

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 15th day of July, A. D. 1902. (Seal.) M. H. Botany Public.

When it comes to breaking records King Corn proposes to be in at the finish himself.

It takes the old settlers' picnic to disclose how prolific of old settlers a young state like Nebraska can be.

Never worry. The Omaha base ball team will be back soon, to give the local fans a chance to show how they feel about it.

The next time the Board of Review meets to assess Omaha corporations it will know just what the street railway franchise is worth, based on its selling value.

The crown prince of Germany may not marry an American girl, but that is no reason why any American girl should be downcast. Every American girl is a queen in her own right.

If the railroad tax bureau is not mused pretty soon it will succeed admirably in arraying the farmers and wage-workers once more against the bankers and money lenders generally.

The dispatches say that the Elks have left Salt Lake City. The inhabitants will undoubtedly be duly thankful that the city is left to them, in addition to the memory of a hot old time.

Jim Hill insists that he will put into effect his promised reduction in grain rates on his northwestern roads within a week. It is noticeable that the reduction of grain rates for the benefit of the farmers is not yet contagious on the other railroads.

For the 'tenth time Colonel William J. Bryan declares publicly that he is not a candidate for the democratic nomination for the presidency in 1904. If an enlisting officer should be sent out to enforce a draft, however, he wants it known that he will not hide behind the door.

If Mr. Mercer and his fool friends imagine that The Bee will slacken its fire and desert in its opposition to his recombination because the democrats have been induced to nominate an offensive partisan, they will presently discover that they are very much mistaken.

Cuba is moving for admission to membership in the Universal Postal union. With the taste of good postal services they got under American administration, the Cubans are not to be expected to put up with anything like what they had to submit to when Spain ran their postoffices for them.

The latest agricultural implement trust has been formed with the avowed purpose to protect the American farmer from paying higher prices for farm machinery by reason of the increase in wages and cost of materials. It is doubtful, however, whether the American farmer will appreciate the benevolent amalgamation.

Straws that indicate material progress in the direction of a meat packers' combine seem to be visible at several points of the compass, despite repeated affirmations of complete ignorance by men supposed to know what is going on. If the consolidation of packing house interests is to come, we might as well prepare to face it now as later.

An architect is to be sent all the way from this country to China, presumably to make sure that the plans for the new home of the American embassy at Peking are properly drawn and executed, but more likely to see to it that the cyclone cellar is scientifically located to be of ready service next time the Boxers lay siege to the foreign ministers.

OVERDUE THEIR JOB

When the allied railroads placed \$50,000 at the disposal of the tax bureau for the purpose of disseminating misinformation among the people of Nebraska concerning taxation in general and railroad taxation in particular, it was expected that the tax agents would try hard to outdo themselves. In this instance, however, the truth of the old adage that "you can fool some of the people some of the time, but you can't fool all of the people all of the time," is again forcibly exemplified by the four latest bulletins, which, instead of enlightening the people, in reality try to make "confusion worse confounded."

Taking as their text the census reports for 1900 relative to the condition of manufactures in Nebraska, the railroad tax agents build up a pyramid of meaningless figures for the purpose of proving that the manufacturers of Nebraska pay only 1.2 per cent of their net earnings for taxation, while the railroads are taxed 10 per cent of their net earnings. While this comparison of net profits is positively irrelevant and immaterial to the issue, the figures bear on their face the stamp of fiction and false deduction.

Every school boy knows that taxation in Nebraska is not assessed against income, but on property value, and it would not matter a scintilla whether the mills, factories and packing houses of Nebraska earned billions and trillions for their owners, or whether they were idle or running at a loss. The taxes are levied not on the profits of the mill and factory, but upon the packing house, the mill, the factory and the plant. Millions of bushels of wheat or corn pass through a grain elevator, but the owner of the elevator pays taxes only on value of the structure and machinery.

To compare the profits of factories and mills with railroad earnings would be about as rational as would be to tax the railroads on the value of all the merchandise and products they transport. A simple trick of the confounding tax bureau figures is reported in their estimate of the earnings of newspapers in this state. According to bulletin No. 42, the value of the product of the newspapers in Nebraska in 1900 was \$2,553,051, the cost of production \$1,571,549 and the net profit \$981,502. With such a showing the tax agents figure that Nebraska newspapers are paying only 1.4 per cent of their net profits for the maintenance of state, county and municipal government. As a matter of fact, a high estimate of the value of the products of all the newspapers of Nebraska in 1900, exclusive of job work, does not exceed \$1,500,000, and their aggregate net profits, instead of being \$981,502, have scarcely reached \$100,000 in any one of the last three years.

