

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, Douglas County, etc., George E. Tischuck, Secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, hereby avows,

says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of April, 1903, was as follows:

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5.....	31,920	15.....	31,500
6.....	31,609	16.....	31,250
7.....	31,650	17.....	31,400
8.....	31,710	18.....	31,510
9.....	31,650	19.....	31,740
10.....	31,680	20.....	31,750
11.....	31,750	21.....	31,670
12.....	31,720	22.....	30,000
13.....	31,750	23.....	31,620
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Net average sales..... 959,644

George E. TISCHUCK.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of March, A. D., 1903. M. E. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

(Seal)

Ak-Sar-Ben greets America's chief magistrate.

General Tyner pleads indiscretion on the part of his wife. Only another case of Adam.

Now that Governor Mickey has named the South Omaha police commission, we shall see what we shall see.

The Thomson-Houston Electric Light company can safely trust Mr. Wright. He is a safe man for the corporations.

A recruiting office for young boomers is to be opened where they will be initiated into the mysteries of getting rich quick on the installment plan.

Pound the tom-tom! Sound the timbrel for the spontaneous boomer candidate who proposes to administer the affairs of Omaha on the installment plan.

It is to be hoped that the Omaha Business Men's association will do some calm thinking on its own account before it sends its ultimatum to the labor unions.

The bond propositions to be submitted to the voters are for public improvements demanded by Omaha's growth. People who believe in progress will vote for them.

You can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear. A copy of the red letter fake printed on satin is not likely to impress President Roosevelt as a metropolitan newspaper.

Mr. Benson wants it understood that his tour among the Third world bear halls was forced upon him in order to disprove the outrageously false report that he is a prohibitionist.

In his latest effusion the boomer candidate for mayor declares himself most emphatically in favor of an ordinance that would prohibit lying. Why not begin with the Benson red letter fake?

The prince of Wales is not coming to view the St. Louis exposition, but the St. Louis exposition will be held on schedule time just the same as if the prince had consented to exhibit himself.

When a public officer gets mixed up with boulders in Missouri he is indicted and sent to the pen, but in Nebraska he very rarely has any trouble in getting a vindication from the courts and an endorsement from political conventions.

There is a slumbering volcano beneath the Illinois state capital that is liable to break out any hour and engulf the legislative boulders and boisterous distributors connected with the municipal franchise scandal in one common grave.

The old political law firm of T. J. Mahoney and Constantine J. Smyth is not as far apart as it would seem at first blush. Mahoney has declared for Howell, but as two gold democrat votes for Benson are equal to one silver democrat vote for Howell, the ultimate object is peace without a telescope.

Governor Lafollette has sent a special message to the Wisconsin legislature in which he recommends that a bill be introduced and passed requiring the state bank examiner to make a careful examination of the books of the companies doing business in Wisconsin to see if they are really paying a license fee on their gross earnings, and incidentally Governor Lafollette calls attention to the fact that in Minnesota under a law similar to the one which he desires to have enacted in Wisconsin nearly five hundred million dollars in gross earnings that had not been assessed were discovered, making a net gain to the state of something over \$147,000 in taxes. Governor Lafollette's message is suggestive of corporation tax shirking methods in Nebraska.

LABOR UNION INCORPORATION.

The proposition that labor unions should be incorporated has some support. There are instances in which such organizations have asked for incorporation, though these are rare and exceptional. Whether they will become more numerous and general in the future is a question, but from present indications it is not likely that they will. The idea of those who propose incorporation is that it will make the unions responsible for whatever they may do and that this will have a restraining effect upon their administration and conduct.

The general—we may say the practically unanimous—sentiment among members of the labor unions is opposed to incorporation. We do not know of any leader of labor in the country who is in favor of the proposition. One of the foremost men in this relation in the country, Mr. Clark, the grand chief of the Order of Railway Conductors, who was a member of the anthracite coal strike commission, has in a published article taken a very decided position against the incorporation proposition. His view is that capital gains well-defined advantage by incorporation which could have no analogy in the case of labor. In his view those who desire the incorporation of labor unions do so for the purpose of holding the union responsible for losses that might occur to others, as a result of a strike which the members of the union might inaugurate.

Mr. Clark makes a very plausible if not an altogether conclusive argument against the proposition that there should be an incorporation of labor unions. It is one of those questions which are not to be determined off-hand, but require very careful and considerate attention. There is much to be said on both sides and the objections which are made by the labor unions are unquestionably of a generally sound and logical nature. Abstractly considered, perhaps it would be well if the unions had the greater responsibility which would be involved in incorporation. Mr. Clark says that an "incorporated labor union could be and should be held responsible for the acts of its chosen officers and agents, and the members of the union would have to look to their officers and agents to see that no unlawful act is authorized." It is not to be doubted that this would be a very considerable advantage in the interest of industrial peace, but in order to make such a policy entirely fair and just it would seem to be necessary to accord organized labor rights and privileges which it is not now regarded as possessing.

The question is certainly a most interesting one and it seems likely to grow in attention as the labor issue becomes more acute. At this time the consensus of opinion in the circles of organized labor is very strongly against the incorporation idea, but it is by no means improbable that there will be a change in this sentiment within the next few years.

RUSSIAN PROMISE AND PERFORMANCE

Those who have been long familiar with the tricky and unscrupulous policy of the Russian government will not be at all surprised regarding its latest development in China. While that government had given the most unqualified assurances of its intention to withdraw its military forces from Manchuria and to maintain in that territory the open door principle in trade, it is now seen that its purpose was simply to more firmly intrench itself in that portion of China and when it felt itself to be secure to practically renounce all it had promised and assert complete control of the richest and most commercially valuable portion of the Chinese empire.

