

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION...

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. Subscribers in Nebraska, Douglas County, etc. Total 102,645.

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No more bull fights in Nebraska under gubernatorial patronage for at least two years. If this keeps up, stealing coal will soon constitute grand larceny instead of petty larceny.

St. Jackson's day without a speech from William J. Bryan is an anomaly on the calendar. With so many lawyers in town, Omaha people should have no difficulty in breaking into court.

Omaha cannot be made a grain market except by a long pull, a strong pull and a pull all together. Business has again taken the place of sentiment in the executive department of Nebraska's state government.

Perhaps congress might relieve the pressure a trifle by setting apart one day each week for the introduction of anti-trust bills. South Omaha charter committee are at sixes and sevens on some of the most important subjects of charter revision. Get together.

Having made known his yearning for a constitutional party, our friend of the iridescent whiskers, J. Hamilton Lewis, can release once more into temporary eclipse. Can anyone tell us why the state militia of Nebraska should be enlarged unless it be to give a larger command to Field Marshal John N. Baldwin of the Union Pacific corps?

The Colorado legislature appears to be doing its best to furnish another object lesson to support the demand for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people. Both gubernatorial messages put in a word for an appropriation for Nebraska's participation in the Louisiana Purchase exposition at St. Louis. This is one of the very few points on which the two executives agree.

The announcement that Charles M. Schwab will resume active discharge of his duties as president of the steel trust corporation in March is received with equanimity in the business world. Mr. Schwab would be perfectly safe in prolonging his vacation indefinitely so far as the interests of American industry are concerned.

When members of the senate oppose free coal it should be understood that they are not opposed to receiving their supply of fuel without an accompanying bill, but that they merely oppose the abolition of the duty on imported coal. It is not to be presumed that the senatorial solons would order the driver to cart lack a load of anthracite sent to them with the compliments of the coal dealer.

President Castro has finally accepted for the Venezuelan government the arbitration proposition without conditions respecting the blockade. President Castro has been very much in the position of the stage coach passenger with his hands up at the point of a revolver reinforcing the demand to "shell out." The condition that the revolver be first pointed the other way has been reluctantly waived.

Ex-Governor William J. Stone will succeed Senator Vest as the representative of Missouri in the upper house of congress. Mr. Stone is one of the few democrats whose steadfast loyalty to Mr. Bryan has found its reward. He was practically second in command in both Bryanite campaigns and his entrance into the senate will be coincident with the retirement of Senator Jones of Arkansas, who alone outranked him in the Bryanite councils.

GOVERNOR MICKEL'S MESSAGE

Governor Mickel's inaugural message like nearly all inaugural, is comparatively brief and embodies merely an outline of his views on a few of the principal topics that will engage the attention of the legislature.

The governor strikes the keynote for his administration by declaring in favor of strict economy without parsimony. In other words, he commits himself in advance to a policy that will antagonize all reckless extravagance and wastefulness, while at the same time favoring liberal pay for faithful and efficient public service.

Governor Mickel's unequivocal position in favor of tax reform will be hailed with satisfaction by all the taxpayers of the state. The governor very pointedly characterizes the ridiculous low grand assessment roll of Nebraska's wealth as a mere financial shadow and places himself squarely on record for full value assessments and an amendment of existing laws that will bring about the assessment of all personal and real property and all franchises at their true value, supplemented by more stringent provisions for the more effective collection of taxes.

With this in mind the powers and duties of the State Board of Equalization be broadened so that it shall have ample authority to raise and lower assessments for state purposes in harmony with the full valuation plan and that county boards be given such additional authority as will enable them to carry out effectively the letter and spirit of the constitution that contemplates uniformity of taxation. Emphasizing these sound and practical views further, the governor calls upon the legislature for immediate action so that the revised revenue laws may be in operation in time for the assessment of 1903.

Governor Mickel's conclusions relative to the crying need for constitutional revision reflect the general sentiment of thoughtful people. The consensus of public opinion is that the deplorable condition of the state's finances is due chiefly to the defects of our straight-jacket constitution and that the embarrassment under which the state has for years been laboring in the judicial and executive departments can only be remedied by changes in the framework of our organic law.

