

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. A table listing circulation figures for various issues and sections of the newspaper, including dates and circulation counts.

Net total sales, 91,081. Net daily average, 30,902. Less unsold and returned copies, 10,154.

The coal miners observe Mitchell day now. They will celebrate Roosevelt day later. Colonel Bryan is again headed for home to be on the spot with a message of sympathy for David B. Hill when the returns come in.

President Roosevelt's Thanksgiving proclamation is out. Now let Ezra P. tell us why Nebraska should be unusually thankful. If you are not registered you cannot vote. If you have not registered, you have only one more opportunity coming—and that is Saturday next.

It's easy for the city council to pass resolutions asking for extensions of street railway facilities. Getting the extensions, however, is not so easy. The students of Michigan Agricultural college have not yet asked for arbitration of their differences with the faculty. They demand of the latter unconditional surrender.

A man who would resort to the importation of Iowa repeaters to secure a fraudulent nomination would not hesitate to resort to the same means to procure an election. A little thing like the council overriding his vetoes does not discourage Mayor Moores. A council meeting without a few vetoes to override would not seem like the real thing.

An eight-hour shift on the police force may be a good thing, but it can't be worked without more policemen. And the more policemen, the more money needed to pay the bills. University of Nebraska seniors will choose between Tom Reed and Mark Twain for commencement orator. They are bound to have a joke either on themselves or on the orator.

It hasn't been many weeks since the Cubans took charge of their government and yellow fever is already reported there. Cuba must begin to feel again like home to the Cubans. No doubt the South and Central American countries are marvelously rich in resources, especially in revolutionary resources, which are the only ones which their people have shown any industry in developing.

BENEVOLENT ASSIMILATION.

The air of benevolence with which President Hill surrounds his great railroad corporation in the process of assimilating their substance is well calculated to bewitch the farmers, provided there is to be no going behind the returns, no looking under the surface. To a large concourse of North Dakota farmers Mr. Hill proclaimed the other day, no doubt with sonorous oratory, that the supreme object of his road was to secure property for the northwest. He had expatiated upon the glories of agriculture at great length and in a strain implying that his own corporation was not intended to be selfishly gainful, but that it was an institution conceived solely in benevolence and altruistically operated for the behoof of the farmers who are absolutely dependent upon it for transportation.

Mr. Hill, however, was significantly silent upon the history of the vast monopoly he has built up and especially upon the manipulations, operative and financial, by which this has been accomplished. He was especially silent upon those methods by which lately competition throughout a dozen states has been slaughtered by the merger of the three mammoth systems of the Great Northern, the Northern Pacific and the Burlington and at the same time their capitalization has been enormously inflated. The northwestern farmers pay the freight, notwithstanding the benevolence of Mr. Hill's intentions. It might have marred the unalloyed bliss of the occasion if they had inquired of Mr. Hill how his paramount yearning for their prosperity was to be gratified by doubling the fixed charges of the Burlington as he has done, upon which they must pay dividends. He volunteered no explanation of any such incongruous element in his eleemosynary plan.

But Mr. Hill did incidentally confide to his hearers the circumstance that as the case stands his road does pay, in addition to fixed charges, 7 per cent on its stock capitalization. He might have added that it pays profits of enormously more than 7 per cent, for the official records, a special allowance of \$1,700,000 under the head of maintenance and that the income account does not disclose the full income of the various properties owned and controlled, which is far greater, leaving a further sum of \$2,600,000. In short, after paying this aggregate sum of \$6,800,000, after in addition paying operating expenses and 7 per cent dividend, there remained a surplus of \$2,116,000 for the last fiscal year—verily a big benevolent enterprise of Mr. Hill's, but for one thing, viz: that the farmers pay the whole bill out of their own pockets.

The benevolence of that portion of Mr. Hill's scheme represented by the 2,416 miles of Burlington system in Nebraska was during the same time exemplified by beating the state out of more than one-half of the taxes justly due, thus compelling the great body of the taxpayers to bear the burden. The full facts show that Mr. Hill's corporation is benevolent, indeed, but benevolent chiefly to itself.

