

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE. E. ROSHWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: Daily Bee (without Sunday), One Year, \$4.00; Daily Bee and Sunday, One Year, \$4.50; Illustrated Bee, One Year, \$5.00; Sunday Bee, One Year, \$3.00; Saturday Bee, One Year, \$3.00; Twenty-Eight Copy, One Year, \$1.50.

DELIVERED BY CARRIER: Daily Bee (without Sunday), per copy, 2c; Daily Bee (including Sunday), per week, 12c; Sunday Bee, per copy, 5c; Saturday Bee, per copy, 5c; Evening Bee (including Sunday), per week, 12c.

OFFICES: Omaha—The Bee Building, South Omaha—City Hall Building, Twelfth and M Streets, Council Bluffs—10 Pearl Street, Chicago—150 Union Building, St. Paul—225 Exchange Building, Washington—301 F Street.

CORRESPONDENCE: Communications relating to news and editorial matters should be addressed to Omaha Bee, Editorial Department, 207 F Street, Omaha, Neb.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION: State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss: George B. Tschuck, secretary of the Bee Publishing company, being duly sworn, says that the circulation of the Daily, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of January, 1903, was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Circulation numbers for various days and categories, including Total, Average, and Net total sales.

Notary Public. M. B. HUNGATE. New slogan of the railway tax shirkers—'What's the constitution between railroads, anyway?'

Editorial Note: We would suggest that before the editor of the World-Herald familiarly calls him 'Tom' he would first learn how to spell his name.

Editorial Note: For some unfathomable reason no bills to eradicate the Russian thistle pest have hopped up yet in this session of the Nebraska legislature.

Editorial Note: Several features of the proposed new revenue law for Nebraska can be improved and should be improved before the bill is ratified by the legislature.

Editorial Note: The decision of Judge Grosscup on the beef trust injunction discloses at least one federal judge on the bench who can be independent of the corporations.

Editorial Note: Plans for the meat packers' merger, which was to have been launched as soon as the packers won out in their injunction suit, will now have to be revised.

Editorial Note: It didn't require an increase in the salaries of judges on the federal bench to stimulate active competition for every vacancy occurring among their number.

Editorial Note: Bryan's call to arms does not seem to be reverberating very loudly through the democratic press. If a second call wouldn't bring them, resort might be had to the draft.

Editorial Note: The national good roads convention meets at an appropriate time. Seasonable object lessons of roads to be avoided should be plentiful just now in all parts of the country.

Editorial Note: The powers of Europe will present a joint vote to the sultan in view of the sultan's known financial stringency. They will have to take care or he will ask them to cash it in once.

Editorial Note: It is easy enough to put up a straw man to knock him down and to misquote public men in order to lampoon them. The public, however, has little sympathy with such methods.

Editorial Note: Senator Quay has certainly not lost his ability to make it decidedly uncomfortable for those who get in the way of his pet schemes. His fight for the statehood bills shows that he is still a stayer.

Editorial Note: If the coal strike arbitrators only do a good job by rendering a decision that appeals to the public as eminently just, they will be in position to set up in permanent business as healers of labor troubles.

Editorial Note: If the Great Western needs a Missouri river bridge to come into Omaha, what's the matter with the South Omaha air line for which Our Dave presented the charter to Tom Blackburn about a year ago?

Editorial Note: Governor Mickey is clear-sighted on the question of constitutional revision. It will be just as easy to carry amendments to the constitution direct as to secure the popular vote necessary to call a constitutional convention.

Editorial Note: It is given out at the Interior department that in view of congressional inaction on the subject, preparations will be made at once to execute the law against the illegal fencing of the public domain. Colonel Mosby may have a chance to call out his cavalry yet.

Editorial Note: The Real Estate exchange has shown itself to be the most live business organization in Omaha. If it sets about in earnest to erect a special office building to be occupied by its members, we may put it down that the project will be carried through to successful completion.

CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION. Governor Mickey's position on the question of constitutional revision, as outlined in the interview given to the Bee, should command the immediate and favorable consideration of the legislature.