The rail double-shotted volley fired by the railroad commando is directed at the Nebraska bankers and money lenders. According to the tax bureaucrats, the Nebraska bankers are the worst tax shirkers of them all. With a capital and surplus of more than \$22,000,000 and deposits of over \$70,000,000, the bankers are charged with returning only 4 per cent of their capital for taxation and with being taxed on an infinitesimal fraction of 1 per cent on their credits. To make it more specific, the bureau has figured it out that the banks pay 2.2 per cent of their net earnings in taxes, while the railroads pay 10 per cent of their net earnings for taxes.

Without attempting to analyze the calculation by which this conclusion is reached, it should be noted that a large percentage of the bank deposits consist of public money deposited by state, county and municipal treasurers, postmasters, customs officers, paymasters, etc., that are by law exempt from taxation. Much of the capital of the banks is also in the form of national bonds, that are not taxable. But if the startling figures of the tax bureau were absolutely correct, how would that fact justify the state board in refusing to add the value of the railroad franchises to the value of the tangible property in making their assessment?

The natural inference to be drawn from the latest railroad bulletins is that the dust throwers and fog distributors are trying to frighten the bankers and manufacturers into making common cause with the railroads against equitable taxation, but we apprehend their bombshell will prove a boomerang.

OUR FINANCIAL EXPANSION.

The proposition to make New York the distributing point, the open market for an entire issue of Russian government bonds, amounting to hundreds of millions of dollars, is strikingly suggestive of the financial expansion of the United States. It is an acknowledgment by one of the most powerful nations in the world of American pre-eminence, or at least equality, as a financial power. It will probably be followed by the placing upon the list of securities permissible to be traded in upon the New York Stock exchange the obligations of other governments.

This will tend, says the New York correspondent of the Philadelphia Press, to confirm the view of those who have held for some time that the speculative and investment markets of the United States are speedily to be the theater of very impressive changes. Hereofore the railway securities dominated, at times to the exclusion of every other security, these markets. The railways themselves are undergoing some marvelous transformations as to ownership and as to financial characteristics and their future relations to the stock market cannot be foreseen with absolute certainty. The most important fact disclosed in connection with the Russian bonds is that New York is becoming, if it is not already, the financial center of the world. The daily bank clearings and the enormous financial transactions at that city show that more business is now being done there than in London and there appears to be no reason to doubt that this position will be maintained. There are of course

some who take a pessimistic view of the matter and profess apprehension that our financial expansion has been too rapid and that there is danger of a sudden reaction, but generally the feeling is that of confidence. At all events, the United States is now in the front rank if not at the head of the money powers and is exerting a most potent influence in the financial world.

—LOOK TO THE LEGISLATURE.

The legislature of 1902 will be the most important body that has been called upon to enact laws for the people of Nebraska within a quarter of a century. The two previous legislatures were torn up and distracted by senatorial contests, that continued practically during the entire session. The coming legislature will deal simply with issues that have no political significance, but concern all of the people, regardless of politics.

The most important duty of the next legislature will be the submission of much-needed constitutional amendments and the revision of our revenue laws. On those issues no political lines can be drawn, and every candidate for the legislature should be compelled to publicly declare himself. The people of Nebraska have a right to demand pledges from every candidate for the legislature for specific reforms in our system of assessment and taxation. Costly experience has taught the people that glittering generalities and platform platitudes cannot be depended upon to remedy flagrant abuses.

The taxpayers of Nebraska have paid dearly for gross negligence and downright corruption of shifty and venal lawmakers who allow themselves to be manipulated by corporation lobbies and jobbers. The people have been fooled too many times to allow themselves to be fooled again. They need not only able, broad-minded men in the legislature, but men of known integrity and honor, who will not barter away the people's rights for a mess of pottage or a railroad pass.

The people want men not only to hold up their hands and pledge their sacred honor, but also to sign a pledge that they will vote and work for a law that will prohibit any state officer from soliciting or accepting corporation bribes in the shape of palace car junkets from Lincoln to Denver, California or Mexico under any pretext, but will make appropriation of a reasonable sum to repay state officers money expended for legitimate expenses while traveling on public business.

The people of Nebraska have a right to exact a pledge from every candidate for the legislature that he will work for and support a bill to prohibit members of the legislature from soliciting or accepting free transportation, telegraph and telephone franks or any other complimentary gift from any railroad corporation, telegraph, telephone, express or palace car company for himself, his family or any of his friends.

