

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss: George B. Traubach, secretary of the Bee Publishing Company.

That groundhog expects to remain two weeks longer in cold storage.

These new volcanic eruptions in Mexico indicate that the internal affairs of mother earth are still awry.

If there is anything at Lincoln the railroads want that is not in sight all they have to do is to ask for it.

John N. Baldwin and his mercenary cohorts are trying to rub it pretty hard into Omaha, but Omaha is not in a frame of mind to turn the other cheek.

The proposed new Nebraska revenue bill is now up to the printer. When the printer gets through with it the lawmakers will have another chance to get busy.

Having thrown a few bouquets at Chicago in his Washington birthday address, Senator Hoar can have himself enrolled among its patron saints if he will only give the word.

Senator Carmack vouches for all that Tillman says about the viciousness of the president's negro policy in the south.

Railroad men now declare the Elkins anti-rebate bill will do them little good unless the anti-pooling clause of the interstate law is knocked out.

If the great pardoner of Nebraska, who is detained in Seattle on important business, could only be induced to return he might give some interesting information concerning the contents of the Bartley cigar box.

The Douglas delegation to the legislature has thrown some soap to Omaha policemen in the charter revision bill, but Omaha taxpayers will get very little comfort out of the reform charter by the time the revised salary and expense lists are footed.

From now on municipal ownership will be the slogan in Omaha. If we are to vote from three to five million dollars in city bonds for the acquisition of water works we can readily add half a million more for the erection of a plant that will supply Omaha with light and power at first cost.

The democrats accuse the republicans of playing the statehood bill for politics and use that as an excuse for not playing at the game longer themselves.

Altogether too many bills have been introduced "by request" during the present session of the Nebraska legislature.

The revised charter as originally designed would have given Omaha fifteen councilmen, which is by no means too many for a city of Omaha's pretensions and dimensions.

The postoffice authorities have discontinued, at least temporarily, the rural mail delivery along a number of Indiana routes because of the impassable condition of the roads as notified to the people that if they want regular mail service they must see to it that the roads are fit for travel.

MAKING FOOLISH THREATS.

The political desperadoes employed by the railroads to overawe and bulldoze the Nebraska legislature are in a fair way to bring on a rate war that will cost the railroads millions where they are now asked to pay thousands in the shape of taxes.

John N. Baldwin of Iowa and his associate bulldozers may not be aware of the fact, but it is nevertheless true, that the freight rates in Nebraska are more than 30 per cent higher than freight rates have been in Iowa these many years.

When the Newbury bill was passed for the second time by the house in 1893 the fusion members of the senate were admonished that the re-enactment of the Newbury bill would be futile because the governor would be compelled to veto it as unreasonable and unfair to the railroads.

The decision of the supreme court of the United States does not invalidate this law. It merely declares that under conditions existing in 1894 and 1895, when Nebraska had been devastated by drouth and the Nebraska railroads had scarcely any traffic, the reduced rate was unreasonable.

The threat of raising freight rates in case taxes are increased was made in Michigan last year, but up to date has not had the desired effect. The railroads in Michigan paid in 1902 more than \$1,300,000 above the amount of taxes paid by them the year previous and yet they have not retaliated.

As a general proposition the barking dog does not bite and the yelp of the railroad canine at Lincoln is not likely to frighten Nebraska farmers.

ARE RAILROADS CAREFUL?

That is a question which the great number of railroad accidents recently suggests. The New York Sun of last Monday prints a list of a score of railroad accidents during the previous week, resulting in a number of deaths and injuries, and concludes the statement by saying: "It is recorded that the total number of persons killed on railroads in this country during the year ending June 30, 1902, was 2,819, while the number injured was 39,800. In 1901 the number of the killed and injured was even greater than this."

It seems evident from these facts that the railroads of the United States do not exercise proper care for the safety of passengers and that there is urgent need of reform in this respect. Especially is this emphasized by the fact that on all the railroads of England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales during the fifteen months ending March 31, 1902, not a single passenger was killed by a train accident.

OBJECT TO COMMISSIONERS.

