

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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Table with 2 columns: Copy number and Circulation count. Total 532,916. Less unsold and returned copies, 9,237. Net total sales, 523,679. Net average sales, 30,755.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 20th day of November, A. D. 1902. M. L. HILLING, Notary Public.

If we are to have a free-for-all power franchise, why limit the motive force to electricity generated by water power.

Employees of the street railway company don't care how fast the company's capitalization grows if their pay grows apace.

It must be the smooth way President Roosevelt arranged the coal strike arbitration that has made him in demand as an arbitrator among all the nations of the earth.

It's all right to remove the cattle quarantine as soon as the danger is over, but this is a case where making haste slowly would prove economical in the long run.

Governor Savage says he is going to make his Christmas presents by exercise of his pardoning power. He can make such presents without going into his own pocketbook.

The state of South Dakota resorts to the peaceful method of suing the state of North Carolina on the latter's repudiated bonds instead of sending warships to seize the revenues and blockade the coasts of its defaulting creditor.

It appears after all that Mascagni is destined to leave a goodly sum of the coin of Humbert's realm in this country as the result of his tour for exploiting the pockets of American lovers of art if only as fees to lawyers to keep him out of trouble.

There is a loud call for an arbitrator between Crown Prince Frederick of Saxony and Crown Princess Louise, who has left her husband's bed and board. An international court of royal reconciliation might come in handy for the estranged pair.

The rain began to pour down as soon as President Roosevelt left Washington for his outing at Rapidan and never ceased till his return, so that he now realizes how it was when the union armies started out to campaign in Virginia forty years ago.

Spain and all other foreign nations may take notice that, notwithstanding a certain sensational occurrence in Havana harbor not long ago, the United States has now adopted another battle-ship Maine, incomparably more formidable than the one that was sent to Davy Jones' locker.

A report from the Omaha Woman's club on the practical results achieved by its humanitarian resolution obligating members to relieve the shop girls by making their holiday purchases early would be an interesting document. It ought to carry an appendix, too, giving the shop girls' side of the story.

Another reform the impending legislature should institute is a law making the fiscal year for the school board coincide with the calendar year, the same as for all other departments of our city government. Such a change by itself would put a stop to most of the annual hocus pocus of school fund finances.

All the Bartley newspaper organs, big and little, have had word to shower the great pardoner with a profusion of bouquets on his exit from office. Keep your eye along the line and watch them come to the front. And the papers most ardent in their apologies for Bartley will be most lavish in their encomiums for Savage.

A local lawyer wants \$30,000 for his services in helping the stockholders of a defunct bank compromise with the creditors on the basis of about 30 cents on the dollar. It is a laudable practice for lawyers to place a high value on their services, so in this case an opportunity is surely offered for some other legal luminary to earn a fat fee on paper by helping the same bank stockholders to compromise this claim for about 20 cents on the dollar.

CONFUSING THE QUESTION.

The numerous bills that have been introduced in congress proposing various methods of dealing with the trusts must have a tendency to confuse the question and thus impair the chances for legislation, at least at the present session. Those who have given careful attention to the anti-trust situation in congress say that it is distinctly discouraging to those who are anxious that legislation of a helpful kind shall be enacted. It was stated by some of the Washington correspondents just before the holiday recess that the prospects of reporting and passing a really satisfactory bill in the house of representatives were worse. If anything, then they had been, and even the assurance that some measure will be reported by the middle of January and passed by the beginning of February gave no hope whatever to those who understand the nature of the bill that will be reported and who consider the temper which now prevails in the senate.

With a diversity of propositions urged for consideration, it is easy to understand that a great deal of perplexity is likely to be the result. Of the measures that have been introduced no two are altogether along the same lines and the general divergence is radical. Conservatism and moderation characterize few of these bills, the authors of which seemed to feel that in order to command attention for their bills, particularly on the part of the public, it was necessary to propose extreme and even very drastic conditions. Thus, for example, there is a bill which proposes to force into bankruptcy all associations of a certain kind, under specified conditions, though it would be impossible to establish the facts to be considered grounds of bankruptcy and no effective means is provided for determining when proceedings of this kind will be in order. Another measure proposes the establishment of a uniform price throughout the United States for trust-made goods and is designed to prevent large corporations from driving rivals out of the business in specified localities by lowering prices in those localities. It is pointed out that the trouble with this measure is that it does not provide any criterion for the recognition of trusts or of articles produced by them.

