

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROBEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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

Table with 2 columns: Number of copies and Total. Rows include Daily, Morning, Evening, and Sunday editions for various days of the month.

When the courts get through with the market house question the mayor and council may get another turn at it. General Chaffee does not want Omaha to worry about the Moro question, and we feel sure his advice will be followed.

Some inquisitive people would like to know why Governor Savage has not yet found time to take that lid off Joe Bartley's cigar box.

Those government land grabbers who have gotten themselves into trouble should have heeded the elder Weller's advice to beware of the widows.

The railroad corporations doing business in Omaha and Nebraska can be assured that the question of taxation will never be settled until it is settled right.

And why should not a big meat packing plant be built of fireproof construction in the first place, rather than take the hazard of repeated fires and rebuildings?

The lesson of the St. Louis hoodlums is that if a rich man does not want to spend his time in the penitentiary he must not spend his money corruptly in politics.

It is to be hoped that the speakership contest will be speedily closed by agreement on "Duoje Joe" Cannon in order to get relief from the newspaper puns, if for no other reason.

According to the formal statement of the Lehigh Valley Coal company before the arbitrators, the mine worker's life in the employ of that company must be one continual round of pleasure.

In addition to the good example which President Mitchell has set for the corporation lawyers in many other respects, he has lately been teaching them some valuable lessons in good manners.

It will take the public jury just long enough to read the proceedings before the anthracite arbitrators to reach a verdict that in President Mitchell Wayne MacVeagh has met more than his match.

According to a local contemporary, Sioux City hogs are to be scalped and skinned in South Omaha hereafter, but what will become of the Sioux City squeal has not been intimated.

The constitution of the United States does not require that the speaker of the house be a member of the house, but custom makes law. The next speaker and several speakers after him will be members of the house.

It is to be hoped that the survey of projected suburban electric railways will end in something more substantial than the construction of paper tramways. Promoters of electric railroads have heretofore dealt altogether in options in future.

As usual winter's advent threatens to overtake several unfinished street paving contracts in Omaha. It seems that no amount of experience will persuade property owners to take time by the forelock and force street improvements in the spring instead of in the autumn.

A Kansas City suburb has declared war against cats and dogs because they are believed to be in a large measure responsible for the epidemic of snail-pox that prevails there. A wholesale slaughter of the canines and felines by police sanitary officers and private citizens is now in progress. Should the anti-dog and cat crusade reach Omaha the patrolmen laid off recently by the police board might have to be reinstated.

PROBLEMS FOR THE LEGISLATURE.

The coming legislature will be compelled to grapple with many grave problems. First and foremost among these are the questions of revenue law revision, tax reform, state debt, deficiency appropriations, revision of the depository law and constitutional amendments.

Where is this enormous amount of money to come from under the present lopsided system of taxation that enables the owners of one-fourth of the entire wealth of the state, namely, the railroads, to evade their just share of the taxes and shift them upon the owners of the other three-fourths of taxable property?

It is absolutely necessary to appropriate \$2,000,000 a year to meet the expenses of state government, does it not necessarily follow that the state debt instead of increasing at the rate of \$100,000 a year will be increased by \$250,000 a year and mount up to \$3,000,000 within less than five years?

If the state debt is to be reduced instead of increased, how much of a tax will the state have to levy for 1903 and 1904? Manifestly, we must either curtail expenses of state government all along the line and resist all demands for the enlargement of existing state institutions or the creation of new ones or prepare to have the state thrown into the hands of a receiver at no distant day.

The truth of the matter is that Nebraska has for years been wearing a strait-jacket constitution that has prevented expansion where evolution and growth made it imperative and at the same time prevented retrenchment where it could readily be effected without impairing the efficiency of public service.

The enormous increase in the state debt within the past ten years is not altogether due to bank wrecking and to bezzlement. It can be readily traced to legislative extravagance and appropriations largely in excess of the income of the state, and last, but not least, to wastefulness and unbusinesslike management in state institutions.

