

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss: I, George B. Tschuck, secretary of the Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of this paper during the month of January, 1903, was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Number of copies and Total. Rows include 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st.

Net total sales, 931,097. Net average sales, 30,051.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 12th day of January, A. D. 1903. M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

These automobile shows seem now to be all the go.

In all these pay increases for railway men, the sleeping car porter seems to have been negligently overlooked.

If the coal dealers were up to snuff they would import some of that 66 degrees below zero weather from Dawson City.

Bradstreet's report that labor is scarce in the lumber camps might have added also that lumber is scarce in the labor camps.

Mr. Rockefeller explains that when he declared the anti-trust bill must not pass he meant it to be understood only in a Pickwickian sense.

Of course the raising of that peaceful blockade is intended simply to prove to Venezuela that the intentions of the powers are still peaceful.

The loss in the mails of a package containing \$50,000 will not create very wide-spread alarm. Not many of us have been expecting remittances of that size.

The coal strike arbitrators could learn a thing or two in the way of expediting business by copying after the arbitrators of the Omaha job printers' strike.

It looks as if the Mormon question would have to be threshed over in congress every time a new senator or representative from Utah presents his credentials.

Another spasm of pretended indignation is due from the first families of the south over the musical given in the White House at which coon songs had a prominent place on the program.

The announcement is going the rounds that a Pittsburg firm has recently taken a single order for 7,000,000 quart bottles to be delivered this year. A pint at a time used to be the usual quantity carried in the pocket.

The assurance of Mr. Balfour that the Monroe doctrine has no enemies in Great Britain will be received with thanks, but taken for what it is worth. The best assurance of the integrity of the Monroe doctrine is the readiness of Uncle Sam to enforce it against all violators.

French scientists are claiming to have demonstrated by their experiments that silk can be produced in any color without being dyed by feeding the silk worms with materials of corresponding shade. The next thing we will have will be colored Easter eggs laid to order by hens dieted upon mixed paints.

We note that the scheme for the federation of church workers set in motion at the Christian church convention held in Omaha last October is being adopted in other states, the churches of California having recently organized along these lines. The very fact that the plan is being favorably received and acted upon attests its merit and it proves to be entirely successful the credit for having originated the scheme should redound to Nebraska's benefit.

Our prohibition friends have been very quiet on the subject of the repeal of constitutional prohibition by Vermont after a half century of experiment and experience with it. It will be remembered that when Nebraska was in the throes of its prohibition campaign, Vermont was held up as a paragon of temperance, where prohibition was held to be the only true solution of the liquor problem. But that was twenty years ago and many changes take place in twenty years.

AFTER PUBLICITY SUPERVISION.

The initial movement for the repression of trusts was taken ten years ago by the legislature of Minnesota in the shape of resolutions directing the governor of that state to call a national convention to discuss the trust menace and devise measures for the regulation or suppression of the trusts.

In compliance with these resolutions Governor Knute Nelson, now United States senator, issued a call to the various states to appoint delegates to meet in national convention at Chicago, June 5, 1903. From the outset there was a sharp cleavage between the extremists under the leadership of General Weaver, Ignatius Donnelly and Henry D. Lloyd, who advocated the abolition of all corporations, and the conservative element, led by Governor Nelson and Congressman Tawney, who recognized in the trusts a natural outgrowth of industrial evolution that called for regulation and repression rather than drastic legislation.

The resolutions favored the organization of a national anti-trust league, whose influence should be exerted for the repression of the dangerous tendencies of the trust system through publicity and supervision. As the first step in this direction an appeal was made to President Cleveland to recommend to congress the creation of a bureau, whose head should be clothed with substantially the same power in the supervision of corporations engaged in interstate commerce as are exercised by the comptroller of the currency over the national banks.

Although there has been an unprecedented increase in the number of corporate combinations within the past ten years, and while several of the trusts organized within the past decade have assumed gigantic proportions, nearly all the men who have grappled with the trust problem concur in the opinion that publicity and supervision, as recommended by the first national anti-trust convention, will afford relief from the worst evils and abuses incident to the centralized capitalization and industrial combination. This was the view held by President Roosevelt, as now formulated into law by congress, and it may be confidently expected that under the searchlight of publicity the most dangerous practices of the trusts, stock watering and fictitious capitalization, will become well nigh impossible.