It is of course possible that out of the diversity of plans something practical and capable of effective operation will be evolved. Senator Hoar, who is understood to be framing an anti-trust bill, or some other able and experienced statesman, may present a measure that will meet the requirements and perhaps stand a constitutional test. But, greatly as it is to be desired that there shall be legislation by this congress dealing with the trusts, the prospect of securing it is less favorable than could be wished.

THE STATES AND FOOD ADULTERATION.

The decision of the supreme court of the United States in the pure food case, going up from Missouri, settles broadly the principle in which the states may deal with that subject. It opens the way for the several legislatures to provide effectively for the public health so far as food adulteration is concerned. The majority of the states have statutes against deleterious food compounds, but most of them are loosely drawn and there have always been doubts as to their constitutionality. In the lack of vigorous public sentiment and in the uncertainty as to the enforcement of penalties, state laws have for the most part been dead letters and the practice of adulteration has gone on unhindered. Many articles of food are so generally adulterated that the mere fact that the retailer handles and sells them does not necessarily prove fraudulent purpose on his part, but only that it has come to be a matter of accepted custom.

Nothing now stands in the way to prevent the state legislatures from making the most ample provisions to safeguard the purity of food supplies or to interfere with the enforcement of state laws which are adequate. The weakest point of most of the existing statutes is that they fall to put dealers of all degrees sufficiently upon their guard as to the articles they handle, throwing upon them the burden of being sure of their purity and harmlessness to users. A very elaborate and rigid system of inspection would hardly as yet be warranted, but reasonable penalties can now be made effective against willful imposition upon the public with spurious foodstuffs.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

The latest development in wireless telegraphy, characterized by the acting premier of Canada as "the greatest feat of modern science has yet achieved," is certainly of very great importance, though it does not conclusively demonstrate that wireless telegraphy can ever be relied upon for commercial purposes. In a lecture a few days ago before the National Geographic society Lieutenant Colonel Reber of the signal corps said that the experience of the last two years has clearly shown that the proper sphere of wireless telegraphy is communication between shore and ship and between ships at sea. He expressed the opinion that neither the cable systems nor the land lines will be supplanted by wireless telegraphy, adding: "No results overland have been obtained that can at present warrant its acceptance as a commercial means of transmission. While messages overland have been successfully exchanged up to distances of fifty and sixty miles when the atmospheric, local, thermal conditions were favorable, that uninterrupted communication which is essential to commercial success has not as yet been achieved." Colonel Reber further said that the reliability of this method of communication and its probable speed will have to be demonstrated before it becomes a commercial possibility.

Still the latest success of Marconi will strengthen confidence in his ability to accomplish all that he has promised and is very likely to cause a modification of such opinion as that expressed by Colonel Reber, formed before the latest development of what wireless telegraphy is capable of. At any rate, the results are of great scientific interest and give promise of practical benefits of immeasurable value.

THE STATEHOOD CONTEST.

There is unquestionably a very general feeling in the west in favor of giving statehood to New Mexico and Arizona, as well as Oklahoma. It may be admitted that the report of the subcommittee of the senate committee on territories presents some forcible reasons against admitting New Mexico and Arizona, and the speech of Senator Dillingham of Vermont in support of that report contains strong points, but neither is entirely convincing and they fail to satisfy the unprejudiced mind that it is necessary for the general welfare to keep those territories longer out of the union and thus disregard the pledge given them by the republican party in its last national platform.

Grant that in some things New Mexico and Arizona are deficient, yet it is true that in all the requirements for statehood they are better off than were a number of the states when admitted, and would undoubtedly develop under statehood quite as rapidly as have those states. Given self-government, New Mexico and Arizona will do just what all American communities have done when enfranchised with statehood. They will fill up with an American population and go forward in development and enlightenment. There is no danger that those territories could not take care of themselves if given statehood, and no political consideration should influence the question of their admission.

THE OPEN DOOR POWER FRANCHISE.

The free-for-all amendment tacked onto the power franchise ordinance is an insult to the intelligence of the community. It is an open secret that it had its inspiration in the avowed purpose in the management of the New Omaha Thomson-Houston Electric Lighting company to strangle the project under pretext that Omaha is interested in maintaining the open door for everybody willing to compete for supplying the city with electric power.

No capitalist or syndicate would venture to invest two or three million dollars in a power canal without some assurance or guaranty of reasonable interest on the amount invested. A free-for-all franchise instead of attracting capital would repel capital. To submit such a proposition to the voters of Omaha only adds insult to injury. The people of Omaha, we feel sure, are not in a frame of mind to be trifled with in such manner.

