

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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The man behind the counter will now have a huge sigh of relief. Old Santa Claus is entitled to a rest, but nobody is ordering him to take it.

Paradoxically, the biggest Christmas stocking does not always hold the most.

The scheme for organizing a big buggy manufacturers' trust went through as smoothly as if it had had rubber tires.

The Agricultural department must have spikes in its heels from the way it is succeeding in stamping out the foot and mouth disease.

Practically all the railroad companies that haven't thought of it themselves are getting Christmas hints from their organized employees.

Members of the council who have sandbagged the power franchise ordinance by adopting the free-for-all amendment are simply playing ostrich.

That scheme to mine coal under the sea ought to be followed up immediately by a plan to scrape all the gold off the bottom of the ocean. There are millions in it.

The railroads are going through the annual motions of cutting off the free list for the coming year, but the number of passes presented to the conductors will suffer no visible diminution.

The scheme of stretching a dying man's neck to restore him to consciousness hardly proves as successful, although it is fully as sensational, as Doctor Lorenz' bloodless surgery.

With the Hon. J. Hamilton Lewis radiating at the center, that forthcoming Jacksonian banquet ought to be a warm proposition, no matter what temperature the outside atmosphere may register.

The Omaha Commercial club will entertain the Nebraska members-elect to the Fifty-eighth congress. Omaha will do well to keep in as close touch as possible with the congressmen from all the Nebraska districts.

Councilmen who are on the payrolls of franchised corporations and councilmen who enjoy large incomes from the sale of materials to franchised corporations may always be depended upon to do the bidding of their benefactors.

Why should the city of Omaha be put to the expense of publishing the open door franchise ordinance when everybody in and out of the council knows that it is not acceptable to anybody and is not intended to be of any use to anybody?

Senator Teller has gone to Colorado, but not primarily for the holidays nor is it likely to be a holiday time with him. The popocratic senatorial horizon is cloudy and a large area of low barometer is conspicuously overshadowed by the political forecast.

The adjournment of the coal strike arbitrators to January 5 may possibly mean that they are so tired of the investigation that they want a long rest or that they hope the parties are so tired that they will perhaps themselves settle the matter by that time.

When it is demonstrated by legal proof that Chicago policemen in full uniform had stood guard for robbers while they did their work the report may be credited that Mayor Harrison does not want another term, or else he is sure the people of that city do not want another term of such administration.

The railroads are constantly boasting of the new improvements made in their lines at a cost always up into the millions and there is no question that millions of dollars have been put into betterments in this state alone. Yet Nebraska railroads are paying taxes on a smaller assessment than ten years ago. The more money they put in the less taxes they pay.

THE STEUFER INCIDENT.

When William Steufer declared himself out of the race for a second term as state treasurer on the eve of the republican state convention of 1902 it was generally believed that this was the closing chapter in the Steufer incident. But Mr. Steufer's folk friends at the state capital have taken it on themselves not only to glorify the outgoing state treasurer but in doing so to vilify the editor of The Bee by representing Mr. Steufer as a martyr to political and personal animosity.

Under the caption of "More or Less Personal" in the Lincoln Journal, that has always been the bulwark of state house jobbers and apologists for public thievery, indulges in the following comment: Perhaps it has been printed before, but it will do no harm to repeat the story of the assault upon Treasurer Steufer had its origin in the senatorial struggle of 1901, which is justly considered one of the blackest pages in the political history of the state.

The members of the senatorial syndicate were using every power at their command to reduce or intimidate the members of the legislature and their friends. Steufer was told, it is claimed, that unless he used his influence and brought certain members into Mr. Rosewater's column he would have ample cause to regret it in the future. He didn't care worth a cent when the abuse began after the session was over he simply threw up his hands and said that he was ready to retire to private life.

He could have hung the Rosewater hide on the fence without much trouble, but a nasty row was not to his liking, and he washed his hands of the whole business. It is widely regretted that he did not have the stomach to make a fight, but if a man prefers to live a decent, quiet life with his family and his own affairs, it is hardly fair to criticize him for it. This attempt to gloss over Mr. Steufer's speculative financing is an outrageous perversion of the truth that he cannot afford to ignore. Mr. Steufer's attitude in the senatorial contest had nothing whatever to do with the course pursued by The Bee or its editor with reference to his management of the state school funds.

