

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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THE COMING ISSUE.

"Our republican friends," remarks the Brooklyn Eagle, "will find themselves put on the aggressive or defensive, both this year and next year, on tariff questions and they will do well to choose which role betimes. It will not be postponed. It will not be silenced. We do not presume any republican statesman expects to avoid the tariff issue."

COERCION OF BREAD WINNERS.

When the allied corporations brought all the machinery at their command to bear upon wage workers on their pay-rolls to force the nomination of the delegation which has so flagrantly misrepresented Douglas county in the legislature they furnished Omaha an object lesson of corporate misrule. The question is, Will the bread winners of Omaha allow themselves to be dragged and coerced into supporting the corporation ticket with an anti-machine label at the republican primaries?

WHERE ARE THEY AT?

Where are the republican members of the Real Estate exchange who have battled so valiantly for equitable taxation in the irrepressible conflict between Omaha and the allied corporations? Are they going to support delegates in the republican primary for the most part selected by the corporations to nominate candidates dictated by the corporations?

WHO CONTROLS THE POLICE?

The high-handed procedure of W. J. Broatch in ordering the police to close certain saloons and allow other saloons to remain open suggests the inquiry as to who is in control of the police. The law declares that the chief of police shall have the supervision and control of the police and it is further expressly provided by law that the mayor shall have the superintending control of all officers of the city, except when otherwise specially provided.

BY FORCE OR BY FRAUD?

The corporation cohorts masquerading as anti-machine purifiers openly boast that they are determined to carry the republican primaries at all hazards. They make no secret of it that they will carry those primaries by force or by fraud, cost what it may. Some of the most radical leaders of this faction have gone so far as to openly declare themselves in favor of stealing the primaries by fraudulent count and certification if they cannot be carried any other way.

ONE OF THE GREAT AMERICANS.

Philadelphia Ledger. The American Philosophical society's plan to celebrate in 1906 the two hundred anniversary of the birth of Franklin, the great founder of the society, is particularly appropriate and happy. A signer of the declaration of independence, a stout patriot on every occasion, a man of vast resources, whose labors in the constitutional convention it is impossible to overestimate; a wise and skillful diplomatist, who was instrumental in bringing about the French alliance without which the history of the world might have been different; a sage, counselor, wit and man of the world, he shows in his life and career how it is possible to start with nothing and from some insignificant beginnings to rise to the heights of "winning the world" and gain immortal fame.

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Washington climate is not the kind that would capture the first prize as a promoter of longevity. For variety and fickleness it stands near the head of the class and can put up a brand of fog with Potomac trimmings rivaling the best efforts of New York. Nature thus strives to make the population gathered from all quarters of the republic feel "at home" some time. The effect on humanity has not been reduced to official statistics, but the fact that it can produce a deep shade of green on exposed persons without its energy and strength. A matter of common remark among visitors is the fact that the statue of Andrew Jackson in Lafayette Square, just opposite the White House, is discolored with verdigris, which not only streaks the marble pedestal, but mottles the charger beneath. It is noted that the statue is cocked hat uplifted, as if acknowledging the cheers of his soldiers. The verdigris comes from the bronze of the equestrian figure. The statue of Lafayette on the southeast corner of the square is similarly discolored, although not to the same extent.

Large Field to Work In.

Philadelphia Record. In the latter days of this month a German commission will arrive in this country to make a thorough tour of investigation of its agricultural conditions. According to the program of the commission it will travel over a distance of 14,000 miles and make a study of everything relating to American agricultural production from the east to the Pacific coast. No where on this planet could such a commission find so vast a field of investigation.

Consider the Lobster.

St. Louis Republic. England's and France's greatest statesmen are now engaged in determining the incipient question whether a lobster is or is not a fish. Bound up with this are international treaties and fisheries rights relating to Newfoundland. It has been shown beyond question that a lobster is a sucker, and would seem to support the contention that he is a fish.

Great Week for Teachers.

Philadelphia Press. Last week was a great one for the school teachers of Pennsylvania. The legislature decided that they should not be compelled to work for less than \$45 a month and a day of honor. This was a sea of money for school directors who demand a part of the pay which the teachers earn shall go to jail. These are distinct evidences of civilization.

Omaha's Place in Divorce Statistics.

New York Tribune. There are now 61,338 divorced people in the United States, of whom 22,205 are women. The reason for such an excess of women is explained on the theory that divorced men are more apt to remarry than divorced women. There are very few cities in which the number of divorced men is greater or even equal to the number of divorced women. Omaha is the most conspicuous, for among its inhabitants are 249 men and 236 women who have been separated from their conjugal mates by the courts.

The President's Industry.

New York Sun. As the present series of presidential speeches broadens and grows in print, wonder increases at the marvelous industry manifested in the undertaking; for these important utterances on so many and such varied subjects, and so perfectly adapted to thought and argument, and even polished in literary form, not in a period of comparative leisure, but during the stress of a session of congress that crowded Mr. Roosevelt's hours with exacting duties and unavoidable cares.