But publicity to be effective must be supplemented by supervision. It is not merely essential for the public safety that the widest publicity be given to the capitalization of the trusts and their financial operations, but authority must be vested in some department of the government to call a halt upon every trust that seeks to break down the safeguards provided by the government against fraudulent capitalization and wildcat financing. This task will necessarily have to be imposed upon the head of one of the bureaus in the new department of commerce. Much will doubtless depend upon the character and capacity of the man entrusted with this great responsibility. In this respect, however, the chief of publicity and supervision will not differ materially from the head of any other important bureau or branch of government where honesty and competency are prerequisites.

FRIVOLOUS OBJECTIONS.

In explanation of the only vote cast in the Illinois state senate against the resolution calling on congress to summon a national constitutional convention to propose an amendment to the federal constitution providing for the election of United States senators by direct vote of the people, the following statement was offered:

I am opposed to the principle contained in this resolution, because it takes away the guaranty of a conservative, careful policy in the congress of the United States. The house of representatives represents more properly the direct interests of the people—the interests of agriculturists, of mechanics and of the laborer. The United States senate not only represents these interests also but it represents the interests of capital, merchants and manufacturers. Why should the agriculturist or the mechanic or the laborer have his house and not the merchant or manufacturer have his? If the request in this resolution is granted state conventions will propose candidates who will be elected by pluralities instead of by majorities.

If these frivolous objections contain the whole argument against the demand for direct popular election of senators, the only wonder is that a single vote should be recorded against it in any legislative body except the senate of the United States itself.

In the first place, the plea that the guaranty of a conservative, careful policy on the part of congress can be preserved only by maintaining the present character and composition of the senate has no substantial foundation. As much radical or experimental legislation originates in the senate as in the house and the brakes are as often applied in the one end of the capitol as in the other. The retention of the longer term and subdivisions holding over, so as to make a permanent body, would retain for the senate all the stability it now enjoys, as compared with the house, changing completely every two years. This is today the real guaranty of senatorial conservatism rather than the method of circuitous election.

The frank admission that the lower house of congress represents more properly the direct interests of the

people, while the senate represents not only these, but also the interests of capital in addition, ought to be one of the most powerful arguments in favor of the proposed change. If the house represents the interests of all the people, why should the capitalistic class be entitled to a second and special representation in the senate? Why should capital have an equal voice in one branch of the legislature with labor and then exclude labor from an equal voice with it in the other? Does this not give the whole case away that the senate has become the property, as it were, of the great corporate powers and merger magnates and that they can maintain a sure grip upon it only by manipulating legislatures to choose their creatures as senators who could never secure the popular endorsement of a direct election at the polls?

The suggestion that the election of senators by direct vote of the people would result in plurality choice can have little weight with thinking people. Under the present system, senators often represent neither majorities nor pluralities, but merely a small minority of corporation captains, who dictate legislative action by the use of corrupt influences and the outright expenditure of colossal sums of money. These factors might intrude into political conventions, but they would have smaller room for play, and the common people with unpurchasable votes would have the final vote on every unsavory candidate.

Not a single valid reason has yet been advanced anywhere against an amendment of the constitution that will do away with the senatorial deadlocks and scandals in which so many of our legislatures have been involved.

DEBAUCHING THE PRESS.

One feature of the recently uncovered correspondence by which the railroad lobby at Lincoln endeavored to persuade the editors of country newspapers to insert made-to-order articles justifying railroad tax shirking in their editorial columns upon promise of payment of any bill of expense they might render, calls for further emphasis. It is the insidious attempt to poison the public mind by corrupting the well-springs of public opinion.

Several of the publishers who complied with the requisition from railroad headquarters have endeavored to explain their action by asserting that in printing the misleading appeals for tax exemption for the railroads they were simply selling their wares to a purchaser willing to pay the price. There is a distinction as well as a difference, however, between selling advertising space to the railroads and selling editorial opinions to the railroad lobby.