During the contest before the legislature, Mr. Steufer professed to be friendly to the candidacy of Rosewater and up to this time we know of no action on his part that would indicate otherwise. There was no occasion for threatening Mr. Steufer even if he had been openly or covertly opposed to Rosewater. The only republican member of the legislature from his district supported Rosewater until he went out of the caucus and promised him his vote any time he could be elected by it. Mr. Steufer never had an opportunity to refuse Rosewater a favor and as a matter of fact has never had any personal controversy with him to this date.

Long before Steufer was thought of as state treasurer the editor of The Bee was publicly committed against treasury farming of public funds. In 1895 he framed an amendment to the constitution which was submitted by the legislature declaring that state officers "shall not receive to their own use any fees, costs, interests on public money in their hands or under their control, perquisites of office or other compensation" than the salaries fixed by law. This position has been maintained successively by The Bee year in and year out and was embodied in the following resolution presented by its editor to the republican state convention of 1901 and unanimously adopted by that body:

The practice of depositing public funds on private account and the loaning of public funds for "private gain" is a flagrant violation of public trust. As a matter of public safety we demand that the state treasurer and every county, city, village and school district treasurer shall keep the taxpayers fully informed concerning the condition and disposition of the moneys entrusted to his care. As a matter of showing the amount of money on hand, the name of each bank in which it is deposited, with the amounts on deposit in each.

At the time this resolution was introduced the editor of The Bee confidently expected Treasurer Steufer to come promptly to the front with a complete exhibit of treasury deposits, and had no inkling that anything was wrong until he refused to comply with the demand of the convention. The information concerning the Burt county, Cuming county and Otoe county bond deals did not reach The Bee until after the election of 1901. The facts disclosed upon full inquiry fully justified the demand made by The Bee for the retirement of Mr. Steufer. In the face of the losses sustained by the state through Mosher and Bartley there could be no palliation of speculative purchases of bonds through middlemen, whether or not they shared the profits with the treasurer or pocketed them altogether.

In this view The Bee was sustained by an overwhelming public sentiment which would undoubtedly have defeated Mr. Steufer had he been renominated and seriously jeopardized other candidates on the state ticket. This was the consensus of opinion of the state convention and this it was that prompted Mr. Steufer's withdrawal. The Bee gave credit to Mr. Steufer for voluntarily relieving the party, and there his friends should have contented to let him rest. Their revival of the Steufer incident alone has forced upon us the disagreeable task of correcting the attempted perversion of history.

OUR ORIENTAL TRADE.

There is no subject of greater interest to the American people, and especially to the people of the west, than that of the future commerce of the far east. The possibilities of that trade present a proposition which may well engage the most careful and enlightened consideration, not only of our statesmen, but also of our most advanced manufacturers and merchants.

As a matter of fact, there appears to be very little real knowledge of what is required to promote our trade with the countries of the far east. The average American manufacturer and merchant seems to be utterly unaware of what is necessary to win success in the countries of the east. The trouble seems to be that the American manufacturer is satisfied to send his surplus into the foreign markets, depending upon extraordinary conditions to have them sold there. The result of this is that they come into competition with like goods of other countries, which are made with special reference to the needs of those countries, and the effect is unfavorable to the United States.

The obvious policy is to change the course that has been pursued and to adopt one that will be in accord with that of foreign countries in their dealing with the people of the far east. It ought to be perfectly plain to American manufacturers and merchants that they cannot win the business of the Orient unless they are prepared to give to those countries goods which in quality and price will be on a par with like goods from any other part of the world.

We are competitors for trade in the far east, and in order to make that competition successful we must be able to offer as good articles, to sell as cheaply and to give as good terms as our competitors. Are we in a position to do this? This is the prime question for those who are launching out for the Oriental trade, which promises to contribute so largely to our future wealth and prosperity.