Profits from Public Utilities.

Springfield Republican. That ridiculous and most expensive dinner on horseback given in an upper room of a fashionable New York restaurant recently by C. K. G. Billings is being used, probably with effect, in some of the western city elections on behalf of public ownership of street monopolies. Billings is president of the People's Gas Light and Coke company of Chicago, and Mayor Harrison of that city has been making his audience how they like the idea of contributing in their light bills to enrich private individuals who go to New York to spend their monopoly profits in horse dinners and the like. The response from the audience is generally such as to indicate that they do not like it at all.

Humiliating Missouri.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat. The grand jury at Jefferson city has dropped from the \$1,000 to \$500 class. If the jury goes any lower the disclosures are likely to be humiliating.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Secretary Root does more work than a trust magnate and gets only \$8,000 a year for his services. President Kruger will leave Mentone, Italy, for Holland at the end of April. He is in excellent health. China's new minister was accompanied to Washington by forty-two Chinese diplomats and a carload of Oriental rugs. Hetty Green has surpassed all of the New York millionaires in eccentricity by refusing to pay taxes on her pet dog. Jules Simon, one of France's greatest political figures during the second empire, will shortly be honored by a monument. Ogden Van Vleet, only 24 years old, has been elected general secretary of the Christian Endeavor societies. He lives in Wisconsin. The czar of Russia intends to supplement the reforms he has just announced by abolishing the punishment of political prisoners by exile to Siberia. William Pickens, the negro student who has been awarded the Ten Eyck prize at Yale for excellence in public speaking, was one of thirty-seven juniors who entered the contest. The oration which won him such honor was a masterly effort on political and economic conditions in Egypt and the Levant, in which the colored race should draw therefrom. Pickens' home is Little Rock, Ark., where his father is a storekeeper.

Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot.

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Why are the railroads and the franchised corporations all lined up together for a change in the mayor's office?

It is because of benevolent impulses toward the common citizen and every day taxpayer or is it because they know they can get more privileges at the expense of the taxpaying citizens only by getting rid of the present mayor, who has persisted in protecting the public interests at every turn?

Partial and extremely unfair ruling on the part of the factional judges of the republican primary election may be expected.

It should be remembered by these judges that they are subject to the provisions and penalties of the general election law. In receiving, marking and counting ballots they should and will be held to a strict accountability.

Waterston's Plea for the Boys in the Trenches.

Louisville Courier-Journal. The editor of the Courier-Journal was fighting trust and distrust when Mr. Bryan was creeping like a snail unwillingly to school; nor was he using bows and arrows against Mauer rifles, either. On the lines of the Chicago platform of 1896 and the Kansas City platform of 1900, Mr. Bryan led the party to a disastrous defeat, meeting a dwindling, not a rising vote. On those lines the republicans would be assured of a victory each succeeding four years to the end of the century. The Courier-Journal urges the party to turn its back upon the discontents which brought defeat, to plant its feet upon high and solid ground, to set its face resolutely to the future and the foe, this obsolete, ill-judging, self-important youth-grown rich as a candidate for office, full of the bravado of his conceit and inexperience—has the effrontery to question our fidelity and our sincerity. Mr. Bryan speaks disdainfully of money. Money is as useful to political battles as powder and ball to real battles. Does Mr. Bryan think that Mr. Tilden was less a democrat because he was a rich man? That is the meaning of what he says: If a man is not a pauper he is a republican. In Mr. Bryan's vocabulary democracy and defeat are synonymous terms. The movement a democrat looks like a winner Mr. Bryan begins to hate and abuse him. The boys are mighty tired of it. They are hungry and thirsty. They can see nothing in what Mr. Bryan is driving at but continued discussion, hopeless division and certain defeat. If Mr. Bryan has his way, it is another drubbing in 1904. If he does not get it, he means to bolt. After he has done this both wings of the party will stand even, and then they may get together. Before that, however, some of us will be dead.

Smiling Lines.