The governor states clearly the reasons why revision should proceed through the submission of amendments by the legislature rather than by the submission of a proposition to call a constitutional convention. Summed up, these reasons are: 1. That the amendments needed to remedy the defects in the constitution can be framed as well by the legislative committee as by the committee of a constitutional convention.

2. That to meet the urgency of the demand, revision by amendment can be made effective at least two years earlier than revision by convention. 3. That the expense of the convention, which might reach as high as \$200,000, is unnecessary and would be specially burdensome to the state in its present embarrassing financial condition.

4. That it would be as easy, if not easier, to secure ratification of amendments submitted by the legislature as to secure popular endorsement of the proposed call for a convention. 5. That revision by convention must run the gauntlet of endorsement at the polls twice, first to call the convention, and then to ratify its work, while revision by amendment can be accomplished by one submission to the people.

Governor Mickey's enumeration of needed amendments includes the most important, although one or two other subjects should be added. One amendment should be submitted providing for an increase in the number of supreme court judges. Another amendment should revise the schedule of salaries paid to state officers, or, perhaps, leave the determination of these salaries within certain limits to the legislature.

Another amendment should deal with the investment of the state school moneys and forever put an end to the practice of farming out the trust funds on the plea that legitimate investment is barred by constitutional prohibition. Still another amendment should provide a way for municipal home rule for all cities whose populations entitle them to the full measure of local self-government.

On most of these subjects the amendments drawn and submitted by the legislature of 1895, and which failed of ratification because of the disturbing factors of the presidential election, would still be serviceable with possibly a few modifications. The committees on constitutional revision in the two houses of the legislature should at once make a careful and thorough study of the constitution and formulate the amendments which will make that document conform to the present needs of the state.

THE BEEF TRUST INJUNCTION. The decision rendered by Judge Grosscup in granting a temporary injunction against the so-called Beef Trust, in the case instituted under the Sherman anti-trust law, lucidly and forcibly sets forth the facts and circumstances which show the existence of a combination in restraint of trade. Having explained the nature of the business of the defendants and the method of conducting it, the court said that the averments in the petition of the government state a case of combination and whether or not this was unlawful depends not upon price, with which the law as interpreted by the supreme court has not interfered, but whether it is in restraint of trade.

and contracting the extraordinary conditions that have prevailed in this country for the past five years. "As soon as supply overtakes demand more normal conditions must be expected to prevail, although it must be acknowledged that that contingency is not yet at close range." Indeed it seems to be remote and the decline in the trade balance is by no means significant of an approaching reaction.

MORE POWER FOR THE PRESIDENT. The power conferred upon the president of the United States by the law creating the bureau of corporations appears to be regarded in some quarters—and doubtless by the corporations generally—as dangerous. The law gives the president authority to make public, in his discretion, information obtained by the bureau in regard to the organization, conduct and management of corporations, other than common carriers.

The investigation required to be made, under the direction of the secretary of commerce and labor, is intended to supply the president with such information as he may need in order to intelligently recommend legislation respecting the corporations. If he deems such information to be of public interest he may give it, or so much of it as he thinks proper, to the public. It was thought better to thus make publicity permissible, relying upon the judgment of the chief executive, than to make it mandatory.

The New York Commercial calls it "a tremendous power," under which the president may make or break a good many corporations at will, and says: "Not that the facts about a company's affairs are always in themselves reprehensible or damaging to its reputation, but their use in certain hands and at certain times might ruin almost any corporation. Think for a moment what might result to the average company doing an interstate business if some fine morning its bank, its attorney and its managers and employees should exploit in print all they know. Yet the president, under this law, can learn and make public all that these persons could."

Now a company or corporation that is doing an interstate business lawfully and on an honest basis would not suffer from having the facts regarding its organization and business conduct made public, but it is not the intention of the law that information regarding corporations of this kind shall be given publicly. The purpose is to expose any corporation that is found not to be lawfully and honestly conducted and it is in the discretion of the president to determine how far this shall be done.