The formal address composed by Robert J. Clancy and delivered by Ezra P. Savage to the Nebraska legislature in joint convention assembled is a comprehensive conglomerate, sound and commendable in some particulars and full of visionary reforms and freaks in others.

Having failed to meet the emergency that confronted the state with regard to the investment of the permanent school fund by calling a special session last summer to submit amendments to the constitution that would enable the state to reform its finances and fund its floating debt, the retiring governor now transmits this paramount issue to a constitutional convention which could not possibly supply the remedy before 1907.

While it is a piece of presumption on his part to instruct the constitutional convention to be called by the legislature in 1905 in its duties, the Custer county statesman pronounces in favor of a radical recast of the executive department, including the abolition of the office of auditor and commissioner of public lands, and the imposition of their duties upon the governor, treasurer and secretary of state.

It would have been just as rational to recommend that the executive department shall be vested in a Pook Bah under the title of governor, who is to be the whole thing in the state house surrounded by a retinue of liveried servants and understrappers.

Another radical change proposed by the Clancy-Savage valedictory is that the legislators shall be elected every four years instead of every two years, which would no doubt effect a saving in various ways, especially in the matter of refurbishing the halls of legislation and the printing of legislative manuals and other et ceteras, and would moreover enable the railroads to effect a saving by printing pasteboards good on their main lines and branches for four years instead of twelve months.

The sound and commendable features of the Clancy-Savage valedictory are the specific recommendations for the maintenance of the various state institutions and the revision of estimates submitted by heads of these institutions to conform to their actual needs. The information supplied the legislature in this regard is invaluable and should guide it in formulating appropriation bills.

Secretary Clancy's conclusions emphasized through Governor Savage are also sound regarding the need of uniform assessments based on actual value, the inauguration of civil service methods in various state institutions, the management of the Home for the Friendless by a nonpartisan board of women, the employment of convicts by the state in place of leasing their labor to contractors, specific appropriation for the maintenance of the State university in place of the indefinite mill tax, the abolition of the supreme court commission and increase in the number of supreme judges, changing the office of su-

OTHER LANDS THAN OURS

The late Senor Sagasta had a long and interesting career as a leading figure in the political life of Spain. He was identified at different times with various parties; and his course, when viewed superficially, may seem to have been an inconsistent one; yet, on the whole, in spite of his occasional divergences, he always represented a liberal and enlightened statesmanship.

It looks as if the appearance of Mr. Bryan on the scene might hurry the Mexicans toward the gold basis. They don't take kindly to a prophet whose home terminal facilities are so faulty. When the Home Ox is Gored, Chicago News. Some of the coal roads which were loudly protesting last fall that the federal government has abundant authority to send troops into a state, whether they were asked for or not, will now reverse themselves man enough to demonstrate that the same government has no right to interfere in the conduct of commerce between one state and another.

The great majority of broad-minded and loyal admirers of college football would like to see mass plays and more open work, more fines and strategy, more trials for goal from far off in the fields, more long range kicks and punts, more deft escapes from tackles, more dazzling runs. Mass plays too often smack of mere brute force.

Not more than four years ago a cry was raised that the Inflation trust had not only put up a price in the orange figure, but had control of all the factories manufacturing the machinery for its production. Somehow a number of capitalists have got machinery and are making large quantities of plate, the price of which they have cut to \$3.00 a box—a lower price than was paid during the years when an English monopoly supplied the American market.

Some of the steamship people object to the proposed plan to mail trials and bulletins daily to steamers on the ocean. They protest that one great object of sea trips—the entire rest from the rush and trials of the outside world—will be defeated by this intrusion of the strenuous nation. Will be understood by comparing the population figures calculated to the middle of last year with those of Ireland's period of maximum population and the figures for 1924, when the collection of vital statistics was first systematized. These returns show the following results:

Year. Male. Female. Total. 1824. 1,471,829. 1,993,329. 3,465,158. 1850. 1,512,048. 2,250,914. 3,762,962. 1891. 2,194,716. 2,250,914. 4,445,630. From these figures it will be seen that the population in the middle of last year was 2,525,510 less than it was seventy-eight years ago, and if the estimated population in the middle of the present year—4,425,000—be compared with that of the maximum year, the diminution in fifty-six years will be found to reach the astonishing figure of 2,870,051.