There is great opportunity for courageous men of brains and business tact to render the state invaluable service and distinguish themselves during the coming session of the legislature, which will have ample time to deal with all the intricate economic problems.

BETTER WAGES FOR RAILROADERS. The railroad corporations are at last beginning to realize that they cannot safely stand out against increased wages to their employees. Their profits have been enormous, notwithstanding their full extent has been obscured by the ledgerdom of reorganizations and mergers, the appropriation of extraordinary sums for permanent improvements, and dividends on many of the stocks have been raised to 6, 7 or even a higher per cent, still the companies are carrying surplus accounts increasing in magnitude every year, and, in some cases, like the St. Paul and Northwestern systems, amounting to millions of dollars.

In spite of this fact, the roads have only grudgingly conceded increased wages during these years of unparalleled prosperity. The average advance of wages has followed at a long distance in rear of rise of net earnings and is in ridiculous disproportion to it. It has been on the average not to exceed 10 per cent, or only a fraction of the enhanced cost of living.

Beyond all question the situation justifies a demand for a substantial general advance of the wages of most classes of the employees. Although they have proceeded cautiously and conservatively, it is incomparably better for the companies to yield to the demand than to sustain the losses which demoralization of traffic by strikes would inevitably entail. Within a few weeks more than a score of the companies have made settlements with employees on this basis, and undoubtedly many more are to follow.

There is certainly no public disposition to deny to the railroad companies a fair and even a large share in the era of prosperity that is now at its height. It would have been better, however, if they had shown a readier disposition to apportion the results of prosperity, on the one hand by readjustment of charges and tax contributions, and on the other by more liberal wages to the labor employed in conducting transportation. Public sympathy, therefore, will be definitely on the side of the employees until the movement for a fair settlement shall have been generally successful.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE. It is regarded as practically assured that congress will at the coming session pass the bill providing for a department of commerce, in which shall be embraced a number of bureaus now in other departments, chiefly in that of the treasury. So far as appears there is no considerable opposition to the proposed new department, it being generally admitted that it is necessary and would be of material advantage to the industrial and commercial interests of the country, which for several years have been urging the creation of such a department.

The arguments in behalf of a department of commerce have been repeatedly and amply set forth. The sufficient justification for creating the proposed department is found in our great commercial development, the extension of which is steadily going on. It is manifestly important that the national government shall give more attention to the commercial interests of the country than it is now enabled to do and for this purpose a new department, created for this specific object, is essential. There is no doubt that public sentiment, or at any rate the business portion of it, is with practical unanimity in favor of a department of commerce and there is no good reason why its creation should be longer deferred.

A CALL FOR EARLY ACTION. There is a very general feeling that the time has come when the hands of the Interstate Commerce commission should no longer be tied. At the last session of congress representatives of various business bodies urged the passage of the Nelson-Corliss bill, the general features of which have been explained in these columns, and it is more than probable that that measure would have been passed but for the support given the Elkins bill by the railway interests.

The latter measure has undergone revision and amendment since the adjournment of congress and will be brought forward at the coming session with such changes as in the judgment of the executive committee of the interstate commerce law convention are essential to render the law to the greatest possible extent effective. It is to be observed that the committee occupies a neutral attitude in relation to the provision of the Elkins bill authorizing the pooling of traffic or earnings, but as this is the really vital point in that measure and the one that chiefly distinguishes it from the other bill, it would seem to be quite impossible that the committee can remain neutral as to this provision. It must take a definite position for or against the pooling provision and if it assumes to represent the shipping interest of the country there can be no reasonable doubt as to what its attitude will be. It is believed that the shippers of the country are by a very large majority opposed to railway pooling and therefore favor the enactment of the Nelson-Corliss bill, which is very similar to the Elkins bill except as to the pooling provision.