Those who see danger in the power thus conferred upon the president assume that at some time we may have a chief executive who will want to destroy all corporations. Rational people will have no apprehension on this score. It is a possibility, if indeed it be possible, far too remote for present attention. So far as President Roosevelt is concerned, no corporation organized and conducted in compliance with the laws and which deals fairly and honestly with the public has anything to fear at his hands. He is not an enemy of such corporations. On the other hand those that are not complying with the laws must expect that he will exercise fully and firmly the power conferred on him. The assurance of such people that they will doubtless have a most salutary effect.

WIFI? The principal purpose of the Omaha charter amendment bill fathered by the Douglas delegation in the legislature seems to be to effect a readjustment of the salaries paid various city officers. And the principal purpose of the salary readjustment seems to be to almost double the salary of the city comptroller by raising it from \$1,800 to \$3,000. The salary of the governor of Nebraska is \$2,500. Why should the comptroller of the city of Omaha be paid as much and more than the state's chief executive?

The salary of the chief justice of our supreme court is \$2,500. Why should the comptroller of the city of Omaha be paid more than an occupant of the supreme bench? The salary of the auditor of state is \$2,500. Why should the auditing officer of the city be paid more than the auditor of state? The salary of the city attorney is \$2,500 and the position requires a lawyer of thorough training and tried experience. Why should the city comptroller, who is simply an accountant, be paid more than the corporation's legal adviser?

ROUND ABOUT NEW YORK. Ripples on the Current of Life in the Metropolis.

An unnamed comic opera soprano in New York, who has an abundance of money and a wicked penchant for imitation, shockingly offends the dignity of the elite by imitating Mrs. John Jacob Astor in every way possible. Never since the ancient house of the Astors has a business house the Astor been so honored. And that, too, by a comic opera singer. The climax came last week, when the woman of fashion added to her stable accoutrements of a horse cover of the fine seal leather with the Astor crest wrought inconspicuously in brass in one corner. Every one waited for the burlesque to end as it should. The next time she appeared her horse was covered by the leather trappings. But the crest was as big as a saucer.

A practical joker or a man of unsound mind made victim of the four churches in Brooklyn last week, mailing to each pastor a check for \$5,000, drawn on the First National bank of Brooklyn. Payment was refused on presentation. The four churches are the Jones Methodist Episcopal church, Rev. Ohio F. Bartholow, pastor; Bushwick Reform church, Rev. Edward Niles, the South Astor Methodist Episcopal church, Rev. Frederick Saunders, and the Plymouth, Rev. Newton Dwight Hillis, pastor.

All four pastors received their checks on Friday and informed their congregations of the good fortune that had befallen their churches at the Friday night prayer meeting. At the Bushwick avenue church the meeting was turned into one of thanksgiving and "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow" was sung. All the checks were presented for payment on Saturday. All of them were refused by the depositories marked "No account." The checks were signed Robert Schneider, jr.

Public curiosity bids fair to be aroused to an unusual degree by an excavation soon to be made on the property at the junction of Pearl and Beaver streets, New York. The excavation is to be made, but, as a fifteen-story building is to be built on the site, caissons will probably be put down, so that if the excavations are made, there will be nothing to prevent its discovery. In Kild's time the shore of East River was between what are now Pearl and Water streets—all beyond that on the present map being "made ground"—and the present owner of the plot in question says that the report of the excavation is that at one time it was all authenticated. The plot is flat-iron in shape.

Of the millions of bottles used every year about one-half are lost, and the other half used again. They are collected by servants, janitors, rag pickers, dump pickers and other boys, and sold at a half cent, a cent, or two cents, to a junk dealer, who disposes of them to a bottle dealer, from whose place, when they are cleaned and assorted, they go back again into trade. "The business," said a dealer quoted by the Evening Post, "is a simple one. Collecting is easy, and cleaning presents no difficulties. When a bottle is very dirty, say, where it contains paint, it costs more to clean it than it will sell for when cleaned. Such bottles are never bought. The assorting demands considerable trade knowledge. All bottles which have names blown in the glass are put by themselves. They are purchased by their original owners, and sometimes by imitators.