The Imperial German government has issued a semi-official explanation of the bargain with the clerics by which a Roman Catholic theological faculty is to be established in the University of Strasburg. It declares that the concession was made exclusively for state reasons, since the nonexistence of such a faculty in the annexed provinces of Alsace and Lorraine and the consequent education of Roman Catholic priests in the University of Strasburg seemed to keep alive the Franco-philic spirit among the Alsatian priesthood, who fortunately showed a predilection for France, where Roman Catholicism is prevalent and no obstacles are put in the way of state theological faculties. This declaration, however, has in no way affected the general conviction that the privilege is the political reward for the help extended to Chancellor von Buelow in the tariff matter. The agreement, it is pointed out, deals with the regulations for the similar faculties at the Prussian state universities at Bonn and Breslau, which vest all power in the ecclesiastical authority. The new regulations for Strasburg expressly stipulate that the professorship in law shall be appointed to the new faculty by the government without the previous consent of the bishop, while at Breslau and Bonn the bishop had to be asked beforehand, but was only allowed afterwards to raise objections.

The members of the French senate number 300, of whom 225 were originally chosen from the departments for terms of nine years' duration and seventy-five elected for life by the two chambers in joint sessions. These life senators have, however, never been abolished and now the whole 300 are chosen by the departments. One-third of them retire every three years. The elective body is peculiarly representative of distinct elements of delegates chosen by the municipal council of each commune in proportion to the population of such commune, and of the senators, deputies, councillors-general and district councillors of the department. As the municipal councils to a certain extent and the councils-general absolutely are controlled by the prefects, and as the latter are appointed, and at any time removable by the minister of the interior, that is by M. Combes, it will be understood that the actions of these bodies are only a distorted reflection of public sentiment. For this reason, although the arbitrary closing of the religious schools has deprived 800,000 children of the means of acquiring the education which the law says they must have, it is probable that the senators elected will for the most part be Combes men. The system of government is highly centralized in France, which is not an untried blessing.

The annual financial statement submitted to Parliament the other day by the Italian financial minister shows that the improvement of recent years is maintained. The budget of 1901-1902 left a surplus of \$16,468,000 lire. The heavy deductions which had been made from this sum for the China expedition and other expenses were more than compensated for by the increase in the yield of customs and other sources of income, leaving a final balance of more than 17,000,000 lire were expended during the same period in railway construction and 53,500,000 lire in reducing the debt, the result is very satisfactory. The budget of 1902-1903 exhibited a surplus of \$2,500,000 lire. From this amount must be deducted certain unforeseen expenditures, leaving a net surplus of 16,000,000 lire. That of 1903-1904, which had to deal with the loss of revenue caused by reduced taxation, shows a surplus of \$16,468,000 lire. The metal reserves held by the state and banks of emission to cover circulation have increased to 600,000,000 lire, or more than 51 per cent of the whole circulation—or 11 per cent more than the proportion legally necessary. It is to be remembered, however, that these latest figures do not include any expenditures for the relief of southern Italy. The budget will wear a very different appearance if the announced plans of the government are executed without modification.

Local Taxation of Telegraph Poles. Philadelphia Ledger. The decision of the federal supreme court sustaining the action of the borough of New Hope, Pa., assessing a tax upon the poles of the Western Union Telegraph company erected within the borough limits, is of far reaching importance to telegraph and telephone companies. The impos-

PREMIER COURT CLERK

lation must pass, has been invited and at present seems likely to go in a body, on a junketing tour to Texas to celebrate the inauguration of a member of the committee who has been elected governor of that state.

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A Pretty Lively Issue. Springfield Republican. Municipal ownership is getting to be a pretty live issue, as was shown in Brooklyn the other day when a grand jury, sitting upon the matter of adequate transit facilities, coupled with its condemnation of the present system a recommendation in favor of municipal ownership of the street railways. Now the New York Republic is proposing a national convention, to be held in New York in February to consider the question of public franchises and public ownership. It is the purpose particularly to get together and hear from men who have practical experience in municipal experiments in the ownership line.