Councilmen who have been persuaded that it would not be safe to let the voters of Omaha decide for themselves whether they favor or disapprove the proposed franchise ordinance will retain their own self-respect better by voting down the entire ordinance without amendment than by choking it to death by amendments that are palpably designed to frustrate the enterprise.

THE HOLIDAY TRADE.

Only a day remains to close the chapter of the holiday trade for 1902 and local merchants will soon be taking inventory to measure up the results. Taking into consideration the unfavorable weather conditions, Omaha retailers report a brisk business, almost up to expectations and well ahead of the records of former years. From the standpoint of the patron and purchaser the season has also been eminently satisfactory. The enterprise of our local establishments was never exhibited to better advantage not only in the variety of the goods placed at the disposal of the public and the attractive form in which they are displayed, but also in the accommodating service extended on every hand and the prompt fulfillment of the orders of customers.

Omaha people have a right to feel a just pride in the number and character of their up-to-date retail establishments. They want to see them prosper because their prosperity is shared by the entire community, and they hope the holiday season just closing will prove full of promise for the future.

You must go away from home to hear the news. According to the Globe-Democrat of St. Louis, Nebraska is agitated from center to circumference over the alleged challenge issued by a Beatrice attorney to the supreme court to discuss with him its decision against biblical reading in the public schools and the challenge has reached fever heat. In Nebraska, however, the challenge is regarded with supreme indifference and the temperature instead of being at 98 Fahrenheit is only 3 degrees above zero.

Any reference of the Venezuelan troubles to The Hague arbitration tribunal would not change the status of the Monroe doctrine by a hair's breadth. That tribunal would have to take notice of the doctrine. Its validity rests ultimately on the physical and moral power of the United States, which has been sufficient for three-quarters of a century to vindicate it.

The good people of Beatrice are indeed playing in hard luck with their succession of destructive fires. Beatrice, however, is a thriving, pushing city that will not be dismayed by visits of the fire fiend. It will go right ahead with redoubled energy, if necessary, and keep its rank among Nebraska's most prosperous communities.

No doubt E. H. Harriman is deeply chagrined by his defeat by J. J. Hill for the contract for carrying government supplies to the army in the Philippines, but the report can hardly be true that he has on that account gone after the

ROUND ABOUT NEW YORK.

Whistles on the Current of Life in the Metropolis.

Christmas shopping in the stores of Omaha is regarded by the experienced as a form of exercise closely approaching football. The game as played here is as mild as a pluck tea compared with "the real thing" to be seen and felt in the department stores of New York. Shopping there is a foot ball rush from morning till late at night, with successive changes of players. Women rush in and come out exhilarated and triumphant at the other side, while the men stand back and wait for a chance to slip through. Thus they miss a rare opportunity for the cultivation of wind and muscle. There is no fancy about this sketch. There is only one way to make it and that is to fight.

An Assurance of Peace.

Chicago Inter Ocean. When the present little cloud rolls by and it is found that our amicable relations with foreign powers have not been disturbed, we shall nevertheless always congratulate ourselves that Admiral George Dewey was within one day's sail of possible trouble.

Anticipated Pleasure.

Cincinnati Enquirer. There may be some great doings at Washington this winter, but congress does not start off with a seeming purpose to get excited about anything. There is a tendency to merely attend to the appropriation bills for the next year or two and leave the great questions to be fought over in the presidential campaign of 1904.

The Terror of the Orinoco.

Chicago Chronicle. If the Honorable "El Mocho" Hernandez of Venezuela is not libeled by his published portraits the error which he has inspired during the last few years is easily comprehensible. He looks like a combination of the late Black Jack Yawback and Bill Dalton, with a suggestion of James Hamilton Lewis in the cut of his whiskers.

More Profitable Than Striking.

Indianapolis Journal. As a result of five weeks' consultation between the engineers and firemen of the Chicago & Northwestern railroad and the officers of the road the men got an increase of wages aggregating \$600,000 a year. During the long discussion the old wage schedule was gone over, item by item, and every one settled on a friendly basis. This is better than striking.

Turn in Tide of Capital.

San Francisco Chronicle. The state constitution of Nebraska provides that the school fund shall not be created or named except upon United States securities. Within the next few years it is expected that the fund will reach the sum of \$12,000,000. The sum of \$200,000 has already been invested in Massachusetts bonds. This fact is remarkable, as it marks a reversal of the tide of capital, which has hitherto flowed steadily westward.

Most Solidly Prosperous People.