A NARROW ESCAPE FOR LINCOLN. The Omaha and Council Bluffs street railway merger has been a startling eye opener to the good people of Lincoln. The clause in the articles of incorporation of the reorganized street railway octopus that authorizes it to extend its tentacles in a southwesterly direction through Douglas and Sarpy counties to Saunders county, thence through Wahoo and Ashland and through Lancaster county into the city of Lincoln, affords convincing proof that the large, progressive capital city has had a narrow escape.

Looking through the big end of a telescope, the observer on the top of the dome has discovered a Trojan horse on motor wheels, built and designed for the sole purpose of accomplishing the commercial conquest of Lincoln and piping all its sap and vitality into the back yard of Council Bluffs. Had it not been for the vigilance, sagacity and sublime patriotism of the mayor of Lincoln the dire calamity of being swallowed horse, foot and dragons by Greater Omaha could have been averted.

The form borne by the Trojan horse of Omaha construction was that of a camel that had been reared, stabled and groomed in the South Omaha stock yards. The strategic move was to be in by the insertion of the camel's head, followed by his hump and body, into the gates of Lincoln. The full particulars of the exploded conspiracy against the peace and well being of Lincoln appear in the latest number of the Lincoln Journal and recall the closing chapters of one of Conan Doyle's ingenious detective stories. We are told in language that is plain that the name of the man who offered a Trojan trolley line as a present to the Lincolmites was Manager Kenyon of the South Omaha stock yards. Says the narrator:

Mr. Kenyon comes down here and buys the stock yards property. There is much talk of resuming packing. Then he begins tearing down the packing houses that Lincoln men built fifteen years ago at a cost of \$100,000. While the work of tearing down house No. 1 is still in progress he comes into town and his friends whisper it around that the Armour's are going to do great things at West Lincoln, and want him to buy the Home street railroad franchise to allow these great developments to get started. Excitable public opinion is fanned by mysterious whispers, and only the hard business sense of Mayor Winsett keeps the franchises out of Mr. Kenyon's hands. It developed two weeks ago that he wanted it for an interurban line, and now it looks very much as if his work was done for the Omaha Street Railroad company itself. It would be a brilliant scheme to give that corporation a chance to come in here with an interurban line owned in Omaha and run in the interests of Omaha. But Mr. Kenyon didn't get the franchise, and the city can keep the road out until it comes in on terms favorable to Lincoln. The city is now free to encourage some concern like the Akron syndicate to come in and build up a corporation that will have its headquarters and power houses and shops in Lincoln, and its interests in the interests of this city. All other concerns can be kept out, for the South Lincoln franchise is still owned here and the people will be pretty unanimous in wanting them barred from participation in the use of the streets of Lincoln.

And thus it is that Lincoln is able to

NEW RULES FOR THE ARMY.

An Assortment of Stringent Regulations and Pointed Instructions. Washington dispatches announce the issuance by the War department of orders governing the examination and classification of gunners, giving new and more stringent rules for the acceptance of recruits, defining and explaining the salutes which may and should be fired in honor of officers and explaining the methods observed in the distribution of government documents covering army rules and regulations. The orders relative to recruits are in substance as follows:

"Until further orders persons under the age of 21 years shall not be enlisted, and extreme caution must be exercised in the cases of young men applying for enlistment who claim to be 21 years of age or a few months over that age. The unsupported statements of such applicants must not be accepted, but to be eligible for enlistment they must furnish competent proof to remove any doubt regarding age. "Enlistments and re-enlistments must be without conditions, and no compromise must be made to men upon enlistment regarding service at home or abroad, as they will be assigned according to the best interests of the service."

Some changes in the method of firing salutes are provided by one of the orders, which in part are as follows: "Salutes will be fired between sunrise and sunset only, and, as a rule, not on Sunday, unless required by international courtesy. The national flag will always be displayed at the time of firing a salute. The national salute is twenty-one guns. It is also the salute to a national flag. The salute to the union, commemorative of the Declaration of Independence and consisting of one gun for each state, is fired at noon on July 4 at every post provided with suitable artillery. "An ex-president of the United States receives a salute of twenty-one guns; the new order of the senate and American or foreign ambassadors receive a salute of nineteen guns; members of the cabinet, the chief justice, the speaker of the house of representatives, a committee of congress officially visiting a military post, the president of the senate and territories and lieutenant governor of the Philippine island receive seventeen guns; the vice governor of the Philippine islands receives fifteen guns; a governor general receives a salute of seven guns. "The rank of 'governor general' shall be taken to mean administrative officer under whom officers with the title of governor are acting. The assistant secretary of war or the assistant secretary of the navy, when officially visiting a military post, receives a salute of fifteen guns."