FEVER OF SPECULATION. "Entire Capital of Union Pacific Sold Five Times Over." New York World. The sales of shares on the New York Stock exchange in 1902 show a decline from the fever year which preceded it—in round numbers from 247,000,000 shares to 175,000,000. The "record month" of April saw 25,846,914 shares disposed of, against 42,148,468 in April, 1901, and 24,237,969 in January, 1902, former high water marks.

There is no question as to the right of congress to call upon any official of the government for information which that body may deem necessary in the interest of legislation. Lit in a case such as that referred to it is manifestly unwise for congress to ask information until certain that investigation has been completed and that no injury can result to the government's case from a disclosure of the evidence obtained. The safer plan is to assume that in all such matters the judicial officers are faithfully performing their duty.

The street railway company could confer a great boon on strangers visiting in Omaha by maintaining a uniformed employe at the railway stations at least during the period of greatest travel to direct people to the cars that will take them to their desired destinations. Every day great confusion and inconvenience is imposed upon visitors from out of town for lack of this assistance. If we maintained a sufficient police force this need could be supplied by detailing an officer to this duty, but in view of existing conditions it seems that the company itself is alone in position to provide for the case.

In insisting that the compromise land-leasing bill permit the leasing of thirty sections of government land to each cattle grower the cattlemen doubtless are figuring on saving themselves the trouble of increasing their holdings by additional leases in more than one name. Unless the law provides against the transfer of leases and subleasing it will make no difference what limit is set on the amount of land covered by each lease contract.

Dimensions of the Gauge. Philadelphia Press. As much as \$18 and \$20 a ton is being asked for coal in New England. The coal that sells at that price would furnish a good profit if sold for \$6.

Jackets Preferred to Dots. Minneapolis Journal. Although this trust question ought to be the most important thing before congress, it appears that the house judiciary committee, before which committee the trust legis-

SMILING REMARKS

"She"—The strain on the soldier in modern warfare must be very great. "It is. Sometimes the photographer isn't ready and you have to wait hours, and then the pictures may prove failures."—Judge.

"But," protested the plain citizen, "don't you consider honestly a good thing?" "Sure," replied the politician, "but it's like all good things, you've got to make some money before you can afford it."—Philadelphia Press.

"Neighbor—It costs a great deal to raise a boy these days. "Old Mr. Kidder—Sure, now there's my grandson, for instance. He's in love with the same ballet dancer I stored when I was his age.—Detroit Free Press.

"I have had a good many good jobs," said the political officeholder, "and I guess there's a lot of people who'd like to see me resign my present one." "Well," replied one of his rivals, "I think most of us would prefer to see you die in office."—Philadelphia Press.

"I don't believe she has the true artistic temperament," looked at her clothes. "Why, they almost look as if they were made for her." "Oh, yes; but then, you know, she has only been studying art a very short time."—Brooklyn Life.

"How is that?" "He's manager of a burlesque show." "Well, that's mostly a question of figures isn't it?"—Chicago Post.

"JUST AS IT USED TO BE." F. M. Munroe in Town and Country. I wish I were a boy again. That age were but a dream. That things would change from what they are.

To what they used to seem? That I were but a little boy. And from my mother's side. Could find that dear old Fairy. Just as it used to be.

If wishes only were a horse. How far away I'd ride. Across the plains of yesterday. Hold comfort by my side. Once more I'd rescue captive maid; Ah! doubly deeds you'd see. If I were but a little boy. Just as I used to be.

With beanstalk Jack I'd sally forth. To giant-land I'd go. In seven-league boots I'd stride away To that enchanted shore. Where ogres dwell in castles huge. And mermaids sing the sea. O, how I'd love to find them all. Just as they used to be.

My little boy says I'm all wrong— That nothing's changed at all. That he can show me ogres, mermaids, And giants more than tall; That, clasping his dear hand in mine He leads me forth to see— Years drop as leaves; I'm young again, Just as I used to be.