STRENGTHEN THE ANTI-TRUST LAW. There are some who hold the opinion that the Sherman anti-trust law exhausts the power of congress over monopolies. This is not the view of Attorney General Knox and it is interesting to note that his position is indorsed by various officers of the administration. Mr. Knox said in his Pittsburg speech that the power of congress is not exhausted in this law, but that the anti-trust act of 1890 may, under the existing constitutional grants, be amended and extended and thus remedy its defects and so effectively regulate national and foreign commerce as to prevent the stifling of competition, the regulating of prices and the restraining of national and international trade.

adequate protection against monopoly.

Which this law was intended to give. It is the opinion of the attorney general of the United States that the law of 1890 can be extended so as to prevent the suppression of competition and the restraint of trade. He believes that the constitutional power of congress is ample for this purpose. It is expected that President Roosevelt will recommend legislation on the line indicated by Mr. Knox and the people will look to congress to give this supremely important matter prompt and earnest consideration.

GOOD WORDS FOR THE BEE. While the consciousness of duty well performed is all the reward to be expected, a newspaper as much as an individual is glad to have its efforts appreciated and approved. The receipt of the following letter is therefore specially gratifying to the Bee:

CINCINNATI, Oct. 27.—To the Editor of The Bee: I am just home from my Omaha convention and take this first opportunity of writing and telling you how much we appreciate the splendid work by The Omaha Bee in reporting our conventions. It is with pleasure that I transmit to you the formal vote of thanks of the convention for your work.

Merger and the Clerks. The clerks employed in railroad headquarters, railroad freight houses, banks and jobbing concerns in Omaha and the clerks employed in the packing houses at South Omaha, regardless of party, are counted on to cast their ballots next Tuesday for David H. Miller. A large number of clerks who affiliate with the republican party were importuned, or dragged, into voting the Mercer ticket at the republican primaries by their superiors under the pretext that it would benefit their employers, and the same reasons will doubtless be advanced for them to cast their vote for the non-resident congressman at the election.

Effect of Prosperity. Indianapolis Journal. As one result of the financial management of the republican party the annual interest on the national debt is \$6,000,000 less than it was before the war with Spain, notwithstanding the issue of a war loan of \$500,000,000.

Monopolizing the Graft. Chicago Chronicle. The coal trust has advanced the price of anthracite to the dealers, but will not allow those traders to advance the price to the consumer. The trust believes that in such matters it can work that side of the street if it so chooses.

Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot.

The tendency of people troubled with a surplus to "burn money" has taken a firm grip on Uncle Sam and he is doing a stunt in that line unrivaled in magnitude and economic results. While the average mortal burns money for individual pleasure, your uncle does it to save coal bills. During the top-notch price of coal which prevailed during October, the bureau of engraving and printing was kept warm by burning each day about \$40,000 worth of retired bonds, paper money, postage stamps and like evidence of wealth issued by the government. As an offset to this costly heat, the bureau credited up a saving of \$150 in coal.

Beginning with July, 1901, following the repeal of the stamp tax on bank checks, telegraph and telephone messages, and augmented this last July by the repeal of all stamp taxes, the treasury has been redeeming the revenues from the country districts, that a declaration of modified independence is inevitable. The American colonies were a part of the British empire. West Virginia was a part of Turkey—they are not so now. In the case of the large American cities revolution is not necessary. Neither, of course, is complete separation. All that the progress of events often breaks asunder old ties which have ceased to be convenient and dangerous and have come to be irksome and dangerous to the nation and to the development demands it. They must have home rule. State politicians who refuse to be converted by arguments will be converted by votes.

PERSONAL NOTICES. Did the salt trust dissolve because there was too much water? Lieutenant James Powell, who has just died at Conneaut, O., was a direct lineal descendant of the Stuart kings of England. Captain Rowan, the man who "carried the message" to General Sherman at Fort Mifflin, is said to have been carried to the subject that he is sorry he ever carried it. Dr. Frank Strong, who has just been installed chancellor of the University of Kansas, is the author of an excellent biography of Benjamin Franklin.

