employment that is offered them. The commissioner says that "instead of an Indian agency being a center for the gratuitous distribution of supplies, it should be an employment bureau."

While it is certainly desirable that able-bodied Indians should learn to work and be encouraged to become self-supporting, the new policy of the commissioner is open to some objections. As the Philadelphia Ledger remarks, "the letting of the Indians out to contractors at a distance, after the fashion of southern convict labor, seems to be pernicious and likely to retard the development of the Indians as citizens. The place for the Indian is on his own land and if the family is the basis of civilization, the separation of these Sioux from their families will be a most unfortunate step." President Roosevelt said in his message that "the effort should be steadily to make the Indian work like any other man on his own ground." The plan of Commissioner Jones is pretty sure to be sharply criticised and it would seem a quite safe prediction that it will not prove a success.

RELICS OF BARBARISM.

The Chicago Civic federation has promulgated a platform that contains the following declaration: "The crying necessity is for a unity of effort—a pull all together by business men, public officials and the press—for either a constitutional amendment or a constitutional convention, and it must be decided at an early date which of the two is agreed upon. The federation has stood for an amendment, but it must be referred to the reorganized citizens committee to ascertain which can enlist the greater unit of action." This declaration applies with as much force to Omaha and Nebraska as it does to Chicago and the state of Illinois. The crying need of the hour is constitutional revision either by amendment or constitutional convention. The cheapest and most speedy mode of revision would be by the submission of separate amendments through the legislature.

Old Homer's "Push" Outlived.

If there were some modern Homer to sing the physical prowess of the youth of the present generation, the chances are that Achilles, Ajax, Ulysses, Hector and all the rest of the old Homer "push" wouldn't be in it with our college boys. The strength test being made in the educational institutions throughout the United States give some remarkable results, and indicate that the race in this country is not deteriorating.

Jays Money Cannot Command.

Within the past year the number of millionaires in this country has jumped over the four-thousand mark and is now in the fifth thousand. But all of them put together, with their millions piled in one big heap, cannot buy the joy of the small boy who lets down his little hook and hoists up the first fish of spring.

Where the Blame Belongs.

Out west they are blaming the law and the shopkeepers and the butchers and all sorts of people for the shortage in the supply of game birds. But they have nothing to do with it. It is the gunner who has made the shortage in all kinds of birds.

Example Worth Emulating.

Mr. Carnegie shows his wisdom in nothing so much as in giving his millions by deed and not by will. No one can question the former. Almost any lawyer can attack a will when it is in the interest of the public.

Let Us Be Thankful.

Things might always be worse. There is no way of extracting oxygen from the atmosphere so as to form a trust for the purpose of supplying breath at arbitrary rates to air consumers.

Two Lives Measured.

Boston Transcript. On the whole, the eulogies of Wade Hampton justify more complimentary inferences than do the eulogies of Cecil Rhodes. Yet he died in poverty.

Distinction Worth Noting.

The young man who seeks employment isn't as likely to succeed as the young man who looks for work.

Poor Consolation.

Omaha World. Oom Paul may even smile grimly as he sees how British humanity is staggered by the "corn tax."

WELCOME TO THE PEOPLE.

Action of the National Authorities in Enforcing Law Against Trusts.

Philadelphia Press (rap). Attorney General Knox is enforcing the law as he finds it. This is new to the trusts. It is welcome to the people. The campaign began with the attack on the Northern Securities company. It was continued by the injunctions against the railroads at Chicago and Kansas City. It is carried a step forward in the proposed investigation into the Beef trust. These three proceedings cover each phase of the modern trust. The Northern Securities company is simply a New Jersey corporation organized for control. It has no other object or purpose. Its purchases of Northern Pacific and Great Northern shares are not for cash. They represent nothing but steps taken to consolidate trusts. As with the trust organized in 1882 to hold the stock of the sugar companies, the Northern Pacific represents the trust plan for eliminating competition carried out under guise of a corporation.

The special railroad rates given the members of the meat combination by the railroads reaching and leaving Chicago and Kansas City represent the second familiar instrument of monopoly. These special rates exclude competition. They enable the members of the combined meat packers to pay what they please to the consumer and to pay what they please to the producer, because no one without these special railroad rates can ship meat from the packing centers to the retailer. The meat combination would fall to pieces but for this aid, which Attorney General Knox has attacked by asking for injunctions against the railroads.

