

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, s. s. 1. George B. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of April, 1902, was as follows:

Net total sales, 876,828. Net daily average, 29,227. GEORGE B. TSCHUCK, M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

The oleo bill has proved just oleaginous enough to slip through.

Inside tips from the supreme court seem to be more common than ever.

The Union Pacific foundry controversy is now up to City Attorney Connell.

With all these doctors of two schools lavading Omaha the city should be able to present a clean bill of health.

That Chicago priest who drowned in a bath tub must have been practicing the precept that cleanliness is next to Godliness.

At all events, Queen Whelminna has been laying the foundations for several good sized doctor bills to be presented in due course of time.

Prescription for Senator Toney to use next time: Pay the nickel, take a receipt from the conductor and trust to the company to refund.

President Jimenez of San Domingo is under the distressing necessity of calling on some occult astrologer to tell him whether or not his presidential star is finally set.

Just to prove that the Fourth of July is still on the calendar the keel of the battleship Nebraska will be laid on that day with appropriate ceremonies at Seattle, where it is building.

The annual ravages of Missouri fruit orchards are being reported on schedule time. To keep up the record requires that these orchards be completely destroyed at least once each season.

The new billboard ordinance generously exempts political and charity bills from the monopoly it confers on the bill posters' trust. The councilmen who are responsible for this piece of municipal legislation can claim both exemptions.

Nebraska's late trust-smashing attorney general insists he is a candidate for the nomination for governor at the hands of the fusion state conventions. On the plan of reciprocity ex-Treasurer Meserve will volunteer to finance his campaign for him.

By the way, what has become of the yellow journal shrieks about the impending epidemic of contagious disease that was to rise out of a contaminated water supply and sweep over Omaha with deadly trail? Are the yellow fakes so soon forgot?

The World-Herald remains as mum as an oyster just now on the subject of city taxation and railroad assessment, keeping up a steady fire on targets thousands of miles away. But when the battle is over it will raise its voice in holy horror or say "I told you so."

Few people realize the colossal costliness of the judicial system imposed on Nebraska for which the taxpayers must constantly foot the bills. The money wasted annually in Douglas county alone for needless jury and witness fees and other court expenses would more than pay the interest on the entire county debt.

The contest case has been abandoned which brought forth Judge Baxter's ruling that votes sworn in by the affidavits of resident freeholders of the ward do not satisfy the law that uses the word "precinct," but the importance of this point would warrant a final decision by the court of last resort. Should the position taken by Judge Baxter be adhered to, the design of the law to permit citizens to vote who for good reasons have been prevented from registering will be completely nullified.

AS TO RAILROAD ASSESSMENT.

Representatives of every railroad in Nebraska have entered remonstrance with the State Board of Equalization against any increase of the valuation of the properties of their respective roads for taxation purposes.

With the tangible proofs of the marked improvement of the roadways and increased equipment for which the railroads of Nebraska have within the past three years expended many millions, no intelligent man could be persuaded that railroad property in Nebraska has not materially increased in value and should be correspondingly assessed even regardless of the fact that the roads are more prosperous than ever and are earning more for their owners than they ever have.

In the first place, the railroads of Nebraska have never borne their full share of the burdens of local taxation. Take, for example, their taxation in Omaha and Douglas county, where their terminal facilities are worth anywhere from \$6,000,000 to \$10,000,000, while their contribution to the maintenance of local government is a mere bagatelle.

In 1880 the grand assessment roll of Nebraska aggregated \$182,763,538, of which \$29,584,221 represented the valuation of railroad property. In 1897 the grand assessment roll had shrunk to \$105,103,736, of which \$25,601,720 represented railroad property.

Between 1897, which was low water mark, and 1901 the grand assessment roll has been increased by \$9,245,350, of which \$861,012 represents the increase of the railroad assessment and \$8,384,347 the increase of the valuation of all other property.

The most valuable asset of the railroads is not, however, the roadbed and rolling stock, depots and machine shops, but their franchises. The Union Pacific railroad, for example, could have been readily duplicated five years ago for \$40,000 a mile, and yet the syndicate that purchased the road paid more than \$100,000 a mile. Only three days ago James J. Hill made the assertion that the Burlington stock at 200 cents on the dollar was cheap and the stock represents less than one-half of the capitalization.

These facts should be kept in mind by the state board in reaching its conclusions. The railroads have their special pleaders, but the people look to the members of the board as their representatives to see that equity and justice prevail in conformity with the letter and spirit of the constitution.

CRITICISM OF SECRETARY ROOT.