It is promised that a very earnest effort will be made at the coming session of congress to secure legislation for increasing the authority and powers of the Interstate Commerce commission, but it cannot be confidently said that anything will be done. There is the same irreconcilable issue between the railroads and the shippers and it is to be apprehended that there are enough men in congress controlled by the railroads to defeat legislation in the interest of the shippers. The fight, however, for amendment of the interstate commerce law so as to increase and strengthen the authority of the commission, in order that it may be enabled to correct existing abuses, will not be abandoned and it is not to be doubted that ultimately it will be successful.

NAVAL EVOLUTION AND REVOLUTION. In the elaborate tests about to be made by the Navy department the new submarine boats should demonstrate their efficiency, if a title of the possibilities claimed for them should be realized, what would become of scores of millions expended on fleets of great battle-ships?

The officers of the navy have been singularly indifferent to the subject of submarine warfare, neither encouraging nor welcoming the efforts of specialists and inventors to develop it, and as a general thing actually regarding them with contempt. So, in the days of the old wooden ship of the line, they were skeptical and unresponsive to the possibilities of armor. This did not prevent the sudden revolution of naval architecture by the little "cheesebox on a raft," Ericsson's Monitor, which single-handed could have sent the wooden warships of the world to Davy Jones' locker in a trice.

If scientific opinion is to be given fair credit it is altogether possible we may be on the eve of a revolution of naval methods through submarine navigation as sudden and complete as a half century ago was wrought by the turreted ironclad. Yet our government is going ahead building battleship fleets the same as if they might not any time in a twinkling be rendered obsolete.

It costs from \$4,000,000 to \$6,000,000 to build and equip a modern battleship and after being in commission their maintenance is enormously expensive. It would be sufficient to build three or four dozen of the small submarine craft. It is highly probable that if the government had spent a considerable part of the cost of a single one of the unwieldy sea monsters on sincere and persistent experimentation with submarine boats it would ere this have developed a system substantially changing naval warfare.

It is likely that the congressional districts of Iowa will be reappointed by the next legislature. The present districts are very unequal in population. The Tenth and Eleventh districts, comprising the northwestern twenty-seven counties, or almost one-third of the territory of the state, have a population equal to that of three districts in the southeast. The districts have been little changed in a quarter of a century and population has rapidly increased in the western, while it has increased slowly in the eastern parts.

The report that President Roosevelt, after conferring with leading members of congress, has decided to call congress in extraordinary session soon after March 4 next for the purpose of revising certain schedules of the tariff, will have to be confirmed by pretty strong evidence to be confirmed by pretty strong evidence to be confirmed by pretty strong evidence.

Newly elected members of the school board will soon be holding meetings to decide what plans they shall pursue when they are installed in office the first of the year. The distribution of the spoils is not half so important to the general public as the enforcement of measures of economy and the adoption of a policy making merit and efficiency the only passports to favor. Omaha's public schools can be improved and it is false pride that pretends no higher standard can be reached.

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot. Nicholas Jean Fortunescu, a Roumanian, and Alfred Georges, a Belgian, have secured American patents on a motor which engineers say will inaugurate a revolution in the motor line. Motors generally do a revolution about once in ten years. With the new one, but it surpasses its predecessors in two important particulars—it occupies far less space and can be operated by steam, water, compressed air or with gas or liquefied air. An eight-horse power machine built on the same scale would weigh only 254 pounds and occupy comparatively no room at all and can be used for the propulsion of vessels by direct transmission of power. There is scarcely any machinery from a farm implement to a steamship which cannot be run by this little motor. It has been tried in automobiles and runs smoothly and without the slightest vibration of the vehicle such as is experienced in most of the machines.

There is no flywheel such as would interfere with the general application of its power and it can be used in propelling airplanes. It has been used in the generation of electricity on a large scale, but acted equally well when for house lighting it was worked by water pressure from an ordinary spigot.

During its operation in the Navy department it was illustrated that the little circular affair, scarcely larger than a wash basin, could, while in any position whatever, either vertical or otherwise, be used with the same advantage as when standing in its proper position on the base constructed for it.