Last is the meat combination itself, an association of packers to maintain prices. This is no corporation. It has no trust. It is simply a combination between firms and individuals to maintain prices. This is the simplest form a monopoly can take. It has no machinery. There is no corporation to attack. Such a combination offers more difficulties in prosecuting its members for violation of law than any of the more complex corporate or quasi-corporate organizations. If Attorney General Knox can collect the evidence and break this combination up all monopolies can be destroyed. Each of them falls under one of these three heads. They are all either corporations or gain special freight rates or are mere associations.

The power of the law over these monopolies has never before been asserted in this manner. Attorney General Knox is testing, and for the first time, whether the law and the courts can arrest these combinations. He stands today the conspicuous representative of the public determination that no man or corporation shall be able to evade the law prohibiting combinations to advance prices.

RELICS OF BARBARISM.

The Wedding Ring and the Dress Coat Cruelly Assailed.

Denver Evening Post. The erudite and gifted anthropologist, Prof. Frederick Starr, in a lecture delivered at the headquarters of the Chicago university on "The Relics of Barbarism," made one or two interesting assertions. The wedding ring, for example, that existing symbol of love, devotion, endearment, etc., is shown by this gifted gentleman to be merely an emblem of woman's vassalage.

Years ago the brute man looked upon woman as a chattel. He put rings on her fingers and bells on her toes, and the rings were for the purpose of chaining her and dragging her as a slave or tying her in bondage as he would a horse, a cow, an ass, a swine or fomer cattle. And yet this ring used originally for such purpose is now an emblem of all that is tender in our higher civilization. It is "a relic of barbarism" that was in the first case misapplied, but by a matter of evolution assumed its proper position.

And the dress coat. In times remote, and not prehistoric, that garment was the feature of a hunting dress. Man's swallow-tails were buttoned up behind when the wearer mounted his horse to go in search of game. The servant in those days, as now, also wore the dress coat, but that was done simply to wear out the master's garb. Today this "relic of barbarism" of the somewhat dark and gloomy badge of polite society. It is still used, however, for hunting game, but largely in the drawing room and the other haunts of our Twentieth century social life. Many other things were said by the scholarly professor which go to show that the present owes much to the past, although the point of view is wonderfully different.

After all, there is little new under the sun, and old Seneca uttered a great truth when he observed that originally died centuries ago.

New Grade of Prosperity.

New York Mail and Express. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach is a man who always wants to be moderate in his statements. He says in his budget speech that "the last year has not been exceptionally prosperous." What the budget itself said was this: "Gross deficit, £45,000,000."

Beef Roasts.

Indianapolis News: By putting up the price of meat the Beef trust has become an active supporter of the vegetarian propaganda.

Milwaukee Sentinel: The news that the prices of provisions are going up ought to inspire some scientist to invent a cheap and nutritious dinner tablet to be taken with water three times a day.

New York Journal: At the Omaha cattle yards quite a number of beef steers find sale at \$6.50 to \$6.80 per 100 pounds, on the hoof, which is the highest at this season for several years past. With prices for cattle on this generous scale, the beef men can afford to divide with consumers the proposed special tax on chemically clean butter, colored to meet established prejudice—not because the coloring adds to the value of the article.

Springfield (Mass.) Republican: The popular uproar over the high prices of meat appears to have stirred the Washington Department of Justice into ordering some inquiry whether a combination exists among the leading dressed meat houses of Chicago, Omaha and Kansas City. This is an old subject of government and congressional investigation which has heretofore come to nothing. There is less evidence of a combination here than is known to exist in a hundred other industries touching the necessities of life.

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Omaha World. Oom Paul may even smile grimly as he sees how British humanity is staggered by the "corn tax."

BLASTS FROM RAMS HORN.

He who will not learn of all shall teach none. Hard times try our valor and good times our virtue. It takes a brave man to retreat from temptation. Men reach God by realities and not by formalities. God never forgets the man who can forget himself. The man who is willing to work is not kept waiting. To foster the fires of lust is to furnish a hell in the heart. Uncharitable thought will deface the most charitable actions. The bigoted hold no beliefs; they are held in bonds by them. Idleness and riches furnish time and tide for the devil's ships. The elaborate coloring of ritual cannot cover moral corruption. Prosperity becomes a poison when it grows at the expense of piety. The full salvation of the saint depends on what he is doing for the salvation of the sinner.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.