The secretary of war has been unsparingly criticised in connection with the charges of cruelty in the Philippines. He has been held to be in large measure responsible for whatever wrongs and abuses have occurred there and also to have endeavored to conceal them from public knowledge.

said the Massachusetts senator, "as a man of distinguished ability and high honor, had done his full duty in probing to the bottom charges of cruelty or maladministration made to him. All he had provided for was that those against whom the charges were made should have fair play. He means to have justice done to officers and men and he will not condemn them until heard."

Secretary Root had the entire confidence of President McKinley and in spite of reports to the contrary there is every reason to believe that he is fully trusted by President Roosevelt.

WEAK SPOTS IN THE MARKET.

There have been uncovered within the last few days some weak spots in the stock market which should serve as a warning to investors, while at the same time conveying a suggestion of what may happen if the situation should become more inflated than at present.

There are powerful financial interests concerned in the maintenance of confidence and these can be depended upon to protect the market in any ordinary emergency. They will use their vast power to a certain extent to prevent panic or any very serious disturbance.

CIRCUMVENTING THE LAW.

The persistence of insurance agents and book agents is proverbial, but they do not hold a candle to railroad attorneys and railroad tax agents in their efforts to prevail on assessors and equalizing boards to violate their oaths and ignore the plain letter of the law in the assessment of the property of the corporations that employ them.

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Live Nebraska Towns

PLATTSMOUTH—Proud of Possessions.

Plattsmouth is the capital of Cass county and has about 6,000 inhabitants. It is the gateway to the great South Platte country.

It is situated on the great Missouri river near the mouth of the Platte, assuring grand water privileges.

It is also on the main line of the Missouri Pacific railroad, between Omaha and St. Louis.

It is only thirty minutes by rail from Omaha, the metropolis of the state, and two hours from Lincoln, the capital.

Its markets are Chicago, Denver, St. Louis, Kansas City and Omaha.

Twenty-four passenger trains leave Plattsmouth daily for the north, south, east and west over the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, Kansas City, St. Joseph & Council Bluffs, B. & M. and the Missouri Pacific railway.

The principal B. & M. railroad machine shops, car shops, storehouses, roundhouses, etc., west of the Missouri river are maintained at this point for the use of its system.

It employs many hundreds of hands, disbursing to employees monthly from \$40,000 to \$45,000. Improvements are constantly being made and additional help employed.

It has brick and terra cotta works, capital \$20,000, capacity 27,000 brick per day; six cigar factories, employing from four to twenty hands each; a large broom factory, a new \$80,000 courthouse, electric light plant, a large steam laundry recently constructed, \$40,000 system of storm water sewerage, one of the finest systems of waterworks in the state, grades of streets established and Main street paved with Sioux Falls granite, and Sixth street with brick. The streets of the city are lighted by gas and electricity.

We have two fine school buildings and

eight ward buildings and an enrollment of 1,847 pupils this year, with twenty-five teachers. The high school department, with its four-year course, fitting graduates for the State university. No better common schools extant.

The following religious denominations all have places of worship in the city: Presbyterian, Episcopal, Baptist, Methodist, German Presbyterian, Christian, Catholic (two), Colored Baptist, Swedish, German Methodist, St. Paul Evangelical, First Church of Christ, Scientist, and owning buildings worth from \$1,000 to \$15,000.

The Farmers theater is one of the finest in the state. The Hotel Riley cost \$75,000 and in point of architectural beauty is among the finest in the state.

One semi-weekly and three weekly papers—Republican, Democrat and Independent. We have the Plattsmouth and Nebraska Telephone companies, with a network of wires throughout the city and extending out into the country. We have the Plattsmouth Business and Normal college, recently established here.

In addition to the general improvements going on in the city the B. & M. railroad is now constructing a new \$500,000 steel bridge across the Missouri river at this point, and will soon commence the construction of a new bridge across the Platte, just north of the city. A pontoon bridge across the Missouri is also decided upon, and work will be commenced soon.

In addition to these improvements there is a prospect of the construction of a great power canal along the Platte river from the west to this point, and in connection therewith a company has been organized to build an electric line with Plattsmouth as the central point, and a survey of the route has already been made. Corporations or individuals seeking to establish factories or branches are invited to correspond with the Plattsmouth Real Estate exchange. R. B. WINDHAM.

Monopolizing the Ranges

Portland Oregonian. Just as it was believed that the fight against the proposed lease of the range lands of the country had been won new comes from Washington that new effort is being made in behalf of that project.

The objections to leasing the ranges are many. First and foremost, it would tend to prevent the settlement of the country, and under lease would practically be beyond the reach of the immigrant.

This fact is clearly illustrated by current events in this state. In several parts of central Oregon which until just now have been open range country settlers are pouring in and making permanent homes—a thing which manifestly would not have been possible if the lands had been under lease.