As to the distribution of drill regulations and other government publications the new orders are as follows: "Books of instruction (government publications), such as drill regulations or the army guard manuals, manuals of court-martial and the manuals of the various staff departments will be furnished gratuitously to all officers of the army for their personal use, to the extent of one copy each upon application to the officer in charge of the distribution of War department documents. Duplicate copies will not be supplied to individual officers or organizations unless it is clearly shown that they are necessary for the use of the post or company, and irreplaceable. Private publications are not purchased by the department for issue to officers of the army for their personal use, as they are expected to supply themselves with all such books as are necessary for the study of their profession, including the books of instruction for the use of the drill regulations which they may be undergoing at the service schools."

The orders of special interest to gunners are partly as follows: "The object of this examination is to ascertain in each battery the qualified gunners by their absolute and relative excellence in comprehending and mastering the prescribed instruction. This examination will take place at the posts where the respective batteries may be serving and will be separate for each battery; the examinations will take place each year at such times as may be designated by the department commander, but as soon after the receipt of the instruction for gunners as may be practicable and before the annual target practice. "A qualified gunner will be rated as such for a period of three years, and for such additional time as may be required to provide for his re-examination, unless he has during that time been out of the artillery service for more than three months. "A second-class gunner, on his own application, may be permitted to compete at any annual examination for classification as a first-class gunner. "The battery commander will, previous to the arrival of the members of the board at the post, submit to the adjutant a list, duly signed, of names of all the men in his battery who may be designated for examination, with the statement that he believes that each man so presented is capable of qualifying as first or second class gunner. This list will be given to the senior member of the board. The board will keep a record of his marks during the examination, and at the conclusion thereof will forward to department headquarters a tabular list of the candidates of each organization arranged in order of merit as first and second class gunners, respectively. The marks received in each subject will appear opposite the respective candidates' names and appropriate totals carried out. This tabular list, with the date of the report of the board, will be published in orders by the department commander. Enlisted men who obtain an average of 85 per cent of the total maximum mark at the examination will be classed as first-class gunners, and those who obtain an average of 65 per cent will be classed as second-class gunners."

PERSONAL NOTES. After all the real reason for the advance of kerosene oil is that the oil trust wants the money. Mm. Patti, it is said, preserves as a talisman the boots she wore at her debut over forty years ago. The people of Spain have discovered that King Alfonso is not only diplomatic, but seems to have a will of his own. The German and English method of proceeding against Venezuela is for the creditor to constitute himself constable, judge and sheriff. After General Miles' general tour will be the general Chaffee will serve about two years as the head of the army. Newton Thorp is designing the monument in Union square, San Francisco, which will be erected to commemorate Admiral Dewey's victory of Manila Bay. It will cost about \$45,000. The members of the Studenbaker family of South Bend, Ind., have decided to mark the anniversary of the death of Clem Studenbaker by giving to the Epworth hospital, in their city, \$50,000 in addition to the \$100,000 they have already given. The great grandfather of Mrs. Mary Jane Poirer, who has just died in Baltimore, was a member of the Boston tea party, and in her home hangs the mirror which hung in the hall of the house from which the Boston tea party started on its expedition.

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot. Experts in the redemption division of the treasury recently eased the feelings of a Chicago woman considerably by redeeming two \$10 notes which she told the department had been accidentally destroyed by her husband. The money belonged to a church society, of which the woman was treasurer, and was to have been used for missionary work. After the money had been paid her in small sums she had it changed into two new \$10 bills, which she thought would be safe in the stove, so she placed the money beneath the grate. Several days later her husband burned some old newspapers, also the money. When the situation for turning over the money to the missionary treasurer went to the stove and found instead of two crisp notes only a few charred fragments. These she gathered up and sent to the Treasury department. The case made a great deal of merit in the department. "If I were out of a job," remarked one of the assistant secretaries, "I should get a load of gold bricks and start for Chicago."