The snap and vim of the trained newspaper man is apparent in the annual report of First Assistant Postmaster General Wynne. His account of the operations of his bureau for the past year is set forth in a readable and interesting manner. It seems that the per capita cost to Uncle Sam of delivering letters in the 932 cities and towns that have daily service is approximately 50 cents a year, which is regarded as insignificant in view of the many benefits which the 35,000,000 city patrons get out of the service. Speaking of the work of the carriers in cities, General Wynne says:

"With the ever growing appreciation of the value of time and the universal endeavor to accomplish a few days or even hours, results which a short generation ago required weeks and months, the importance of the carrier service has grown enormously and it is to be noted that the public—especially the business world—in evident recognition of the utility of the system, becomes more exacting each year in demanding more frequent deliveries and collections of the mails and the extension of the service to new territory. Notwithstanding the large annual increase in the cost of improving and extending the system, the volume of increase in the daily mails is so great and constant that the percentage of cost of maintaining the service, as related to gross receipts, shows no increase for the past several years. Indeed, for the fiscal year just closed a decrease of nearly 1 per cent is recorded. On the last of July, 1902, the system had been extended to 932 cities and towns, including four in the insular possessions, and the total number of uniformed carriers at that date was 17,785, as against 16,589 at the close of the previous fiscal year."

Statements of the Jerry Simpson type who wish their constituents to believe that they are the standard of morality and Washington they always were at home would do well to suppress the report of Mr. Woods, the superintendent of the capitol, who writes thus of the luxuries he provides for overworked members of congress in connection with their bath:

"This bathing room, as well as that in the senate wing, is supplied with a resting room containing a large ten-plate static electrical machine driven by a motor. It seems that certain classes of senators are afflicted with the human body vitiates a harmless and beneficial tonic even to the well. Both machines have been much patronized during the last session."

It is such a nice thing to have a place where the "human bodies" of the congressmen can get refreshment, while their astral bodies are mixing with the immortals or bustling through the departments in search of patronage. The only thing that is missing is the installation of a complete rest cure in the dome, a serum treatment for sore throat in the anteroom of the supreme court chamber. But to return to the report: "The bathing rooms now present a pleasing and clean appearance. With the exception of one room the fixtures are of porcelain of the highest grade. The walls throughout are wainscoted with the finest Italian white marble nine feet and one inch high. In the exterior walls are laid with the so-called English white Italian marble. The tub is of the same handsome material."

One of the publications of the Department of Agriculture gives a perspective view of the natural resources which the country squanders annually and the struggle to live such waste must entail on future generations. "One of the first things which a pioneer does," says the report, "is to grow crops which require little capital, like wheat, oats, flax, corn and barley, which exhaust the soil. Every bushel of grain which he sells means the transfer from his farm of so much of its plant food, and our experts have figured to a nicety how much of the mineral elements of the soil go out in each bushel of the various grains. The pioneer usually lacks the means to follow such a system of agriculture as will maintain the fertility of his farm. In fact, American wheat could not be sold today in the markets of the world if it were necessary to buy commercial fertilizers, and the home price of wheat would be vastly increased. We are now drawing all the time upon nature's accumulations of the past."

"There are three important mineral fertilizing elements. The first of these is potash. It is generally found in the soil, but there is only one place in the world that has been discovered where you can dig it up, and that is in Germany. Another of the important fertilizing elements, phosphoric acid, is found much more plentifully. Large deposits have been discovered in Florida and more recently in Kentucky. These beds are the grave periods of marine creatures of a previous period. The third important fertilizer may be called humus. It is found in the soil, although it comes from the atmosphere, and that is the nitrogenous element. These three things are taken up out of the soil very rapidly by wheat and other exhaustive crops. Flax is very severe on the soil, and so is tobacco or any other broad-leaved crop."

Habit Counts for Something. Buffalo Express. Habit counts for something in politics. The whole tier of states from Maine, New York and Maryland on the Atlantic coast to California, Oregon and Washington on the Pacific, have been going republican with such unanimity and enthusiasm in recent years that it will be difficult to turn any of them back to democracy again. Many of them, of course, would go back if the republicans offered adequate provocation for the reaction, but the republicans will carefully avoid this.