Again, the lease system would in the very nature of things crowd out the small stockman and promote the interest of the large owner. The pretense, of course, is otherwise, but nobody who has observed the operation of government land administration can for one moment doubt that the rich would find ways to get the advantage of the small herds and unimproved lands. If this sort of injustice occurs in the apportionment of grazing privileges in the Cascade Mountain forest reserve, what could be expected in the context of wis and resources which would follow if the lands were turned over to the lease system?

There is, indeed, something in the claim that the ranges are suffering from overgrazing, but the conditions are very far from being as serious as the lease promoters have tried to make out, and there is no assurance that better conditions would follow if the lands were turned over to the lease system. In many districts the bunchgrass which once covered the soil has practically been destroyed, but there has come up in its place other grasses which many believe to be of greater value. The so-called "sheep grass" of eastern and central Oregon is distinctly a better stock feed than the coarser bunchgrass to whose place on the range it is being proposed to be placed on the range of the proposed lease. It has not some of the important merits of the bunchgrass, but it makes more feed to the acre and is, on the whole, better suited to the present uses of the range industry than the more famous original grass. This is the universal testimony of stockmen who do not depend wholly upon the range to carry their herds through the winter season. Experience does not support the theory that with the falling of the bunchgrass the ranges become worthless, and there are many practices that accord women the suffrage. How can woman suffrage be upheld as a demonstrated success when the amateur outflanks the expert in political maneuvering?

Le Roux, the French lecturer, whose assertion that Dreyfus had confessed his guilt to him created a small sensation the other day, now says he never said it. The question now is whether Le Roux speaks unintelligible French or his interpreter unintelligible English.

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Patriot's Unique Distinction.

Who and who was Rechemba, whose status is to be unveiled in Washington? First was he not the only figure in the American revolution that has succeeded in keeping out of the "historical" novels?

Usual Republican Complexion.

This year's surplus for ten months is \$85,000,000 and is estimated at \$75,000,000 for the twelve months ending June 30. The removal of war taxes will cut off revenue next year to about the amount of this year's surplus, but the treasury holds \$185,000,000 in cash beyond the sum reserved for the protection of the currency. The national financial outlook has the usual republican characteristics.

The Flag in the Philippines.

Philadelphia Record (dem.). President Roosevelt has declared that "the flag will stay" in the Philippines. The nation will stand at his back in making the flag stay, but the nation will also demand that the flag shall stand for the things in all the territories of the United States. The attempt to set up as many different forms of government for the possession of the republic is doomed to failure. The flag will stay and free government will be built up under its folds wherever it stays.

Coming Back to His Own.

Indianapolis News. The number of horses raised in this country is increasing at an unprecedented rate, and breeders are quoted as counting confidently on a continued increase of exports in response to the war, which is regarded as practically over. With all our improvement in the means and methods of locomotion, it appears, therefore, that the need of the horse increases. It is the history of every invention for improved methods increase production, and this is no exception. The whole mass of mankind comes to a better condition and has greater wants.

Stand by the Standard!

Price's Cream Baking Powder is everywhere the acknowledged standard, the powder of the highest reputation, greatest strength, and absolutely pure. It renders the food more healthful and palatable, and using it exclusively you are assured against alum and other dangerous chemicals from which the low-grade powders are made.

Dr. Price's Baking Powder is sold on its merits only—never by the aid of lotteries, gifts, commissions or other schemes. The entire value of your money comes back to you in baking powder—the purest, most economical made.

NOTE.—Alum baking powders are low priced, as they cost but three cents a pound to make. But alum leaves in the bread or cake glaucous salts, sulphuric acid and hydrate of alumina—all injurious, the last two poisonous.

PRICE BAKING POWDER CO., CHICAGO.

A SMILE OR TWO.

Chicago Post: "Did he inherit anything?" "Yes." "What?" "A third."

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "Why did you sit up your new ball grounds over here?" "Because a judge of the supreme court lives right next door."

Somerville Journal: It is a bad habit for a man to talk while he is at work, unless, perhaps, he is an auctioneer, or a lawyer, or a minister.

Chicago Tribune: "We don't allow beggars or canvassers in this building." "The janitor of the apartment house." "But I've got to see a man on the fifth floor." "That's the shabby man, pleadingly. 'I'm the owner of the building.'"

Philadelphia Press: Pitts—Curiosity is the besetting sin of most people. Pitts—Well, curiosity was responsible for my losing a lot of money last night. Pitts—How was that? Pitts—I was curious to see if the other fellow really held four aces or was only bluffing.