The objection made by the Canadian government to two of the American commissioners on the Alaskan boundary commission—Senator Lodge and Senator Turner—will probably have no effect. It is not at all likely that the British government will assume to give such heed to the Canadian protest as to ask the president of the United States to select other men to represent this government on the commission, because to do so would be obviously an affront to the president, who must be assumed to have strictly complied with the treaty in making the appointments. It is true that both Mr. Lodge and Mr. Turner are on record as opposed to the British contention in regard to the treaty of 1825.

Both have expressed themselves in the strongest possible terms as believing that there is not the slightest foundation for the Canadian claim in regard to territory in Alaska. Yet neither of these gentlemen is incapable of being convinced if the Canadian government or its representatives on the commission to interpret the treaty between Russia and Great Britain are able to show that the

CONGRESS CONTROL OVER COMMERCE.

The decision of the supreme court of the United States in the lottery cases is of the greatest importance. The scope of its effect will not be readily understood, but it is very great and in order to a proper understanding of it the character of the cases decided must be known.

These lottery cases involve peculiar questions. In the first place there was the novel proposition that a person taking a lottery ticket from one state to another was engaged in a commercial transaction and therefore was subject to the power of congress to control and regulate interstate commerce.

This latter is really the important fact in the decision. It means that the authority of congress, under the constitutional provision relating to interstate commerce, is practically unlimited, so that congress can exclude from commerce among the states and with foreign nations whatever it may think proper.

Protecting the President.

A conference agreement has been reached at Washington and accepted by the house on the bill to protect the president, vice president and officers in line of succession. The death penalty is provided for actual assassination; death or imprisonment for at least ten years will fall to one who attempts to kill the president.

The Typewriter Trust.

The typewriter trust has maintained prices a long time, and it is said that Tim Woodruff is no trust buster. No hope, therefore, since he has been elected president of a big company. The same old song of 1900. Manufacturers say that when it can be constructed at \$15 to \$20 to sell it.

OUTGOING CLASS OF SENATORS.

Unimportant changes in individuals and politics. The thirty senators whose terms will expire next week were elected on or before 1897, and their terms began on March 4, 1897, which was the date of the first inauguration of President McKinley.

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Members of the council who voted to submit the open door power and light franchise to the vote of the people at the coming election are simply playing ostrich. Everybody in the community knows that the open door scheme was concocted by the manager of the Thomson-Houston Electric Light company to head off competition. Nobody knows better than the astute manager of the electric lighting company that capitalists will not venture to invest money in an enterprise that can be raided by anybody who may see fit to threaten a competing power canal.

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The district commissioners have had a good deal of fun over a suggestion that comes all the way from Kallipol, Mont. In regard to a new hotel for Washington, as evidence of good faith the writer sent his photograph, and in order that his idea should not be lost entirely he duplicated his communication to the president.

The suggestion is that the government erect a National Hotel in Washington, a whole block, and with each side so constructed of red, white and blue bricks as to look like a huge national flag.

Senator Hanna was recently entertaining some friends in the marble room at Washington when it occurred to him that he had been a long time absent from the senate chamber. "I must see what is going on inside," he explained, and hobbled to the door. Senator Beveridge was speaking on the statehood bill and the Ohio senator smiled and remarked as he returned to his friends: "It's all right, the Wabash is still overflowing its banks."

Half a dozen congressmen were in the democratic cloak room, the talk being of strange bequests. Congressman Fitzgerald said the oldest he ever heard of was that left by a Brooklyn man to an orphan asylum. "What was it?" asked Congressman Ryan. "Ten children," replied Fitzgerald. Then they all went to luncheon and Ryan took the check.

Incidentally, President Roosevelt reflects on his illustrious predecessors when he inveighs against small families. They have left either no families or small ones. Of the twenty-five men who have held this post in 114 years, ten have today no descendants, and of those all the Adams line has the only prolific one. And yet all our presidents were married men except Buchanan.

BITTS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot.

Colonel John P. Irish of Iowa and California, formerly an honored member of the Jacksonian club of Omaha, is down in Washington looking after his job as naval officer of the port of San Francisco.

Colonel Irish enjoys a political fight. He is a man of wit and eloquence and has a voice of thunder. In a San Francisco convention at one time he was pushing a measure which awakened some bitter opposition. His opponents began to hiss, whereupon his followers shouted rebuke.

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WHERE SMOOT IS "AT HOME."

Baltimore American.

The daring of Reed Smoot can only be appreciated when it is mentioned that his arrival at Washington was coincident with the convening of several woman's conventions.