"Drug store or prescription bottle makes a class. We buy many for them, as they are so cheap originally that the profit is very small. Rhine wine and Moselle bottles are in large demand, as they are nearly all imported. Whiskey and gin bottles make good stock. They go to the distilleries, bucket shops and cheap saloons. Champagne bottles are not quite so profitable. They are used by American champagne makers, cider bottlers and mineral water men. Cologne and fancy perfume bottles go to the East Side, where cheap medicine bottles, especially those of odd design, are bought by the manufacturers. The same rule applies to ink and mucilage bottles, but only to larger sizes. Magna and extra chantias always find a ready market.

Another important point is the attitude of a customer. Many bottlers, saloons, and drug stores will receive our goods delivered in open baskets. It does not hurt their trade for the public to know that they use second-hand bottles. Others are very different, and insist on their bottles being packed in boxes and wrapped up. As if they came from the glass works. Formerly we did a large business in beer and milk bottles, but these trades have organized an excellent system of co-operative collecting and distributing which was, of course, at our expense. We do not utilize broken bottles. In Europe they are mixed with mortar and laid on the top of low walls, where they make an insurmountable barrier. They are also broken freely, mixed with plaster of Paris and poured or rammed into rat holes. Why care about plaster sets, no bit of ever gnaw it. Mixed with cement, broken bottles make a good beton or concrete for military walls."

PERSONAL NOTES. The business to be handled by the new Department of Commerce will aggregate \$25,000,000,000 this year. Secretary Cortelyou may have to remove his coat. The North Dakota legislature passed suitable resolutions on the death of Captain Alexander Griggs, the pioneer steamboat captain of the Red river, who founded the town of Grand Forks. Commenting on the statement of President Elliot of Harvard at length and only Mr. McComas graduates' children is less than a quite enough. Harvard graduates do not always make the best fathers. Although the women of the kindergarten turned up their noses at the cotton handkerchief Mrs. Roosevelt sent them, the legislature is of the opinion that the gift is not to be sneezed at, representing, as it does, the chief staple product of the south. James G. Stewart, the official photographer of Abraham Lincoln, and during whose campaign for the presidency he made over half a million pictures, is still living in Bloomington, Ill. He owns one of the finest collections of Lincoln photographs in existence. Senator McComas was pressing an amendment to a pending bill when there were about half a score other members on the floor. It came to him. He was called by Mr. McComas and responded to the call for eyes. No one voted "no" and President Pro Tem Frye gravely proclaimed: "The eye has it."

SOME UNFIT INDIAN AGENTS. How the Kickapooes Were Worked by a Kansas Hustler.

The latest report of the Indian Rights association indicates that there is still need of improvement in our Indian service, and especially in the appointment of Indian agents, which is still on a political basis, and a bad one. A bishop of the Episcopal church recently spoke from a Philadelphia pulpit of an agent known to him who "lay drunk on the ground," exposed to public view—an unfortunate example to Indians, who should look to him for protection and guidance as the representative of the great father. Another agent who violated a United States statute and rendered himself liable to a fine and imprisonment—which, by the way, was never imposed—was only removed after more than a year's persistent effort on the part of the association.

A man at one time agent at Fort Belknap, Mont., is under indictment for malfeasance in office. His predecessor in office charged with similar offenses committed suicide when this agent was indicted, rather than risk a similar fate. But most of the agents do not commit suicide. They hang on as long as there is a cent to be made. An interesting specification is made in the case of the Kickapoo Indians, formerly of this state, but now in Kansas. A missionary among them charges that the agent, who is also president of a local bank, was privately interested in the purchase of the allotted lands of deceased Indians; that all checks given to the Indians for annuities, etc., must be presented at the agent's bank for payment; that the trader stands by the paying teller when such payments are made, and the amount alleged to be due him from each individual is deducted before the Indian is given any money. It is further claimed that when the law permitting the sale of the lands of deceased allottees was passed by congress the agent and two of his business associates formed a company for speculative purposes, and that through misrepresentation, duress and the use of money, options were secured on nearly every available piece of land at prices ranging from 40 to 60 per cent less than the real value. These business associates of the agent had free access to the agency records describing the available tracts, together with the names of the heirs, while other parties wishing to secure the land found it impossible to get information necessary to comply with the regulations of the department in this matter. Competition was therefore virtually forced to sign agreements to sell these tracts for the price offered. Where money was given to secure the Indian's consent, it is said that such amount was to be deducted from the stipulated price when settlement was made.