The people have a right to demand that every candidate for the coming legislature shall pledge himself open and above board to vote for and support a bill to tax express companies and other public carriers enjoying valuable franchises which pay taxes in every other state except Nebraska.

The people of Nebraska have a right to demand that every candidate for the legislature be pledged to support and vote for a bill to remedy any defects that may be found in the revenue laws that prevent a just distribution of the public burdens, not only in state and county taxes, but also in municipal taxation, and every candidate who declines to make these pledges should be given to understand that he will forfeit any claim he may have on the support of the people by reason of party affiliation. The next legislature should represent the people. It should enact laws for all classes of citizens and property owners without favoritism or discrimination.

SOLVING THE NEGRO PROBLEM.

The policy declared by the recent negro convention at Atlanta is practical and sound and if faithfully followed will go far toward solving the problem confronting the colored race. It contemplates the uplifting of the negro through education and labor. The resolutions adopted say among other things: "To promote our material interests and increase our opportunities for a livelihood we earnestly recommend to our people through the country that they teach their children the dignity and value of manual labor and give them an industrial education which will enable them to enter the world's industries with as much knowledge, skill and dexterity as members of other races possess. To secure competent men and women to lead the race in its struggle upward, we must encourage the higher education of our boys and girls."

This is wise counsel, pointing the only way in which the colored race can achieve the place which its more sagacious leaders are seeking for it. The race has made progress. The experience of the institutions devoted to the education of the negro shows that it is possible to instill the American idea of the dignity of labor and the value of thrift and forbearance into at least selected specimens of the colored race. It has shown this so conclusively that other solutions of the negro problem are falling into the background. While the material growth of the race has not been as marked as the numerical increase, yet the results are encouraging. Many negroes are property owners and successful business men and as was said at the Atlanta convention they raise more cotton under freedom than under slavery.

The foremost leader of the colored race, Booker Washington, has for years told them that theirs is an industrial and not a social nor a political problem. On an industrial basis there is a possibility of adjusting both races to it in the course of time. If the negroes throughout the country and especially in the southern states can be taught to take the view of Booker

Washington and adopt the course recommended by the Atlanta convention, the result will be a great improvement in their material condition and their betterment in other respects.

DEPENDENCE UPON AMERICA.

The dependence of the United Kingdom upon other countries and principally the United States, is shown in the statistics of its imports just compiled by the chief of the division of foreign markets in the Department of Agriculture. It appears from these that the United Kingdom imported in 1900 agricultural products valued at \$1,578,000,000, about one-third of which was supplied by this country. But while the United States exports to that country enormous food supplies, selling there more than half of the surplus production of American farms, there seems to be opportunity for increasing the trade in some directions.

The report shows that we have the bulk of the trade in lard, hams, tobacco, wheat flour, fresh beef, raw cotton, cattle, canned corn and bacon, but send scarcely any butter, eggs or potatoes, articles that the United Kingdom imports to the extent of many millions of dollars annually. The chief of the division of foreign markets predicts that the greatest future in the development of trade in the British market may be expected in perishable products, exportation of which is made possible by modern transportation methods. He remarks that while other countries are the chief contributors of luxuries, the United States is the source from which the British people procure in large measure the staple food products that are absolutely necessary to the maintenance of life. This causes the dependence of the United Kingdom on American sources of supply.

This dependence is not likely to be less in the future, so that it will continue to be a very powerful influence for the maintenance of friendly relations between the two countries. The mutual interests of Great Britain and the United States are so great that neither will easily be induced to do anything to seriously impair international friendship. The people of the United Kingdom must have our foodstuffs. Nowhere else can they obtain a sufficient supply of these. We, on the other hand, want to retain this large trade, amounting annually to more than \$500,000,000, and if possible increase it. As by far the best customer for our agricultural products there is the most substantial reason why this country should be disposed to cultivate the friendliest relations with Great Britain.

The necessity of importing the greater part of its foodstuffs makes it most improbable that the United Kingdom will permanently maintain the tax on grain. That policy, forced by heavy war expenditures, is exceedingly unpopular and there is no doubt it will be abandoned just as soon as it is found practicable to do so. Popular hostility to it has already been shown in Parliamentary elections and is certain to become more general and pronounced. The United States has no trade more secure against tariffs or any form of discrimination than that with the United Kingdom and there is good reason to expect that it will continue to grow.