Nearly every one of the newspapers addressed has an advertising contract with the different railroads of Nebraska and if it were intended to have articles prepared by the tax agents inserted in advertising they would have been transmitted in the usual order with instructions to charge to the railroad account. What the lobby chiefs sought to do in offering matter to be inserted in the editorial columns at the editor's price was to buy the editor of the paper rather than space in the paper.

The heinousness of such debauchery of the press can be only comprehended when its disastrous consequences are realized. Every honest newspaper owes a duty to the public, whose betrayal can no more be justified than the treachery of a soldier in the field. If editorial opinions are to be bought and sold every powerful interest with a full treasury would command the entire press of the country and the wrongs of the people cry in vain for a champion.

In principle, offering money to an editor to distort public opinion for the purpose of influencing the legislator is no different from offering the legislator the money outright to support the interests of the corporate bribe givers as against those of the people he is elected to represent. In its essence, paying the editor to fabricate justifications for dishonest lawmakers is no different from paying venal lawmakers to be dishonest.

That the men who hire themselves out to engage as lobbyists in corruption work for the big railroad corporations should in their depravity seek to debauch the press as well as the legislature is not surprising. But we mistake the character and the caliber of the editors of Nebraska newspapers if their efforts prove successful.

THE ELKINS BILL.

The passage by the house of representatives of the Elkins bill, which supplements the Interstate Commerce law and will render that act more effective, is an advance in anti-trust legislation of very great importance. There are some who are not quite satisfied that this legislation will be adequate for the purpose of regulating and controlling the combinations. They assert that the publicity it provides for is not sufficient. But that is a matter to be determined by the application of the law. Objection in advance of that is not to be very seriously considered.

Meanwhile it is interesting to know that the Elkins bill is most favorably regarded by the Interstate Commerce commission. It is viewed by that body as very materially strengthening the present law and there is no question that such is the case. The present law has been shown to be inadequate for the purpose it was intended to subserve. Everybody knows that to be the fact. The railroads have persistently disregarded and defied the law as we now have it and there is every reason to believe they will continue to do so unless there is additional legislation restraining them. This is supplied by the Elkins bill, which not only prohibits rebates on the part of the railroads, but

also provides for the punishment of those who accept rebates. Thus under this law it is made a criminal offense for persons to ask and accept a rebate, so that not only the common carrier but the manufacturer or merchant can be held under the law for accepting a discrimination in freight rates.

The justice and fairness of this principle we think no one will question. It aims to establish absolute equality between all interests and to maintain it. Enforced, as undoubtedly it will be, we shall have in every part of the country an absolutely fair and proper regulation of freight rates and consequently none of the issues and controversies that are now continually arising. In a word, the Elkins bill gives promise of a settlement of pending rate controversies that will result to the benefit of the people as a whole. It may not be the final requirement, but it is a very long and decisive step in the right direction.

AN AMERICAN TRIUMPH.

The United States has triumphed in the Venezuelan controversy and that issue may be regarded as practically settled so far as any danger of war is concerned. That is to say, the European powers, having shown what aggression they dared to and put themselves in an absolute warlike attitude that incidentally challenged the United States, have at last decided that it will be a wise policy to abandon their position in regard to Venezuela and permit the United States to have a controlling influence in the settlement of the controversy. In other words, both Great Britain and Germany appear to have come to the conclusion that it is the part of wisdom to concede something to the greatest nation on earth and not to get into a quarrel with a power which is today beyond question the foremost nation, so far as influence and moral power are concerned, in the world.

The position of the United States in regard to the Venezuelan dispute has been absolutely fair and straightforward. Our government has simply said to the European powers that it does not propose to shelter any of the southern countries from the payment of their obligations. The United States is not the protector of dishonest governments and will not shield them from responsibility for their just obligations.

This has been adequately demonstrated and the southern countries ought to learn a lesson from the Venezuelan matter which would be of permanent value to them. If they have hitherto fancied that the United States would defend them in their dishonesty they must now understand that this country has no such idea, but on the contrary insists that all the commonwealths of this hemisphere shall act in good faith and falling to do so must suffer the consequences.