One instance is given where these enterprising speculators, upon learning of the death of a young girl, went to the house while the funeral services were being held and endeavored to induce the parents to sign an agreement for a sale of their daughter's allotment. They were unsuccessful in this, but shortly after that the father of the dead girl, while intoxicated, gave his consent to a sale of the land. Subsequently the man's wife was taken to the agent's banking office and kept there until she finally signed the agreement. Of course, the great majority of the people of the United States want the Indians treated with at least common decency, but there does not seem to be much hope for it so long as they have anything to be cheated out of, and the chance to do the cheating is made a political plum. Somebody has suggested that the American Adventists should be appointed Indian agents—because they believe the day of judgment is in progress. It might be worth while to try them.

EAST AND WEST. New England Plea for Tolerance and Cordiality. Boston Globe. We are older than the west, we know, and young America is disposed to be somewhat impatient of age. This is the only real difference between the two sections, a difference for which neither is responsible. It is not our fault that we are the elders in the sisterhood of states, and the west cannot help being young. But this gap between us in years influences and estranges our temperaments more than the gap between us in miles. \* \* \* "I can," is the boast of the west. Too often New England has foolishly replied, "You can."

"That never is worth while. To tell a man he can't do this or that is only to challenge and spur him on. When the westerner seeks to do something that the east believes to be unwise, we should not tell them they can't do it, but rather that they ought not to do it. Age should study to meet youth half way in the gulf of time that separates them. There is nothing so pitiable and useless and hopeless in this world as the old man who persists in the past to form a shell about him and isolate him from the present and the future. New England must look more to the west than it is its habit to do. It must not measure American projects either by the standards of Old England or by those of New England, but by the American standard. There are too many of our people who regard the continent lying beyond the Hudson as a terra incognita. Those who have not seen the west should see it, and many of those who have traversed it should go again with more open minds. It is worse than useless to go anywhere with our own little private and arbitrary tape measure forever in our hands, changing our skies without changing our minds. That was the trouble with the celebrated lady who went to heaven and complained because it was not like Boston. It is just absurd to institute such a comparison in Omaha or in Rome.

Seasonable Hint. Wisconsin News. If Queen Wilhelmina names the umpire in the Venezuelan case, it is to be hoped that she will not select any of the egomaniacs that are applied by the bleachers when the home team is losing.

Not too late. If it is not too late for you to get a Winter Overcoat we've some up-to-date Swagger Coats and regular lengths too, that are reduced. A mighty good purchase if you want one for the rest of the season and all of the next. NO CLOTHING FITS LIKE OURS. Browning, King & Co. R. S. Wilcox, Mgr.

GREATEST YEAR FOR WHEAT. Grainaries Loaded with Last Year's Crop Calculated to Boom Things.

Experts in the grain trade have come quite generally to the opinion that the world's production of wheat last year exceeded the largest crops of all other seasons. It is thought that the yield was about 5 per cent bigger than that of the greatest harvest previously recorded, which made 1898 famous in the grain markets.

This is an important factor in the comfort and welfare of the civilized world, where nearly all of the wheat is grown. It is a strong influence on the side of economy and abundance in food, and it means much, in a business sense, for many millions of farmers in various parts of Europe, America, Australia and Asia. Africa grows little wheat. It is interesting, also, to note that the United States, though exceeding any other country in the production of wheat, did not have a record-breaking crop last year, unless the statisticians are in error. It was the third best wheat yield in this country, though not far behind the unmatched harvest of 1901. But in Russia, Austria-Hungary, Germany, Roumania, Spain and Canada, besides a few countries of less importance in wheat growing, the crop of last year beat all others.