Working Overtime.

Washington Post.

By devoting Sundays to the eulogies on the dead, the gentlemen in congress are showing a disposition to work overtime which will sooner or later attract the attention of the legislative walking delegation.

It's a Way We Have.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

An inspired Austrian newspaper remarks that the United States has gained "great political success in the Venezuelan trouble." Did you ever know the United States to gain anything but success when it buckled down to business?

The Discriminating Heavens.

Buffalo Express.

The representative of a Korean firm has just arrived at the United States for the purpose of placing an order for a large stock of idols. This, undoubtedly, means that the Koreans believe American-made idols can do more and better work than those of any other make.

Approach of the Millennium.

St. Louis Republic.

If dreams of the scientists should ever be realized they will become only a memory or a supposition. In order to live forever it will only be necessary to keep formalin and salicylic solution in the house and have a surgeon in the neighborhood, so that operations for appendicitis may be performed on demand. It will then be up to the railroads to make this world an Elysium.

Protecting the President.

New York World.

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THE OLD RELIABLE ROYAL MAKING POWDER Absolutely Pure THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE

CANADA FILES A KICK. Philadelphia Press: The Canadians are said to have protested to the British government against the appointment of Senators Lodge and Turner as commissioners to investigate the Alaskan boundary. This is a strange proceeding. The Canadians have set up a claim without warrant, and now want apparently to fix up the American commission to decide on the claim. New York Sun: We understand that Canadian objection to Senator Lodge and Senator Turner as members of the Alaska Boundary commission rests solely upon the fact that these statesmen are supposed to believe at present in the soundness of the American case. It would be strange if the fact were otherwise. It would be equally strange if our friends in the Dominion should now be heard demanding that the three commissioners representing the British government be Canadians or Englishmen who have absolutely no opinions on the subject. Philadelphia Ledger: While it is not clear how such a protest can be maintained, the grounds of objection are easily understood. Senator Turner, in particular, has been rather offensive in his denunciation of the Canadian claims, and neither senator belongs to that class of "gentlemen" presumably contemplated by the treaty whose dispassionate consideration of the evidence before them would carry conviction to the impartial mind. Mr. Root will probably have to do the work and the senators will wave the flag. With a Canadian eye or two on the other side, the proceedings of the joint commission will at least be interesting, even if not conclusive. Montreal Gazette: Washington dispatches indicate that the United States members of the commission on the Alaskan boundary dispute will be Mr. Root, the secretary of war, with Mr. Lodge, a senator from Massachusetts, and Mr. Turner, a senator from the state of Washington. Mr. Root is an acute lawyer, bound by his position to give up nothing. Mr. Lodge is a jingo New Englander, who will give up nothing in any case. Mr. Turner represents a community interested in Alaskan trade, who would probably destroy his political future if he consented to a retreat from the extension of his country. They represent the take part of the combination. If there is any give it will be on the British side.