KELLEY, STIGER & CO. Our Annual Great Discount Sale Continued. Store Open Until 9:30 Saturday Evening. 20 Per Cent Deducted from our regular prices on all our Men's, Women's and Children's WINTER UNDERWEAR.

20 Per Cent on all Cashmere, Wool and Fleeced Hosiery, 20 Per Cent on all our Black Dress Goods, 20 Per Cent on all our Colored Dress Goods, 20 Per Cent on all our Fancy Waistings, 20 Per Cent on all our Evening Wear Materials, 20 Per Cent on all our Linings, Buttons and Trimmings.

33 1/2 Per Cent Deducted From Our Regular Prices

On all our women's and Children's Jackets, On all our Walking Suits, On all our Tailor Made Suits, On all our Separate Dress Skirts, On all our Walking Skirts, On all our Flannel and Silk Waists, On all our Fur Stock.

tion of the tax was rested on the ground that the exaction is a tax on interstate commerce. The court held that the assessment is within the powers of local government and is constitutional. The amount involved in this issue is small, but it is regarded as a test case.

POLITICAL DRIFT. Omaha Jacksonians are patriots of high degree. In sitting down to a feast of old ham and curried whiskeys they have given a rare exhibition of ennobling self-sacrifice.

H. L. Morse was "put off at Buffalo" over three score years ago, and has voted the democratic ticket ever since. Environment has no elevating influence on some people.

One member-elect of the Fifty-eighth congress, Alben Barkham, republican, of the second district of Indiana, has died before taking office. The present house of representatives has had an unusually large mortality.

The new legislature of Arkansas is expected to pass a bill for the erection of a state capitol by a non-partisan commission, of which Governor Davis shall not be a member, and over which he shall have no control.

Massachusetts and Connecticut defeated in 1901 bills offered in the legislature for woman's suffrage. The New Hampshire constitutional convention has adopted for submission to the voters a woman's suffrage amendment.

David Bennett Hill protests against the use of his picture as a testimonial for a patent medicine. The owner of the cure-all seems to have forgotten that some of Dave's political associates have pronounced him beyond recovery.

Judge S. T. Corn, a democrat, has become chief justice of the supreme court of Wyoming under a law which provides for the rotation of the several justices of the court in the highest place. Judge Corn is the first man of his political faith who has ever occupied the position.

The roll call of millionaire senators in the Fifty-eighth congress will stand about as follows: Clark, Hanna, Dewey, Platt, Keen, Dryden, Elkins, Bard, Kerns, Perkins, Wetmore, Proctor, Scott, Quay, Alger and Addicks. Perhaps about one senator in every six is a real live millionaire.

Something in the Ohio political situation gave displeasure to Senator Hanna a day or two ago and he was complaining to one of his henchmen that so-and-so had not been done. "You did not tell me to do it," protested the Ohio man. "That makes no difference," snapped the senator. "You should have done it anyway." The smaller politician said, "Senator, I'm willing to obey your orders, but how long do you think I should last if I took to anticipating them?"

Some Saturday Suggestions in connection with our 25 per cent discount sale. So many people put off their shopping until the last day of the week that, if the weather is favorable, we are always rushed.

We expect to find a good many people in search of winter clothing this week. Our 25 per cent discount has met with surprising activity since it started—in fact to such an extent that we are confident that the trade agree with us in the knowledge that finer and better clothing than ours cannot be had.

That is the advantage of manufacturing our own clothing. It is in giving full value rather than ridiculous low figures that we think we offer superior inducements to men and boys and the mother of small boys.

No Clothing Fits Like Ours. 25 per cent discount on OVERCOATS Men's and Boys' 25 per cent discount on SUITS Broken lines of extra trousers and broken suit trousers ranging in price from \$4.00 to \$6.00 are offered at this sale.

\$3.50 a pair—all materials represented here is an excellent opportunity to piece out the old suit at a big saving. 50c Neckwear ALL WINTER UNDERWEAR Boys' Shirts 25c 25c Boys' Und'w 25c Men's Shirts 75c 20 PER CENT DISCOUNT Boys' Gloves 25c See Windows. Browning-King-&Co R. S. WILCOX, Manager.