Washington Star: "Do you take any interest in music?" said the young woman. "Of course, I do," answered Senator Sorghum. "I have the profoundest appreciation of music. One tune from a brass band can, in most cases, get up more enthusiasm among a crowd of voters than half a dozen stump speeches."

MODERN SURGERY.

W. D. Nesbit in Baltimore Amer: Old Bill Jones—a Hoosier man—Blood, flesh and brains To give him pains His stomach ached sore from his birth. His lungs would wheeze all they were worth. His heart was slow. And then would go Like me, come what?

For two weeks Jones was stomachless. And then he told of great distress. His heart, he said, Was just like lead, Or worse. He sought the doctor man again. Who got his knives and saws—and then Bill's heart came next. Although it vexed His purse. And after that Bill's lungs felt bad—Another few the doctor had. Some chest was bare. Of all but air. The doctor next went searching for More things in Bill's interior. All nature's aids Left, ere his blades Were sheathed.

He took Bill's brain—and thought, I guess—And guessed him liverless—Removed his spleen—The whole machine—E-ry. And now Bill Jones—a Hoosier man—is built on an immortal plan. Through science deft. There's nothing left To die.

Minnesota Journal: The brilliant victory over the Moros will tend to check any tendency there may have been in popular feeling to judge the army rashly and to give way to an epidemic of maudlin depreciation of the inevitable severity of a war waged by the order of the people.

St. Paul Pioneer Press: The proportion of serious wounds received in the fight with the Moros the other day indicates that the fighting must have been of a desperate nature. If there were any correspondents with good descriptive talents present we may look forward to some good readings when the mails bring full accounts of the battle.

Chicago Chronicle: All patriotic Americans, imperialist or anti-imperialist, will commend the victory of Colonel Baldwin and his men over the treacherous, assassinating Moros of Mindanao. It was a gallant fight, waged against heavy odds and bravely won. It shows that the American troops in the Philippines have no need to resort to the "water cure" or the slaughter of children in order to triumph over their adversaries.

Kansas City Star: All the world admires heroism and courage in battle. Even the gentlemen who are opposing the government's Philippine policy must feel their hearts warmed toward the United States troops who stormed the Moro fort with such precision of rifle fire and gallantry that General Davis veiled to General Chaffee that he had "never seen or heard of any performance excelling this gallant fight."

Springfield Republican: The campaign against the Moros in Mindanao seems to be genuine war. General Davis' dispatch announces an important victory in the capture of another Moro fort, which was evidently attended by much slaughter. The number dead and wounded on our side reaches nearly fifty. The question now is whether this heavy blow at the datos and sultans will bring them to terms or whether the war will go on. General Davis thinks his campaign will be a short one.

THE RUSH TO AMERICA.

So far the year 1902 has broken the record of the past decade for immigrants landed at this port. January and February showed a large increase on the figures for the same months last year. This March showed 23,000 more than March, 1901, and during the first two weeks of April there entered 40,900 souls, as against 28,000 in the same months a year ago. For the rest of April the proportions are as large, if not larger. It is not until May that the numbers begin to fall. The new quarters of the immigrant palace on Ellis Island have been made ready. The flood of immigration, which subsided a little after the lean years of the '90s, is rising to unprecedented heights during the few years which bear a round O auspiciously in the place of their penultimate numeral.

Rules that immigrants must have money in their pouch, that they must be healthy and free from suspicion of crime, have no deterrent effect. The Spanish war, the advance of American manufactures into Europe, the outcry of European papers against the American fight, and the evidence of their own senses, which show them how North America has become the land above all others which feeds Europe, have improved the dullest and least imaginative.

The old bog of illiteracy among the immigrants has lost much of its former force, since other nations are paying attention to education, although they have not attained that low percentage of illiterates we find in Scandinavia, Switzerland and northern Germany. Strange to say, it is this improvement in popular education which has done much to cause the rush to the land of dollars, since a reading people has the press and cheap mails to aid them in deciding where their chances of a livelihood are best.

PERSONAL NOTES.

President Palma is swinging around the Cuban circle, but refrains from introducing the rear platform speech into his territory. Roy Farrell Greene of Arkansas City, Mo., is one of but few American poets who devote all their time to their art. He is only 28 years of age.

Philip Marting, the sculptor, has just finished the cast for the memorial statue of the late vice president, Garret A. Hobart. The statue may be unveiled on Decoration day.

Commenting on the fact that Andrew Carnegie, before sailing for Europe, provided for some more libraries, a New York paper irreverently says that "Merry Andrew has given another million to the conscience fund."

In the brief period when he is not engaged in fixing up billion-dollar combines Pierpont Morgan occasionally cracks a joke. He was showing some friends through his kennels and one of them expressed great

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