It will be noticed that of these lands which came to the highest point they ever reached in wheat production, Canada slopes is new. Some of the others are among the oldest, in point of civilization and tillage, in the world. When Spain can beat all records in growing wheat, what will be said of the predictions made, from time to time, that the world would be cropped to exhaustion in a comparatively short period, and would then become unfit to sustain such a population as it already supports? There is good cheer for those who like to look ahead into the future of the race in such facts as the increasing productivity of ancient lands like Spain and Italy. It all means that with tolerable care man will never use up the capital which the globe he inhabits has given.

TICKLISH THOUGHTS. Wright—Is your new book pure fiction? Fernan—Yes, it is. "Well, you've made a big mistake. It's the other kind that pays."—Yonkers Statesman. First Mormon—That Elder Smudge is a widower, isn't he? Second Mormon—Pretty much. About three-fourths.—New York Sun. He—My brother carries the brains of the family. She—Doesn't make him round shouldered, does it?—Yonkers Statesman. "Can I put up here tonight?" asked the needy man who was signing his name in the hotel register. The clerk, "In advance."—Chicago Tribune. "It seems he was a gay old rake, after all. Two widows have turned up, I hear." "Yes, but that's not the point. It's the 'better half' you mean, isn't it? You're the other half lives."—Philadelphia Press. "Don't open all yoh money on clothes," said Uncle Eben. "It's a good deal like spending yoh dollar for pocket book and den discoverin' dat you ain't got no mo' use for it."—Washington Star. "But, my dear husband, it really is untrue that you to abuse mothers-in-law now. There are good ones." "Well, never mind. I haven't said anything against your mother-in-law. I'm grumbling about it."—Boston Transcript. "First of all," said Dr. Price-Price, "I shall have to take your temperature." "I have been, cried the new patient. "I will be happy to have you measure my temperature everything I had, but you getter-cure me before you git your pay."—Chicago Tribune. Miss Kresch—I overheard Signor Adagio remark that I had an extraordinary voice. Miss Poppey—Yes, he did say extra ordinary, and he asked me afterward if "extra" was the same as "extraordinary."—Philadelphia Press.

A WORLD OF LITTLE THINGS.

A. J. Waterhouse in New York Times. A little trill of laughter, a chord in nature's song; A little deed of righteousness to stand against the wrong; A little duty heeded; a little honor won; A little hill surrounded, and a little kindness done; A little labor daily; a little prayer and praise; A little act of kindness to gladden weary days; And so the whole creation to its ceaseless heaven swings. For little man is living in a world of little things. A little hope to cheer us, although it waiteth still; A little fire for comfort when winter nights are chill; A little dream, God-given, to bless us on the way; A little welcome waiting us at ending of the day; A little purpose shining through every deed we do; A little bunch of roses to overspread the rug; A little peace surpassing to which the spirit clings. For little man is living in a world of little things. A little hope, a little love, a little toil and rest; A little glimpse beyond the veil, a little problem guessed; A little faith, a little doubt, a little blindef trust; A little halting journey, and a little of its end; A little knowledge merely of little ways we wend; A little dream of heaven awaiting at the end; A little struggling upward, although on broken wings. For little man is living in a world of little things.

Advertisement for J. C. Hutesson & Co. featuring an illustration of a pair of glasses. Text: THERE'S A FRAME. For every nose. You get the proper shape from us, fitted with the proper lenses. The right glasses would be wrong unless fitted before the eyes in exactly the right position. J. C. HUTESON & CO., 113 E. 16th St., Paxton Block.

Not too late. If it is not too late for you to get a Winter Overcoat we've some up-to-date Swagger Coats and regular lengths too, that are reduced. A mighty good purchase if you want one for the rest of the season and all of the next. NO CLOTHING FITS LIKE OURS. Browning, King & Co. R. S. Wilcox, Mgr.