Gayboy—Now, if the steak had only been as sweet and tender as you! Cashier—And if the butter had only been as fresh as you!—New York Sun. "Is he rich?" "Is he poor?" "Is he dear sir, he's rich enough to feel at ease in the United States senate."—Chicago Post. The Agent—I have a chronometer here which will tell the millionth part of a second of time. The Busy Man—I haven't got that much time to give you. —Washington Statesman. Green—What are you doing now? Brown—Running a grocery store. Green—Making a success of it? Brown—Well, yes—in a small way.—Chicago News. Fumer—Gee whizz! What sort of a cigar is this? Giver—Oh! I bought it for a nickel. I don't just recall the brand, but I think it was named after some bum actor. Fumer—Running a grocery store? Giver—No wonder it won't draw.—Philadelphia Press. "Your brother took the civil service examination, but he failed to guess the correct answer to a single question." "Fumer—Running a grocery store?" "Made him a weather prophet."—St. Louis Republic. Monroe had just framed his wonderful doctrine and set the nations trembling. "And mother is coming to visit us." "I wasn't speaking, Angelina," he said. "You—your misunderstanding me."—Chicago Tribune. THE BABY. George MacDonald. Where did you come from, baby dear? Out of the everywhere into the here. Where did you get your eyes so blue? Out of the sky as I came through. What makes the light in them sparkle and glint? Some of the starry sparkles left in. Where did you get that little tear? I found it waiting when I got here. What makes your forehead so smooth and high? A soft hand stroked it as I went by. What makes your cheek like a warm, wet toad? Something better than anyone knows. Whence that three-cornered smile of bliss? Three angels gave me at once a kiss. Where did you get that pearly ear? God spoke and it came out to hear. Where did you get those arms and hands? Love made itself into hooks and bands. Feet, whence did you come, you darling child? From the same box as the cherubs' wings. How did they all just come to you? God thought about me and so I grew. But how did you come to me, my dear? God thought of you, and so I am here.

THE GIANT STEEL TRUST.

How It Absorbs Small Concerns and Controls the Market. Wall Street Journal. The United States Steel corporation has approximately 62,000 shareholders. Of the total number over 34,000 are preferred shareholders and 27,000 holders of the common stock. This is an increase of 5,000 within three months, with the increase approximately divided into 2,000 preferred and 3,000 common shareholders. If the present rate of increase is maintained the total number of United States Steel shareholders will within two years reach 100,000, which is the maximum figure predicted by an official of the Steel corporation. In the past year the National Tube company has effected savings of about \$200,000 annually in salaries of the export department. The removal of the export department to Pittsburgh and combining it with the domestic sales departments saved about \$100,000, while the resignations of two successive presidents, who had been drawing high salaries, and the promotion of lower officials, with slight increases in salary without filling their places, with a few other changes made up about \$100,000 more. It is reported that the Tube company president formerly got \$50,000. Similar changes have been going on in other subsidiary companies in the Steel corporation. The main changes are due to the simplifying of the buying and new construction departments. Formerly the greatest ability was required in the buying of pig iron, each company making such purchases requiring a high-priced man to look after it. Now this is done for the whole corporation by one man. Proposed enlargements and improvements are passed on by Steel corporation officials and the presidents of all the subsidiary companies. In the selling end there have been changes, but they are not all chargeable to saving, since much of the change has been in the direction of selling more to the large jobbers, part of the saving being given to such jobbers at a lower price. Some of these subsidiaries now have, for their principal product, probably less than 100 customers each. Independent manufacturers are now in several lines competitors of the jobbers buying from the corporation, rather than competitors of the corporation itself. The sale of the Crucible Steel company to the United States Steel company revived rumors that the Jones & Laughlin company will be the next independent concern to go. It is known in inner circles that the Jones & Laughlin people have been offered a price in 5 per cent gold bonds for their plant, but they feel that it is worth more and until the sum is raised by the Steel corporation there will be no further negotiation. The sale of the Crucible Steel company to the United States Steel company revived independent manufacturers of the United States Steel company for material.

CONCLUSION REACHED FROM THE "STANFORD" POINT OF VIEW.

Philadelphia Press. The address which Secretary Root delivered in Boston on Thursday is well worth attention. Speaking to the Home Market club, which is devoted to upholding the protective tariff, he naturally gave special attention to that subject. Under the operation of the commercial system embodied in the tariff law the people of the United States are living more comfortably and happily than any other great mass of people in the history of the world. But, a Mr. Root says, there may be need of tariff revision, though "it should not be undertaken until it becomes a real necessity." As soon as the revision is decided a business uncertainty follows, therefore Mr. Root thinks that "it should be done only when congress is as free as possible from the distractions and temptations of an active political campaign," and that will be after the presidential election. The revision, when made, must be made by his friends of the tariff if the protective principle is to be maintained. If not, and the prosperity of the nation is to be reversed as happened under the Cleveland administration, then the democratic party should be allowed to wreak its vengeance again on the protective tariff. Mr. Root hints of Georgia, who was on of President Cleveland's cabinet officials, said in New York on Monday: "Our people are making money. The farmers are making money, and we want that condition of affairs to continue." It necessarily follows that it will not continue if a party that has opposed everything done to bring about this great prosperity secures power and proceeds to tear the tariff to pieces and undo things generally. The fact that the democrats are advocating a "revenue tariff" while at the same time admitting the undeniable prosperity that now exists, demonstrates their incompetency to govern the country. Tariff changes can only be made safe by the republicans. That is equally true of the currency and other important questions. The record of the democratic party on these questions has been that of disaster. The free trade and free silver element of the party controls it. But both factions oppose a protective tariff.

SMILING LINES.

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