The adjustment of the Venezuelan dispute is a matter of very great importance. It is a renewed and very great lesson in the influence of the United States. While our government has maintained a strictly neutral position, it has still been well understood that we had a very vital interest in the controversy and this has had its effect upon the powers. It is another evidence of the greatness of American influence in international affairs.

In Wisconsin the railroads want to keep the tax of 4 per cent of gross revenues as their contribution to the expenses of government unchanged for fear that the addition of a tax system subjecting their property to assessment the same as other property will make them pay more taxes. In Nebraska the same railroads are content to pay on a valuation of their property rather than on gross receipts, provided only the valuation is made by officers whom they feel they can control. The difference between Wisconsin and Nebraska must be explained on the theory that the railroads fear they might not be able to handle the officers constituting the assessment board there as easily as they have manipulated the assessment boards in Nebraska in the past.

The need of authority vested in the president to veto separate items in appropriation bills was never so apparent as it is now. One house or the other of congress is undertaking to load up these bills with appropriations for all sorts of sinecure jobs over the protests of the department heads, who assert that they are not needed. A most flagrant example is found in the attempt to retain crooked Indian agents, whose salaries were dropped in the estimates made by Indian Commissioner Jones with a view to transferring the control of the reservations to the Indian school superintendents. If the president had the power to veto separate items of the appropriations the political pull of the Indian agents would avail them nothing.

According to the Washington correspondent of the Lincoln Journal, it is going to be a hard proposition to get the appropriation for the maintenance of the Indian warehouse at Omaha restored to the bill that passed the house with that item struck out, because the commissioner of Indian affairs has made a report that the cost of the Omaha warehouse is excessive and out of all proportion to the benefits derived by the government. In the same dispatch it is added: "If Senator Millard cannot get the item restored nobody can." What about our Dave? Is he not still a full fledged congressman, with power-plenipotentiary until March 4 next?

A statement of the deposits in the savings banks of the state of New York shows that they were considerably more than a thousand million dollars at the end of last year and that during that year they had increased more than \$63,000,000. Think of that for a single

state and then carry the thought which it suggests over the entire country. Would it be an exaggeration to assume that for the nation at large the savings of last year were ten times the amount of those in the single state of New York? We do not think it would and therefore it is perfectly legitimate to assume that in the year 1902 the American people put in the savings banks of the country at least \$630,000,000 and probably more than that sum. Measured by such a fact, what a progressive people we are and how substantial is our reason for confidence in the future.

First Lessons in Loot.

Kansas City Star. Hawaii has asked congress for \$5,000,000 for public works for the year. It has taken Hawaii almost no time to learn that the United States treasury is a legitimate loot.

The Hoodooed Coin.

Indianapolis News. Governor Taft's report shows that the government of the Philippines has lost \$1,277,941 by the slump in silver, and it wasn't trying to corner the market, either.

Decorated a Troubled Brazil.

Boston Transcript. If Signor Mascagni carries back no board of American duets, at least he has received the title of Chevalier of the Order of Savoy in recognition of his American tribulations.

Time Ripe for a Muzzle.

Chicago News. If a presidential invitation is in reality a "command," as the social leaders of Washington assert, will the president kindly invite the social leaders to stop talking that kind of nonsense?

Large School of Judges.

Minneapolis Journal. Another get-rich-quick concern is on the rocks. From the revelations coming out concerning the extent of its business, it would appear that the more improbable the alluresments held out to investors the better the chance of getting the investments.

Medical Progress.

Louisville Courier-Journal. An analysis of the philanthropic gifts made in the United States during the last year shows that a larger sum has gone toward the alleviation of physical suffering, and work that gives promise of alleviating it, than toward any other cause. This is the dictate of a sound estimate of the relative importance of human needs. It is a fundamental philanthropy; bodily health is a condition precedent to mental, and even to spiritual, growth.

As Good as a Gold Mine.

New York Tribune. The Wagner heirs are still drawing royalties of more than \$100,000 a year from the production of the operas of the Teutonic composer. The music drama of Germany may not be quite as lucrative as the telephone patents in America, but it seems to be well buttressed and fortified financially. How much did Shakespeare get for "Hamlet," and what was paid to Milton for "Paradise Lost"? This is a generation of big figures.