Atlanta Constitution. The grand army of American farmers is swelling and reaping prosperity and taking a day off each week to go to the circus and laugh at the clown and forget there are any politicians nearer the earth than the dog star. The real farmers of this nation are, outside of the large speculative industries, the most solidly prosperous and independent body of our citizens. They are established in that greatest of enterprises—the supply of the breadstuffs of humanity—and as other industries and occupations multiply, the importance and profitability of farming increases continually.

Great Speed in Pension Bills.

Boston Transcript. The record the house of representatives made one day last week in passing 174 private pension bills in thirty-nine minutes is not one to be proud of. At this rate almost five pension bills a minute are passed, or over every twelve seconds. No machine run by the average electric motor could possibly exceed the speed the house attains in adding to the list of pensions or increasing the rates of pensions. The wonder is that, in these days of labor-saving inventions a legislative Edison does not see to it to invent a device which will save the house trouble by converting applications into pensions while the applicant waits.

American Christmas Trees Abroad.

New York Tribune, Free Industry. A feature of the Christmas trade industry which has developed in the east is the shipment of fir and spruces from New York to Porto Rico, Cuba, Mexico and Brazil for use as Christmas trees. Wherever Americans travel they take with them their traditions, and the pine tree, adorned with its colored candles and tinsel ornaments will deck the home on Christmas eve if the mercury stands at 90 outside and tropical palms wave overhead in the breeze of perpetual summer. Like the Irishman's shamrock, brought over sea carefully and proudly from the old world for each St. Patrick's day, the Christmas tree from the American in tropical countries is welcomed with fully as much emotion and perhaps not thrown dishonored and dishonored into the ashcan after it has served as the chief glory in the world's greatest holiday. It may be permitted to stand in its dark green glory for weeks, shedding its aromatic reminiscence of "home" across the water. Next to the American flag in a foreign land as an inspiration to the exile is an American Christmas tree.

GERMANY AND THE UNITED STATES.

Trade Relations as Affected by the New Tariff. Philadelphia Press. The new German tariff, increasing duties heavily on breadstuffs and provisions, will hurt the Germans more than foreigners. The Germans have excluded already, by untaxed bounty, a great amount of wheat, about as great an extent as they can well stand.

In the last fiscal year they imported from the United States \$45,500,000 in value of breadstuffs and provisions. There is no surprise, therefore, in the fact that Germany must either go without them or else pay increased prices. Its principle article of import from the United States is raw cotton, of which \$70,415,000 worth were imported last year. It cannot obtain this cotton elsewhere, and if it is to continue manufacturing, it must have to buy it in the future, as in the past, in this country. Nine years ago it imported only \$36,000,000 worth of cotton. The increase of \$34,000,000 worth in nine years is due to its increased manufacturing processes.

It imports from the United States almost wholly raw materials. Cotton takes the lead, provisions and breadstuffs follow, and then, in order, are mineral oil, copper ingots, unmanufactured tobacco, oilcake and meal. Of agricultural implements only \$2,672 worth were imported in the last fiscal year. It may be wise to increase the duty on raw materials, but that is not our method of doing business.

The imports from the United States in the last fiscal year were \$18,000,000 less than in the previous year. But that was in part due to the prosperous situation in the United States, leaving less available for export, and in part to the business depression in Germany. The new tariff law will probably, when it goes into effect, further injure trade with this country, as well as with others. Germany will have to try to make this speech for some time, and I don't want any other senator to make it for me, either." Foraker looked astonished for a moment, but took his seat amid a general laugh.

Fencing Public Domain

Philadelphia Record.

Removal of fences from public lands in the west, say the cattle and range magnates, would blight the prosperity of communities without securing any commensurate public advantage by way of compensation. This, however, is by no means the view of the land office authorities. The fences are there only by right of seizure, while the vast public domains which they enclose are eagerly coveted by homesteaders. Farms or cattle ranges; diversified agriculture or nomadic pasturage; a thriving and increasing population of vast herds ranging over silent and far-extended plains of buffalo grass—such is the choice that must be made when the issue between homesteaders and cattle barons shall be pressed sharply home in the councils of national administration. Millions of acres have been illegally acquired, rights of settlers ignored and regulations of the public land office defied in order that cheap grazing grounds might be maintained for private profit at the public expense. If this practice is to be continued and legalized, what is to become of the army of peaceful invaders whose mission it is to make western wildernesses blossom as the rose?

The struggle between conflicting interests in districts where cattle ranchers have been heretofore dominant has reached an acute stage in Nebraska and South Dakota. By every available device of lease or public entry, ingeniously designed to absorb vast areas of land, the cattlemen have been enabled to reduce to practical nothing the claims of the homesteaders. Operating without check for many years, they have been enabled to set up effective

Names of States.