PERSONAL NOTES. President Roosevelt easily surpasses all former presidents in the matter of a family turnover. President Mitchell of the miners' union refuses to lecture. He seems to have the singular notion that his time belongs to his employees. Booker T. Washington's advice to the colored race is to buy land, raise crops and save money. This kind of advice is equally good for whites as well as blacks. The sultan is preparing to transport troops to the Balkans. He should remember the maneuvers of the king of France and his 29,000 men on a memorable occasion. Previous to his death, which occurred last week, Policeman G. W. McNally of Philadelphia obtained from his wife a promise that she would keep his body in the house ten days without burial, mourning his loss meanwhile. Mrs. McNally is religiously keeping her promise. With the probably unrivaled record of having traveled 1,500,000 miles, Jacob M. Zebley will be placed on the pension roll of the Pennsylvania railroad on March 1, after fifty-six years of continuous service as baggage master. Zebley, who is 76 years old, began his career on the railroad in 1847. Several of those formerly classed as "energetic" business men of St. Louis' just died the local atmosphere dangerous to their health and are responding to hurried calls to move to more congenial climate. The activity of the grand jury in probing into fake corporations accelerates the pace out of town. Mrs. W. H. Bradley, the chief actress in a sensational deathbed marriage ceremony at Milwaukee, by which she became the wife of the eccentric capitalist whose name she now bears, has been awarded \$500 a month pending the settlement of disputes over her husband's estate. The property left by deceased is appraised at \$700,000. C. S. Darrow was lately announced as the candidate for mayor of Chicago on account of his championship of labor unionism and his leanings toward socialism and Henry Geoghegan, in order to head him off Mayor Harrison is said to have made an alliance with William R. Hearst, in accordance with which Hearst will help Harrison to a fourth term, and Harrison will back Hearst's ambitions in national politics, whatever they may be. Judge Shiras, who has just retired as a justice of the supreme court, gains \$2,500 a year by the passage of the bill increasing the salaries of the members of that tribunal. He wished to retire some months ago, but the death of Justice Gray delayed the acceptance of his resignation. meantime the increase of salary became effective and he will receive \$12,500 a year during the remainder of his life. The New Orleans Picayune loving cup, which is annually awarded through the New Orleans Progressive union for the most meritorious public benefactor in that city during the year, has been given for 1902 to Mr. Isadore Newman, head of the banking firm of Isidore Newman, Sr. & Sons, because of his donation of a manual training school to the Jewish Orphans' Home. The amount he gave was about \$40,000. His other public benefits to the city have been many and generous. PASSING PLEASANTIES. "Do you keep rubber hose?" "Well, madam, we have some in light red and green, which are almost sure to attract attention."—Frisson Dier. "You think I make some pretty bad meals, don't you, Fred?" asked the young wife. "Yes, dear," replied the husband kindly. "But they're not like the breakfast mother used to make."—Yonkers Statesman. "You think I make some pretty bad meals, don't you, Fred?" asked the young wife. "Yes, dear," replied the husband kindly. "But they're not like the breakfast mother used to make."—Yonkers Statesman. An Episcopal clergyman of Cincinnati was being shaved by a barber who was addicted to the most morbidly morose of temperaments. The pastor said to the barber: "Just as you shave the parson's face quite comfortably." "You see, Jackson, that comes from taking too much drink," said the man of God. "Yes, mah," replied Jackson, "it makes do with my gent's ash." "It do for a fact."—Saxby's Magazine. "Smith—So you're going to get a divorce from Dinah? On what grounds?" "Hate—Incomprehensibility of temperament," said in other words, Dinah make it too hot for me.—New York Times. "They're after you," said the first dog, "and they're not like the breakfast mother used to make."—Yonkers Statesman. "I know, replied the alleged mad dog, "and I'm trying to lay low in the hope that they'll examine his accounts and find some extraordinary circumstances."—Philadelphia Press. "South America is ahead of all the rest of the earth," said the boastful patriot. "Quite so," said the justice of so broad a claim. "The rest of the earth claims only one revolution a day, and this is the annual for us to ring up five or six before breakfast."—Washington Star. "They thought he was dead, yob know, and all the papers printed obituary notices." "And then?" "Then they turned up, and since he's read those notices he's too proud to speak to anyone."—Chicago Post. SINCE WE GOT THE MORTGAGE PAID. R. F. Greene in Wall Street Journal. We've done a lot of scrippin' an' livin' hand-to-mouth. We've drouth, too, wet weather an' we've worried over drouth. For the thing kept drowin' in't rest, whether crops were good or bad. An' 'ratin' much or little, seemed it swallowed an' we had. The women folks says savin' an' there ain't a bit of doubt. But that things they really needed lots of times they done without. So we're breathin' somewhat easy, an' we're feelin' more contented since we got the mortgage paid. I wish I'd kept a record of the things that mortgagins do. In principal an' interest from battin' in down to date. A hundred dozen of chickens, likely fowls with yellow legs. A thousand dozens of butter, an' twelve hundred dozen eggs. Some four or five good wheat crops and at least one crop of corn. An' out's an' it's all swallowed in its lifetime sure's your born. Besides the wabash savin', ere its appetite was stayed? So we're feelin' more contented since we got the mortgage paid. We've reached the point, I reckon, where we've got a right to rest. An' lo' around an' visit, wear our g-to-g-to's. Neglectin' nothin' urgent, understand. But simply slowin' down by bits an' restin' in the race. In time I'll get the windmill I've been wantin', I suppose. The girls can have their organ, an' we'll all wear better clothes. For we've always pulled together, while we've saved an' scrippin' an' prayed. An' it seems there's more to work for since we got the mortgage paid.

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