PRAISE FOR THE CLUB WOMAN.

Club Life Quickens Energies Hitherto Dormant.

Collier's Weekly. A woman who can hold a club together, who can control a body of women, many of whom are these same drones, is not a woman who will manage her house, her husband or her children in a shiften manner. The woman who organizes a club must be a good housekeeper; she cannot help herself; it is born in her, and club life and organization only tend to develop a character which will admit it dormant in many women and which club life quickens. You will find, if you are fortunate enough to be invited to a clubwoman's house, that everything will run like clockwork. There will be no hitches. The servants will be perfectly drilled; system and order will prevail, simply because the woman has brought her talent for organization into her home as she has into her club.

You will also find that the woman who holds a prominent position in her club is also more companionable to her husband. The majority of clubs take up some special study, if politics (and you know a woman never does things by halves), she will study the silver question or the tariff, or the trusts, and in the end, her husband comes to look upon her as an intelligent being, with whom he can discuss political issues, which were formerly considered too abstruse for her feminine understanding.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE.

There are few signs of spring in sight. The Hudson Bay region is coming to the front as a diamond field. The press agent of the summer excursion season is "getting busy."

Miss Maud Gonne is gone, for better or worse. His name is McBride. The announcement will make one or more Omaha hearts throb with grief.

The crop of French saildines is a failure this year. But we have "something just as good." The art of printing French labels has reached perfection in Maine.

The man who caresses his nude dome as he reads of the wonders wrought by hair restoratives may be pardoned if he entertains a doubt or two about truth abiding with medicine.

It is now proposed to build a railroad bridge over Hell Gate, a noted locality in New York harbor. Apparently the water route cannot furnish a sufficient quantity of fresh, dry material.

The oldest man in California has added two years to his century. He has been a smoker for eighty-five and a moderate drinker for seventy-five years, but never touched modern breakfast foods.

A Boston professor says pretty girls do not make good wives. The professor talked for home consumption and reached the spot. Fourteen federated clubs tossed him bouquets adorned with pink and blue ribbons.

A New York bride whose husband is a trainer of reptiles, paid him the compliment of wearing a wriggling snake as a neckpiece when the marriage ceremony was performed. Such devotion passeth human understanding.

"It strikes me as peculiarly appropriate," remarked the Saddle Creek philosopher as he fondled a package from the Agricultural department, "for a congressman who was jarred loose last fall to send his devoted constituents farewell packages of best seed."

People who put up good money on promesses of from 8 to 15 per cent a month from turf and cereal investment companies can obtain some consolation by employing an automatic kicking machine. These appliances are warranted to rub in grief in an impressive fashion.

During a basket ball game in one of the New York's high schools the girl contestants mused each others' hair, indulged in knockdowns and scratched faces in a shocking manner. Accounts of the traces neglect to state that the girls had a "perfectly lovely time."

"Strongest in the World"



The Equitable Life Assurance Society

of the United States.

HENRY B. HYDE, Founder.

Table with 2 columns: Description and Amount. Rows include Outstanding Assurance, Dec. 31st, 1902 (\$1,292,446,595.00), New Assurance Issued in 1902 (281,249,944.00), Income in 1902 (69,007,012.25), Assets December 31, 1902 (359,895,537.72), Assurance Fund and all other Liabilities (284,268,040.95), Surplus (75,127,496.77), Paid Policy-Holders in 1902 (29,191,250.79).

JAMES W. ALEXANDER, President.

JAMES H. HYDE, Vice President.

H. D. NEELY, Manager for Nebraska,

404-405 Merchants National Bank Building, Omaha, Neb.



"Strongest in the World"

SECLAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES.

Baltimore American: A New Jersey minister named Dammes is in trouble with his congregation, and the latter are missing no chance to pronounce.

Brooklyn Eagle: One minister's wife has obtained a raise in her husband's salary by going upon the variety stage. It is hoped that the example will not be widely followed, because some ministers' wives cannot act a little bit.