MENTAL SURGERY.

Editorial Knife Applied to the Castles of Western Doctors. New York Times. The Missouri Valley Homeopathic association, having been voted into the adoption of a resolution declaring kissing unsanitary, ought now to stand on one side until the report of the popular opinion of the proceedings begins to come in, when it will no doubt reach the conclusion that it may judiciously go out of business. The decision was not only absurd, but flies in the face of the most ancient approbation and of a practice familiar, kindly, sentimental and impetuous which, so far as we know, has never intermitted since the history of the race began. Part the most increasing and curbing of the oldest literature and the kiss swims and sparkles beneath like a drop of dew. It is in the Bible and the Iliad and the Indian Vedas; its symbol appears among the Egyptian hieroglyphs. The extension of the kiss to tribes of men and women to which it was alien. Its antiquity and sustained recognition as a ritual almost sacramental in its character should stand as one buttress of its defense, and another ought to be found in its extreme and variable popularity. In its application both parties are always satisfied, or, if not, the fact is rarely brought into the court of public opinion for review and cuts no figure in its copious and romantic records. It may be proof against the census of any medical or micrological fanatic no matter how many or how imposing the alphabetical symbols attached to his name. But one has been found to lift up his voice against it as an unsanitary exercise and to urge its immediate and general abolition. This was a certain far western and far northern homeopathic practitioner named Dr. E. O. Linn, who has recently so far imposed his ideas on the association in session at Lincoln, Neb., that it has embodied them in a resolution and thus given them the sanction of the entire body. They therefore take on a higher but not much higher importance than if they were merely the notions of a private and individual fanatic and invite a passing word of mention.

What the learned physician, Sir Thomas Brown, called "the scandal of his profession" may have been in his time in this the large number of its members devoted to the discovery of man's nests, the implacable diligence of their quests, or the absurd notion with which, then, as now, they cackled over the eggs found in those illusory receptacles. They have always been numerous since the art of healing became the possession of a guild, were no doubt abundant in the time of the pious and eloquent physician of Norwich, as they have been in all periods since Hippocrates posed the pioneer pestle of the profession, but it is not on record that any one of them was such a lunatic as to propose the abolition of kissing and to hold it up as a practice prejudicial to health and well-being. There is much now known to the doctor's art of which they were ignorant, but they are at least knew enough to let kissing alone as a social and sentimental practice, and in so far were more enlightened than some of their successors. Any one of their number who had tried to win the sanction of the profession to such a theory would very likely have been turned out of it as one who saw things out of their proportion and relation and was either mad as a hatter or a March hare, or else a fool out and out, whose resulting pulp when brayed in his own mortar would have been as void of wisdom as pemmican. They had many delusions and fantasies of their guild to combat, and in this were in like case with those who came before and after, but as yet the kissophobe had not risen among them and there was no surmise or dread of such an unheard-of apparition. The specter is of entirely modern origin and it does not so far tend to multiply itself abounding there may be a rea-

sonable hope that it will soon fade out altogether, leaving the kiss as before, securely entrenched in private and popular approval the world over, as it has been since the days of Hippas and Shalium, the echo of whose chirping oscillations no doubt made glad the far-off time in which they conducted their unbecoming and antediluvian courtship. The howling homeopathic incubus, if such a description may properly be applied to him who has just lent additional droniness to the gray wane of Nebraska's perishing October by flourishing forth a theory so absurd as that which connects kissing with peril from the ravage of colliding microbes, is individually of little consequence, and to be spanked by his fellow doctors if at all, but as he has led an entire medical association by its much too extenuated ears into a position so irrational and untenable it becomes a public duty to hold him up by the tail of his professional periwig for general observation and reprobation.

Cleveland Plain Dealer: "Our housemaid can't cravat beautifully." "Did she ever tie yours?" "You're right she did. Once. Then my wife saw her."