Chicago authorities are starting a campaign against the use of colored netting over baskets containing fruit, on the pretense that the colored covering is a cloak to palm off unripe or over-ripe specimens on an unsuspecting public. But is this not going a trifle too far? If the pink tarlatan that makes green peaches glow like a blushing maiden's cheek is to be tabooed, where will this invasion of the fruit stand man's rights cease? Will not the inspector next insist on banishing the berry box with a sky-scraper bottom and require all apple barrels to be packed with as good specimens in the center as at the ends? What chance will we have to acquire cholera morbus at cheap prices if the privilege of purchasing melons without first plugging them is denied? Why, before we know it some exacting and over-officious officer will demand of the banana peddler that he give bonds that his yellow bunches shall not turn brown when exposed to the summer sun. What next?

Democrats profess to be greatly chagrined because Lewis Nixon, late head boss of Tammany hall and now treasurer of the democratic national congressional committee, is the leading figure in a trust consolidation of shipbuilding concerns into a corporation with \$48,000,000 capitalization. But they need have no great concern. The people do not take the democratic anti-trust talk seriously. The democrats ran one plutocratic shipbuilder on the same ticket with Bryan in 1896, and they had an object in making another plutocratic shipbuilder chief financier of this year's campaign. To build a political craft that can run the blockade of popular distrust is the aim and object of the democratic managers, who think they need the aid of experienced shipbuilders to score success.

"The plan to have the Indians work for a living is a good one," Indian Commissioner Jones is quoted as saying, "and I am going to use every effort to encourage it." The revised version of the Indian agent at the Omaha and Winnebago reservation would read: "The plan to have the Indians worked by land ring despoilers is a good one, and I am using every effort to encourage it."

According to credible authority, the American skyscraper is about to gain a foothold in Paris. This is to be construed into the startling intelligence that the innovation-shunning Europeans are almost reconciled to using an elevator instead of a lift.

Intimation is had from Washington that Senator Jones of Arkansas will be given a place by appointment of President Roosevelt on the Isthmian Canal Commission. It will be remembered that Jones is chairman of the democratic national committee. But that would not prevent the democratic chairman accepting a lucrative position at the hands of a republican president.

BLASTS FROM HAN'S HORN.

No one can wonder the Father like the child. No words are great unless they have been deeds. The best denial of a lie is the doing of the truth. Man cannot be renovated; he must be regenerated. Evil is real, but temporal; good is real, but eternal. You cannot judge the house by one sheet of its plans. Sincere consecration never produces self-complacency. Life cannot be all sunshine if it would be our service. God lifts up the heavy-hearted by means of human hands. The greatest truths are powerless without the living teacher. It is no proof of courage to dig up a dead heresy so as to kill it again. Active service saves many a man from foolish fears and speculations. The noblest worker is he who does the lowliest work in the loftiest spirit.

SECULAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.

Washington Star: The archbishop of Canterbury made a mistake in not supplying himself with an extra strap pair of spectacles for the coronation services. Chicago Chronicle: The bishop of Delaware insists that women shall wear their hats or bonnets in church according to the ancient injunction. Fortunately the jurisdiction of his grace does not extend to the tulle. Washington Post: Elder Dowie has completed an elaborate scheme for his fall collection. He will soon be able to regain that financial point from which that doubting brother-in-law hurled him. Louisville Courier-Journal: When Rev. Dr. Wilson arose before an Ocean Grove Sunday school last week and asked, "What is the best thing in the world?" he was astonished at a unanimous chorus of the youngsters, who shouted out, "Money!" But why should he have been astonished? Many a teacher of Sunday schools acts as if he believed, if he does not openly avow, that the best thing in the world is money.

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DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES.

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MODERN CONVENIENCES.

Effect of Telephones, Rural Mail and Trolley Lines on Villages. Indianapolis Journal.

Telephones, rural mail routes, interurban and trolley lines have had the effect, it is said, of making small villages more quiet than formerly. In the case of the rural mail, a blacksmith shop and a doctor's office as its chief business establishments is not at any time a very lively center, but the coming and going of the persons with affairs to transact at these places create whatever stir there is and at times bring about the appearance of considerable activity. But now that the farm telephone has come into use its owner does not "hitch up" and go to the village as formerly to do his errands. He telephones to the storekeeper his order for goods and asks him to send them out by trolley or by the first man traveling that way; he consults the doctor over the telephone and talks with his friend in the village in the same way. The mail is brought to his gate, and thus relieves him of the necessity of a daily trip. His relations with the blacksmith remain unchanged, or may have been devised whereby that useful personage can shoe a horse or mend a wagon without having horse and vehicle present. But these needs are not of daily occurrence, and so it happens that the little street or open square which was wont to be busy about the appearance of the blacksmith and the village store and goes to a larger town, and that this is particularly true of his wife or daughter on similar errand. All this is a natural but rather curious development following the extended use of modern conveniences, and what remedy the village has is not plain. Its only hope is apparently to establish attractions of a social or educational nature that will offset the loss in other directions and will draw its rural neighbors there for amusement and entertainment.