Indian Names Are Good and Twenty-Six States Have Them.

Hartford Courant. Somebody at Washington has suggested that Oklahoma plus the Indian Territory be admitted into the union as the State of Jefferson and that New Mexico plus Arizona be admitted as the State of McKinley. We file an immediate and emphatic objection to these names proposed for the new states—an objection on general principles.

The place of Thomas Jefferson and William McKinley in history and in the remembrance of their country is secure. Those great men are not in any need of the clumsy compliment, an offense against good taste, which this proposal of the national capital would pay them. If living they would be the first to veto it. Their greatness will not be enhanced an iota by printing their names in big letters across colored spots on the maps. The naming of states after men is all wrong. It is bad enough to our ears that the names of the states should be thick-sown with Jacksonvilles, Smithtowns, Jonesburgs, etc. Do we hear anybody at Washington proposing to change the name of Manila to Deweyville, or of Santiago de Cuba to Roosevelt, or to San Juan de Puerto Rico to Lincoln? It is a mistake to name our far northwestern state after the first president. There is no state of Lincoln; we hope there never will be, though his name (like Washington's and Jefferson's) would lend itself much more readily to such an unnecessary, undesirable use than the name of McKinley. The name of McKinley is bounded so and so. The capital of McKinley, etc.; the principal products of McKinley, etc.; the geological formation of McKinley, etc. Does any American really want to make a contribution of the sort, sort to the geographies, cyclopedias and gazetteers?

Connecticut is one of twenty-six states that have Indian names. Very good the Indian names are, though we once heard a red-whiskered British tourist in a railroad car express the opinion that Westport is a much more "suitable" name for a town than Sagatuck. Colorado, Florida, Nevada—these are musical names. Americans of this time have quite forgotten the royal vany or royal favoritism or courier flattery that gave Virginia, the Carolinas, Georgia, Louisiana, their names. The name of our Empire state has utterly dissociated itself from the memory of the duke of York in honor of whom it was bestowed; the name of Delaware suggests the noble river, but not at all the amiable, dead-and-gone English nobleman. New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island, New Jersey are well enough; Indian names would have been better. Pennsylvania is a hybrid monster of a name that would have given Horace the shivers. It conveys from age to age the information that Friend William Penn was a large landed proprietor and that his land was primarily woodland.

The suggestion of the Washington person should be voted down. Oklahoma is a better name for a new state than Jefferson, and New Mexico (though not ideal) is a much better name for a new state than McKinley.

EDUCATIONAL NOTES.

One million dollars have been given for a school of education at Chicago university and about half this amount will be expended on an enormous building. St. Louis has the credit for many good things in the world educational. Kindergarten were successful realities long before they had reached more than the experimental stage in other cities. Then the manual training school movement had its origin in St. Louis and now comes the portable school house to again add to the Missouri city's reputation for advanced effort along educational lines.

A man visited the schools of Beverly, Mass., and secured the services of several children to sell cheap jewelry for him. The

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barbed wire barriers to the growth of budding communities. Their holdings of grazing lands—cheap, well grassed and convenient to great lines of transportation—constitute an asset of immense value, and whether rightfully held or not, will not be surrendered without desperate resistance. United in a compact community of self-interest, with abundant financial resources and earnest advocates in both branches of congress, the grazers should enjoy marked advantages in preliminary legislative skirmishes for land, and yet more land. There is no scarcity of acre—not even a remote possibility of it—but only a tangle of conflicting interests, due largely to disregard or violation of the public land laws. It would be quite possible, no doubt, to meet the current demands of homesteaders and of the state in Nebraska without disturbing any legally acquired rights of the cattlemen. But this would by no means content the latter. The government is to be asked to confirm them in possession of great tracts of land to which their effective title is in wire fences and the ready weapons of a mobile mass of cowboys. Pulling in this, temporary sanction for such encroachments is to be sought in modification by law of the existing lease system, with a view, of course, to eventual and permanent control of lands now held in defiance of statutory prohibitions. It is not easy to see, under such conditions, where intending settlers are to find due consideration, save in a rigid enforcement of existing land laws, even at the cost of sundry square leagues of free cattle ranges.

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Keep a good supply of Ayer's Family Medicines on hand. It's so easy then to take one of the Pills at bedtime if you feel a little bilious, or if your stomach is a trifle out of order. Just so with the Sarsaparilla. A few doses will bring back your lost appetite, give strength to your weakened nerves, and relieve you of that terrible feeling of exhaustion. And besides there are the children to think of. A dose or two at the right time often means so much. J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.