Somerville Journal: People would listen to long sermons with more patience, if more of them were as broad as they were long.

Boston Transcript: The late Dr. Talmage preached to larger audiences than any other American clergyman; but that was due to the fact that he did it through the newspapers.

Detroit Free Press: The Presbyterian creed, as revised by the committee which has just completed its work, specifically repudiates the idea of infant damnation. This not only enables the good to die young, but the young to die good.

Atlanta Constitution: That Kansas preacher who has been pronounced a heretic is disposed to continue the argument and make his case unfinished business for the higher councils of his church. A heretic without publicity is as miserable as a bully-hoo with a sore throat.

Boston Globe: A woman who preached in Winted, Conn., last Sunday in the place of her husband, a clergyman, told among other soul-searing things of a woman friend of hers who attended a dance and drank a glass of beer and ten years later died a drunkard. And yet there are some women who will continue to dance.

Brooklyn Eagle: The "Mormon peril" forebode! The Mormons have a church in Brooklyn! Yes, and have had it these twenty-five years. It has probably not grown 1 per cent in that time. As for Mormons controlling the western states, we shall expect that when the Mahometans control New York, and not a second sooner, come not, hysteresis, must rule in these matters. There is not the slightest peril from the Mormons, even if it is true that the faith is spreading, which we doubt.

When the nation rises against the Presbyterians, or the Congregationalists, it will be to control New York, and not a second sooner, come not, hysteresis, must rule in these matters. There is not the slightest peril from the Mormons, even if it is true that the faith is spreading, which we doubt.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTIES.

Chicago Post: "Why do you call it a fairy tale?" "Because it says they were married and lived happily ever afterward."

Philadelphia Press: "My daughter is taking piano lessons," said Mrs. Nixdorf. "Yes," replied Mrs. Peppery, sadly, "so I hear."

Detroit Free Press: He—Why were you so nervous while I proposed? She—I was so afraid someone would intercept.

Judge: Mabel—Blanche, are you going to accept Mr. Oldboy? Blanche—Yes, I think so. Mabel—But he's three times as old as you.

Blanche—But he does harmonize so nicely with my antique furniture.

Brooklyn Life: "Rose and Mabel have never spoken since they took part in the private theatricals." "Professionally jealous?" "Worse than that—amateur jealousy."

Philadelphia Press: Mr. McCall—The woman I expect to marry must be beautiful, cultured, sweet, tempered and— Miss Passy (cooly)—Oh, you flatterer.

Washington Star: "Do you think your father would offer me personal violence if I were to ask him for you?" "Hardly," replied Mrs. Peppery, sadly, "so I hear."

Chicago Post: "Do you think the very young wife of an old man can be really happy?" "Why, certainly, if the old man is considerate enough to stick to his club with reasonable persistence and is properly generous in financial matters."

WHEN THE OLD MAN GOT RELIGION.

Frank L. Stanton in Atlanta Constitution. When the old man got religion things sorter changed around. The house was tippy-turvy, the worl' was upside down. We didn't know what hit us; 'peared like we'd started wrong. Life had to be made over to his halleluia song.

He kep' the whole house huttin'. "Work while it's called today! An' pray whilst you're a-workin'! but work an' work away, 'til you're an' with sad an' Wuz prayin' for the ol' man to fall away from grace.

Long years have passed, an' left us still with our work to do; An' the ol' man, when he wuz, went home an' left us, too; Led by his homely counsel safe to the shelterin' fold, 'til he was gone; Sighin' the fur-off city, with shinin' streets of gold.

An' evermore we're praisin' of the Provident, 'til we're high; That the ol' man got religion in the happy days gone by; An' we hope to hear him shoutin', when we reach the heavenly stairs, In the bright, celestial mornin', "rise up to family prayers!"

Advertisement for H. E. Fredrickson automobiles and bicycles. Includes text: "You Want Style... Vehicles from \$45 to \$300. Automobiles from \$600 to \$2,000. Bicycles, New and Secondhand, All Prices." Also features an illustration of a vintage automobile.