Senator Hanna has announced the discontinuance of his famous omelet breakfasts and great is the sorrow of the statesmen who loved to drop in on him Sunday mornings and partake of his famous dish. The senator has taken up his residence at a hotel, having given up Cameron house, in Lafayette square, where he resided for the last two or three years, and in which he gave his celebrated breakfasts. Hanna and the family will spend the winter in the mountains. When the senator thought there was no use of having a whole house to himself, it is not this fact, however, that put an end to the breakfasts. The only person who had the recipe for the hash was Mr. Hanna's colored chef. The hotel management tried to employ him, but he refused to leave the Hanna family. An effort was then made to purchase the recipe, but the chef refused to give up the secret of compounding the hash, but carried it with him to Thomasville. Last winter omelet breakfasts at the Hanna home meant a gathering of the most famous men in Washington. President Roosevelt frequently ran over from the White House and joined the hash eaters. He has not taken breakfast with Mr. Hanna since the bill of fare was changed.

Mrs. Roosevelt has demonstrated in a genuine fashion that there is not a bit of snobbishness in "the first lady of the land," relates a Washington correspondent. At a recent White House reception, after a number of distinguished guests had been received by Mrs. Roosevelt, a woman, beautifully groomed and conducting herself with an air of distinction, was presented. After customary formalities the guest passed on to join a group of women whose husbands were in the official set. A frigid nod from one and a haughty reply from another made it all too plain that she was unwelcome, for some one had recognized her as a former saleswoman in a large New York department store. With consummate grace she withdrew from the circle and was about to leave the parlor when Mrs. Roosevelt, with her characteristic tact and disengagement, stepped to her side and, extending her hand, said: "I think we hardly need to be introduced, as we are such old friends. I am glad to meet you here."

And placing an arm around the waist of the young woman who had so often supplied her with the New York store, Mrs. Roosevelt led her to a sofa and chatted with her for fifteen or twenty minutes in the charming manner which is inherent in the wife of the president of the United States and which has endeared her to every American woman. "Uncle Joe" Cannon entered the hall of the house the other day while discussing about the bill to stamp out the foot-and-mouth disease was on, relates the Washington Post. A southern demagogue, who talks very frequently and on "any old" subject, was present at the time. He was in the hall of the chamber, behind the door, and the respective batteries may be serving and will be separate for each battery; the examinations will take place each year at such times as may be designated by the department commander, but as soon after the receipt of the instruction for gunners as may be practicable and before the annual target practice. "A qualified gunner will be rated as such for a period of three years, and for such additional time as may be required to provide for his re-examination, unless he has during that time been out of the artillery service for more than three months. "A second-class gunner, on his own application, may be permitted to compete at any annual examination for classification as a first-class gunner. "The battery commander will, previous to the arrival of the members of the board at the post, submit to the adjutant a list, duly signed, of names of all the men in his battery who may be designated for examination, with the statement that he believes that each man so presented is capable of qualifying as first or second class gunner. This list will be given to the senior member of the board. The board will keep a record of his marks during the examination, and at the conclusion thereof will forward to department headquarters a tabular list of the candidates of each organization arranged in order of merit as first and second class gunners, respectively. The marks received in each subject will appear opposite the respective candidates' names and appropriate totals carried out. This tabular list, with the date of the report of the board, will be published in orders by the department commander. Enlisted men who obtain an average of 85 per cent of the total maximum mark at the examination will be classed as first-class gunners, and those who obtain an average of 65 per cent will be classed as second-class gunners."

INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATION. Extensive Experiments in Profit Sharing Projected. Philadelphia Ledger. Industrial co-operation, as we learn from a Pittsburgh dispatch, is to be given a test by a corporation which will be not only intensely interesting, but may also prove an important step in the solution of the labor problem by the attainment of the industrial peace. The Republic Iron and Steel company has notified the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers that a plan for making the workmen stockholders in the company will be presented to the next convention of the association for consideration. It is said the association will approve the plan, and that if it is accepted the workers who are stockholders will have representation in the directorate of the company. Profit-sharing, co-operation, the enlistment of the interests of the workers by giving them a share of their labor has long appealed to many minds as the eventual solution of the labor problem. If the workers could only be got to work for themselves there would be no strike and no labor troubles, but the practical attempts to put the system in operation have not been wholly successful as yet on so large

THE ACME OF GREED.