Buffalo Express: There is a Jersey City clergyman whom any jury of women would condemn after a moment's deliberation to capital punishment. In a marriage certificate he added fifty years to the bride's age. Only hanging would meet the requirements of such a case as that.

Chicago Post: The Brooklyn minister's wife who went on the vaudeville stage to help eke out a living income for her family has gone back home because her husband's salary has been increased. This may be a hint to other churches to recognize that the laborer is worthy of his hire.

New York Press: Priests who cannot marry are the last men in the world to preach about the decay of the sturdy old American stock. There is no such thing today as American stock. We have had the native Americans—the Indians—over 400 years, and have reduced them to a handful of harmless imbeciles. There was the stock to graft to! But we preferred the scum of effete Europe. We are anollapodia. We are a hash, and a cheap boarding-house hash, at that. By and by we shall be a rehash. But we still live. Our preachers are talking for the newspapers. If they had only their congregations for an audience they would talk differently. But they are talking to the world.

Kansas City Star: The Methodist authorities seem rather more certain that they have secured the millions of dollars they set out to raise for the new century than that they have saved the number of souls they aimed to gather in. The contention that the church had made 1,000,000 converts in the last four years was sharply disputed by Dr. Buckley in New York recently. Methodism, this staunch churchman asserted, was declining in the east, and there was no use disguising the fact. It is to be hoped Dr. Buckley is correct, the church will be in no worse disfavor. It will doubtless press forward with renewed energy to recover lost ground in its ancient assurance that the church militant is to become the church triumphant.

Borem—I'm sure your father doesn't like me, although he's always very polite and all that. Miss Koy—Ah, yes, that's just like papa; everybody says it talks after him, you know. —Philadelphia Press.

He—I suppose now that I shall have to ask your father for his consent. She—No, Harry. After the first time you called on said I might have you if I wanted you. Pa and I have understood it for a long time. —Boston Transcript.

Barker—Come over here, old man. I want to introduce you to my wife. Parker—Oh, I know Mrs. Barker already. We were engaged for three months in the summer of 1901. —Somerville Journal.

"For the first year of our married life, dear," said the young man who was poor, but had prospects, "we shall have to live principally on love." —Philadelphia Record.

"Well, people can live on spoon vitamins, can't they, George?" she said, snuggling closer to him. Helen—Yes, social life is wearing. I have so much on my shoulders. Emily—In what way? Helen—Going to ball, etc. Emily—But, my dear, every time I saw you at a ball you had nothing on your shoulders. —Philadelphia Record.

THE FOOL'S PRAYER.

Edward Rowland Hill. The royal feast was done; the king sought out some new sport to banish care. And to his jester cried: "Sir Fool, kneel now, and make for us a prayer!" The jester doffed his cap and bells, and stood the mocking court before; They could not see the bitter smile Behind the painted grin he wore. He bowed his head and bent his knees Upon the monarch's alken stool; His pleading voice arose:—"O Lord, Be merciful to me, a fool!"

"No pity, Lord, could change the heart From red with wrong to white as wool; The rod must heat the sin; but, Lord, Be merciful to me, a fool!"

"Be not by guilt the onward sweep Of truth and right, O Lord, we stay; Be by our follies that so long We hold the earth from heaven away. These clumsy feet, still in the mire, He bowed his head and bent his knees Among the heart-strings of a friend. The ill-timed truth we might have kept— Who knows how sharp it pierced and stung?"

"Our faults no tenderness should ask— The chastening stripes must cleanse them still; But for our blunders—oh, in shame Before the eyes of heaven we fall!" "Earth bears no balm for mistakes; Men groan the knave, and scourge the fool; That did his will, but Thou, O Lord, Be merciful to me, a fool!"

The room was hushed; in silence rose The king, and sought his garden's cool; And waived apart, and murmured low, "Be merciful to me, a fool!"

SPRUCING UP

trousers—neckwear—these are the things that will tide you over and make you feel well dressed until time for the spring suit. Here and now is the place and time to get these things to your advantage.

NO CLOTHING FITS LIKE OURS. Browning, King & Co. R. S. Wilson, Mgr.