Elliot Woods, superintendent of the caption at Washington, declares that the building is bubbling with wit and humor, prompted by the coal famine. He mentions some of the suggestions for fuel which he has received from visitors: "Storing the heat from warm debates;" "the seasoned timber from which cabinets are selected;" "salvaged material from political conventions;" "some of the dried old fossils in the senate;" "logs which are rolled by our infant industries;" and the "Steps which are always taken to remedy all matters."

General Bragg's transfer from the consulate general at Havana to the consulate general at Hong Kong will not involve any loss to him of the emoluments of office, the salary at both posts being identical. The social prestige of the American consul at Hong Kong is greater than that of the corresponding official at Havana, and this would be a compensation for the disadvantage of a residence so far from home. General Dewet, the sturdy Boer leader, carried his independence with him to London and showed it in marked fashion during his interview with Colonial Secretary Chamberlain. The latter addressed him as "Mr. Dewet," whereas the warrior from South Africa corrected him by saying "General Dewet." Almost immediately afterwards Mr. Chamberlain repeated the "Mr.," and Dewet said sternly, "General or nothing." Then the suave Chamberlain followed Lord Kitchener's example and recognized the military status of his visitor.

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Washington is flat mad. Housekeeping apartment flats are springing up in all quarters. The but chief, the northwest district. More than forty large flats have been completed since January 1, 1901, a score of others are in course of construction, and several others, larger still, are planned. The rapidity with which these flats, when ready for occupancy, have been filled has been remarkable. Heads of families have had themselves booked for quarters in the new ones months before their completion.

The rent is about the same as those of the houses previously occupied by the flat-dwellers, but cheaper, because the flat is the cheaper at the same rate, because in it there is no expense for heating or water, and there are economies in other directions. Washington has just found these things out. Consequently the flats are full, with a constantly increasing demand for more. The site of the new flat is to be in the corner of Connecticut avenue and L street, in the fashionable quarter of the capital, only four blocks from the White House, and less than three from Colonel Hay's own residence on Lafayette Park. The building will have a frontage on each street of approximately 250 feet, and is to be eight stories high. The floor space is to be cut up into nearly 500 rooms, grouped into ninety-five suites of five-room flats.

FLUOTING HOME RULE. New Ohio Municipal Code Only Goes Half Way in Self-Government. Chicago Tribune (rep.). Now we have Ohio playing leading lady to that great star in ripper legislation, Pennsylvania. What ripper legislation means can be seen in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh politics. What the regulation of municipal affairs means a static capitalist means can be seen in Chicago's west park board. Experience and reason, facts and spirit, the record of the past and the spirit of the present, all cry aloud for home rule for great cities. Does the new legislation conform to this cry? It not only does not conform to it, it violently disregards and flouts it.

Interference with municipal governments in Ohio by the party in power in the legislature has hitherto taken the form of special legislation. The supreme court has decided that such legislation is unconstitutional and there must be a uniform municipal code. The legislature has enacted such a code, but has incorporated in it provisions which are subversive of the principle of local self-government. First, the mayors of all Ohio cities are removable by the governor. If Illinois were under that law Governor Yates could keep on removing Chicago mayors until the people of Chicago were willing to elect some one who suited him. Surely this is a queer way of keeping municipal administration out of politics.

Second, all Ohio cities will have boards of public safety, which control the business affairs of the police and fire departments and will act as civil service commissions. By the forbearance of the state legislature the mayors will appoint boards of public safety, unless—note the playful, bantering spirit of the legislators of the Buckeye state—unless the common council fall to elect some one who suited him. Surely this is a queer way of keeping municipal administration out of politics.

ELIZABETH CADY STANTON.

Minneapolis Times: The cause of women's suffrage has lost a mighty champion in the death of Mrs. Stanton, but what seems to us more than that, the cause of clean living, of sweet womanliness, of high ideals, of pure government has lost an advocate that shall not soon be replaced. Indianapolis Journal: Comparatively few women, it is true, have gained the right of suffrage for which she battled most strenuously, but in other lines the advance has been greater and more rapid than even she could have hoped. Laws have been modified, property rights equalled, educational opportunities widened, and avenues of industry opened to women to an extent that could hardly have seemed possible fifty years ago.