Chicago Tribune: Mr. Rockefeller probably reasons that as the price of everything else has increased the people ought to be willing to stand an advance of a cent a gallon on coal oil. Philadelphia North American: Mr. Rockefeller robs himself of much of the credit of being made another donation of \$1,000,000 to the Chicago University by raising the price of oil to consumers. How much glory he may gain by his munificence it must still be recognized that the Rockefeller endowment fund was made up by a compulsory popular subscription. Brooklyn Eagle: In view of the enormous dividends paid by the Standard Oil company, it is absurd for it to advance the price of kerosene oil a cent a gallon. The general shortage in coal has given the company a good opportunity to increase the price of one of its most important products, but a concern which pays \$45,000,000 in one year on a capitalization of \$100,000,000 could well afford to resist the temptation to mulct the people of the new charge. Springfield Republican: It might be called a "happy coincidence" that the recent rise in the price of oil should occur simultaneously with the announcement that Mr. Rockefeller had given another million of dollars to Chicago University and the holy cause of the high school graduates. Indianapolis Journal: The Standard is one of the few monopolies in the country. It began in a grasping way, was nourished by a corrupt railroad combination which made competition impossible, and has always been managed in a manner to make the company a money-making machine. It accomplished that purpose. The Standard can put up the price of oil any day at a profit of millions, and it can depress the price of raw oil as easily. The leading manager and shareholder has established a reputation as a philanthropist, and has been able to purchase and assist other high school graduates a few days ago that he had made a donation of \$1,500,000 to his university. The announcement was soon followed by an advance in the price of oil which means millions are very him. The people of this country are weary of the heavy burden of gasoline which lays a burden of millions upon them that a tenth of the gain may be given to higher education.

PHILADELPHIA PRESS: "It's easy enough to make friends," said Spender, bitterly, "but pretty hard to keep them." "Oh, I don't know," replied Leaders. "I've got a number of friends who seem pretty clearly willing to let me keep them." Cleveland Plain Dealer: "Bigby's hair looks as if his wife combed it with a rake." "Well, that's better than having it look as if she used a lawn mower on it." Chicago Post: "You see, the doctors disagreed and so he combed it with a rake." "Oh, well, of course the autopsy settled the question for science." "They disagreed at the autopsy also." Washington Star: "Are you going to turn over a new leaf on New Year's day?" "Yes," answered Senator Sorghum. "I'm going to resolve to be agreeable to interest myself in things that do not concern me, and other words, when I get busy I will have to be paid for it."

Baltimore American: Dickson-Remember that brilliant young man who was in our class at college? Wonder what became of him? I always thought the world would hear from Tom Dickson. Richardson-It did. He became a success after a while. He is now beating the suds for a sidewalk and is now beating the suds drum for the Salvation Army. New York Times: Crawford-What saved old Rocky from the disgrace of dying rich? Crabshaw-His son-in-law. Washington Star: "What kind of a man was Napoleon?" said the little boy. "He was one of the men who mistakes made them famous," answered his cynical parent. "He was a man who controlled the world by organizing armies instead of organizing a trust."

AN OMAH FOR LADIES. Josephine D. Daakam in Harper's Magazine. One for her Club and her own Litchky. Another wastes in Study her good Nights. Ah, take the Clothes and let the Culture Nor heed the grumble of the Women's Rights! Look at the Shogri all about us—To. "He was one of the men who mistakes made them famous," answered his cynical parent. "He was a man who controlled the world by organizing armies instead of organizing a trust."

THINK, IN THE END FOUR HUNDRED'S GIFTED. Those endless Letters of 'n' themselves. How Ping Pong raged so high—thin faded out. To those far Buburbs that still chase its balls. They say Sixth Avenue and the Bowery The derrier cri that once was far from Green Yells, one season Gilt-Department stores. Marked in value—no profit shall they reap.