Washington Star: "Don't you dread the approach of winter?" "No indeed," answered Mr. Erastus pinkly. "I ain't de approach dat bothers me; it's de arrival."

Chicago Post: "I wish you wouldn't let the baldy get that gold watchpocket, remarked the anxious mother. 'He might swallow it.'" "Oh, that's all right," replied the bachelor uncle carelessly. "I have a string tied to it."

Philadelphia Press: Overheard in the Garden of Eden—"You are a nasty, mean, horrid old thing, and I don't exclaim 'Eve.' I suppose next you will threaten to go home the mamma, taunted Adam. Then, realising the utterness of nature's handiwork, Eve burst into tears."

Chicago Record-Herald: The leading lady had just collapsed from overwork, "You should have taken a little rest, which you are to wear three beautiful costumes in each act," said the manager, raising the curtains of nature's handiwork, "Ring up the curtain; I have recovered."

Philadelphia Press: McQuery—"I was Rory O'More, wasn't it, who said 'There's luck in old numbers'?" "Lushforth—I give it up, but he wouldn't have said so if he had seen the reception hall the other morning when I came home at 3."

Baltimore News: "I'm in misery, Biggie." "What's the trouble?" "Why, I started smoking to show my boys what a miserable habit it is and how it hung onto its victim."

"And now I'm trying to show them what an easy thing it is to quit."

THE FELLOW WHO FIGHTS ALONE.

New York Sun. The fellow who fights the fight-alone, With never a word of cheer, With never a friend to lend, With never a comrade near— "He has need of a stalwart hand And a heart not given to moan. He struggles for life and more than life, The fellow who fights alone!"

The fellow who fights the world alone With never a mother's kindly tone His sorrowful hours to guide, Who joins the fray at the dawn of day And battles till light has flown, Must needs be strong, for the fight is long, The fellow who fights alone!"

Ah, bitter enough the combat is, With every help at hand, With friends at need to bid goodspeed, Till safely out of the battle road, But fiercer far is the fight to one Who struggles along unknown— Oh, brave and grim is the heart of him, The fellow who fights alone!"

God bless the fellow who fights alone, And arm his soul with strength! Till safely out of the battle road, His conquering comes at length, Till far and near into every ear The fame of his fight is blown, Till friend and foe in the victor know The fellow who fights alone!"

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Good looks and comfort are combined in our overcoats. They are dressty and durable. They are luxuriously trimmed and handsomely finished. And they are not costly. \$10.00 to \$45.00.

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You certainly do not know how generally disagreeable you make yourself, or you would stop coughing. No one can read or rest in the same house with you. Can't stop it? Then we must tell you about Ayer's Cherry Pectoral. No medicine like it for stopping coughs, healing sore lungs, quieting inflammation in the bronchial tubes, and preventing serious lung troubles. Ask your doctor if he could give better advice. "Last fall I contracted a severe cold on my lungs which continued spite of all I could do. I then tried Ayer's Cherry Pectoral and was quickly relieved. I am now perfectly well." Miss Emma Miller, Fort Snelling, Minn.

MENTAL SURGERY. Editorial Knife Applied to the Castles of Western Doctors. New York Times.

The Missouri Valley Homeopathic association, having been voted into the adoption of a resolution declaring kissing unsanitary, ought now to stand on one side until the report of the popular opinion of the proceedings begins to come in, when it will no doubt reach the conclusion that it may judiciously go out of business. The decision was not only absurd, but flies in the face of the most ancient approbation and of a practice familiar, kindly, sentimental and impetuous which, so far as we know, has never intermitted since the history of the race began.

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Habit Counts for Something. Buffalo Express. Habit counts for something in politics. The whole tier of states from Maine, New York and Maryland on the Atlantic coast to California, Oregon and Washington on the Pacific, have been going republican with such unanimity and enthusiasm in recent years that it will be difficult to turn any of them back to democracy again.

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