Chicago Chronicle: Mrs. Stanton did not succeed in completely converting American womanhood to her conviction that the ballot is a cure for all evils. But while knowing with only partial success upon that, she obtained lock the conclusion of her "slow relaxed the rivets on many other closed doors. There is not a woman who has succeeded in law, medicine, journalism, the arts and sciences, higher education, trade and commerce but feels or ought to feel grateful to this American martyr.

Indianapolis News: Fulfilling all of the privileges and meeting all of the duties in life this noble woman had still the greatness of mind and character to adopt all women as her sisters in a very intimate and giving her life to their uplifting. She lived long enough in her days and loved and honored and respected, and was comforted with the acknowledgment that most of her ideals were sound and true, surely she was blessed as she lived and as she died—leaving a memory that glazes those who come after her.

Minneapolis Tribune: Mrs. Stanton was one of the noted group of women, including Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe and Mrs. Julia Ward Howe, who seemed to combine the qualities that fitted her to shine both in the domestic circle and in public life. She married at a comparatively early age. Her children clustered about her knees and six of them were at her bedside when she passed away. Yet she found time to do much literary work, to occupy herself with public questions and to be a leader in movements which she regarded as reformatory.

Springfield Republican: Mrs. Stanton's home life was all that the most exacting advocate of "woman's sphere, the home," could desire. She had seven children and six are living. Theodore Stanton is a well known literate and journalist, resident in Paris. Margaret Livingston Lawrence is known as an authority and teacher in physical culture, now at the Teachers' college, in New York City. Harriet Stanton Blach is a prominent figure, in English philanthropy and social labor. Altogether, no life can have been more fully justified and, perhaps, none more fruitful in gifts to humanity, than that of Elizabeth Cady Stanton.

FLASHES OF FUN.

Judge: Thorne—How about that oil stock you bought? Was it a good thing? Bramble—No, I was. Somerville Journal: Hicks—their table manners are very bad, aren't they? Wicks—Yes, but you know he boarded for five years. New York Sun: Teacher—Now, Johnny, what do we learn from the parable of the prodigal boy? Johnny—Why, er—er, it teaches us not to be a calf.

Judge: Madge—What does she mean by saying that men are not so chivalrous as they used to be? Marjorie—Suppose that twenty years ago she used to go to bed with a man. Somerville Journal: The worst thing about telling a lie is that the most exacting that you have to listen patiently afterward while he tells you a story that he thinks is funny, too. Washington Star: "Dat were a very elegant jacket I won last night on a bluff," said Mr. Erastus Pinky, as he tilted his cigar and dropped his hat over his eye.

"Did you raise de opener?" asked Mr. James Collier, who had just shaved. "No, suth; I opened a razor." Philadelphia Catholic Standard: "It's almost impossible dear, to log a house for a shorter term than fifteen years, nowadays," he said, "so I protect myself." "Ask me what?" interrupted his bride-to-be. "To agree not to seek a divorce until the expiration of the first year's lease."

Somerville Journal: Ethel—Maude asked me to go to luncheon with her yesterday, but I couldn't. Alice—Why not? Ethel—I didn't have my pocketbook with me. Chicago Record-Herald: "I—I have come," he began, addressing her father. "to suggest to you that a union of our families would be in favor of unions," the testy old carlin of industry interrupted, "and I will not submit to arbitration. Good morning."

MORN, NOON AND NIGHT. In the morning of life the youth goes abroad. With confidence grand and sublime, And he says, as he enters on life's busy road: "To the top of Fame's hill I will climb." In the noonday of life the man looks around. On those he has passed in the race; And he thinks no one else like him can be found. For honor, for glory, for place. In the evening of life the man meditates. On all he has done, said and seen; And this is the verdict he mentally states: "Oh, what a damned fool have been."