KINDLINESS OF NEWSPAPERS.

Forbearing Courtesy Exemplified in the News Columns. St. Louis Republic.

"It sounds a thunder's slight ringer," remarks the sage of the Albany (Mo.) Ledger, "to say that 'Mr. So-and-So accepted a position,' than to say he nearly ran his legs off and told forty lies to get it."

HATLESS WOMEN IN CHURCH.

Outburst of a Bishop More Offensive Than the Act Rebuked. Chicago Tribune.

Last Sunday the Episcopal bishop of Delaware rebuked some young women who left their hats behind them when they went to church. The bishop told them their conduct was unscriptural and ungodly, and that it looked worse for them to attend divine service with uncovered heads than for men to do so without their coats. Naturally the young women were much mortified. It is pleasant to be told in public places where one cannot answer back that one's conduct is unscriptural and ungodly. The girls meant no offense. They went bonnetless to church because it was warm weather and they would be more comfortable with no hat on their heads. The bishop, respecting to have their heads covered when praying or prophesying he gave them advice which may have been excellent advice for the untrained, uneducated, uncivilized women to whom it was given, and yet he advised ungodly to the women of this age. "They didn't know everything down in Judee," St. Paul could not prescribe the godly church dress of the women of the twentieth century. Furthermore, what Paul actually said was that the women should do her praying and prophesying with her head veiled. So if one of the young women who were rebuked at Rehoboth by the Episcopal bishop had been hatless, but veiled, she would have been acting in strict obedience to the commands of the apostle. The Corinthian women did not have the elaborate headgear of modern women. When St. Paul insisted on veils he probably did so because he thought it was decent and decent for women to have their heads veiled in church. He may have believed that the spectacle of many women with uncovered faces would distract the attention of the men of the congregation. Doubtless it did, for even now the eyes that should be devotedly fixed on the speaker in the pulpit are often devotedly fixed on the face of some fair girl. An intelligent bishop knows where Paul was talking for all time and where he was talking for his own age only, and will act accordingly. The slight of hatless ladies in a church will not seem to such a bishop an ungodly sight. He will rejoice in it as an indication that his women hearers cannot gaze enviously at hats handsome than their own or be filled with fears as to whether their own are so just right, and hence are able to pay much closer attention to the service and the sermon.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

The red-headed girl and the white automobile have made their appearance in the east. They are conceded to be a warm pair. Milwaukee pays a tender two-column tribute to the growth of the schooner. Wasn't it the schooner that made Milwaukee famous? Money is so plentiful in Cleveland that soiled bills are spurned. Fastidious people who are in the swim very properly insist on clean currency. Prayer might have had something to do with it, but prayerless newspapers give anti-septic surgery the credit for making the coronation possible. There is compensation for the hard cold pinch hereabouts in the fact that Jersey people are now paying \$9 a ton for it. The coal trust started in New Jersey. A full-blooded Sioux Indian, formerly of North Dakota, has been chosen leader of a white man's band at Carlisle, Pa. Once more poor Lo is in position to give poetic license the horse's foot. A Texas woman with a grievance says she will shoot General Chaffee as soon as she can draw a bead on him. Meanwhile she promises to keep her head in by "shooting off her mouth."

TRUSTS.

A trust has been formed to control the output and the price of stogies and cheroots. If the worst comes, communities can vigorously enforce the laws against smoke nuisances. Menelik, king of Abyssinia, is about to start on a tour of Europe and intends visiting every court on the continent if the government of Great Britain, to which he owes allegiance, will permit him. A man who claims to be 104 years of age says that outdoor life and freedom from worry constitute the recipe for long life. It is an easy as well as pleasant task to give advice after one has hobbled over the roughest part of the road. General Manager Schwab bought an independent steel company for \$7,500,000 the other day and then watered the plant to the tune of \$26,000,000. Perhaps Mr. Schwab could be induced to try his marvelous talent as an irrigator on the semi-arid west.

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Chicago Tribune: "So you ran across Detroit in New York, did you? Has he got a good position or what?"

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The man who places an order with his tailor early in the season has decidedly the advantage over his procrastinating friend. Better assortment of goods, more time for fitting and making. Our Fall and Winter line consists of an immense variety of dependable fabrics at low prices. You should stop and consider—order of the

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