In accomplishing this the Russian government has pursued, it appears, its proverbial course.

The Benson fakery, which is notoriously afflicted with an impediment of veracity, has evidently forgotten the explanation made in its own columns only a few days ago concerning the action of the police in dispersing a socialist gathering on the same spot. But fakes are water on the Bensonite will and will so continue to be until the bubble candidate shares the fate of the lamented bubble bank and is relegated among the other political bric-a-brac preserved to illustrate a memorable chapter in Omaha's checkered and multi-colored political history.

The State Board of Assessment for 1903 will convene in the very near future to assess the railroads of Nebraska for the coming year, and it is to be hoped that it will not be necessary for any citizen to make an appeal to the board to assess the franchises of those corporations as well as their tangible property. It may not, however, be out of place for The Bee to jog the memory of the state assessors to recall the fact that Nebraska's forced contribution to the railroads in the shape of freight and passenger tonnage aggregated \$31,641,783 for the year 1901, and will at the lowest estimate exceed \$35,000,000 for the fiscal year 1902-3. Whether the State Board of Assessment will be disposed to take these figures as the basis of the franchise value of the roads when it makes the assessment remains to be seen.

The local democratic organ is at great pains to point out the inconsistency of the United States to preserve the open door in China had failed so far as Manchuria is concerned. There will be protests, undoubtedly, against the arbitrary and unscrupulous course of Russia, but as now seems probable they will not amount to anything. Steadily and surely power has been strengthening her position in the Chinese empire, or in that portion of it which is under Russian control, and the best opinion is that this control is now so firmly established that it will hardly be possible to interfere with it.

Thus it would seem that all the efforts of the United States to preserve the open door in China had failed so far as Manchuria is concerned. There will be protests, undoubtedly, against the arbitrary and unscrupulous course of Russia, but as now seems probable they will not amount to anything. Steadily and surely power has been

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As the day of election approaches the allied corporations are beginning to show their hand in the municipal contest. While the corporation clackers are still pounding the hewgag and rending the air for Benson, the trustees on the corporation pay roll are carrying on a still hunt and industriously plugging for Howell.

In spite of all precautions taken to cover their tracks, the men detailed for this delicate work have been discovered making a house-to-house canvass among the laboring men in several wards and especially among the unsophisticated foreigners who do not comprehend the issues involved and know very little about the relations of the candidates to the corporations.

The perilous activity of the police board in the preliminary part of the campaign in favor of Edward E. Howell at the democratic primaries and against Frank E. Moores at the republican pri-

maries is a matter of common notoriety. It has been so ordered by the corporations. The display of enthusiasm on the part of Broatch and the police contingent detailed for political work for Benson was also in conformity with orders, but within forty-eight hours several of the police purifiers have changed front and are now putting in ten hours a day in a systematic canvas for Howell.

This is only the prelude of what is coming. It does not take a prophet to foresee that within three days before election every corporation worker who has been cheering for Benson may be expected to drop the mask and put in his hardest licks for the preferred candidate of the corporations. The pretenses for the desertion of the stalking-horse will not be wanting.

A Striking Difference.

Philadelphia Record.

Mr. Bryan can keep himself before the public only by attacking Mr. Cleveland. Mr. Bryan was defeated twice and Mr. Cleveland was elected twice, and hence the fury of the Nebraska.

A Difference We Can Stand.

Boston Herald.

The chief difference that the British workingmen who came to this country to compare their condition with ours unanimously agree upon is that there is less liquor consumed by our working classes than is the case abroad.

Success of the Solemn Man.

Washington Post.

Look about you, gentle reader, and consider the solemn ass in every walk of life. Who so respected, so admired, so influential? He never takes sides. He never is a partisan. He goes along with knitted brow, his thoughts too deep for utterance. Smaller men may abandon themselves to hasty inclinations, to rash preferences, to robust views. He never does. If he speaks at all it is with such profound and circumlocution and complexity that the most recalcitrant cryptogram ever rescued from a pyramid would seem to burst of innocent meaning. He wears fine raiment every day. He enjoys the respect and confidence of the community. He prospers, the oil of opulence anoints him. He is the incarnation of success.

Plain People Doing the Trusts.

Kansas City Star.

Mr. Bryan's plain people continue to be the prey of the trusts and of Wall street capitalists in general. Some of them have much influence, and they are sorely tempted by the financiers to sell their stock for big fees or other other consideration.

Pettigrew long ago accepted a fee of something like \$400,000 from President Hill, the same Hill who since then organized the Northern Securities merger.

Mr. Moses C. Wetmore continues to bleed the trusts for large considerations in the way of removing competition. Senator Stone has not been above accepting a good fee for his crusade against oil men, in which a trust was the prime mover. Ex-Governor Hogg is rapidly becoming embarrassingly wealthy, and now comes the news that Mr. George Washington, the plain person who once refused to wear a spittoon* in Washington, has paid \$300,000 for promoting the interests of big concerns recently financed in New York. If Mr. Bryan sticks to the old platforms he will have to get new platforms to talk to the victims of the octopus.

PRESIDENT IN THE PARK.

What the Vacation in Yellowstone's Fastnesses Means.

Chicago Tribune.

The president has emerged from Yellowstone park after his two weeks' stay in its wilds and amid its wonders. His play time is over, and now, instead of communing with "the visible forms of nature" without responsibility of conventions, he must commune with the visible forms of people, face the responsibility and pay proper deference to the conventions. Undoubtedly to a man of the president's makeup new physical vigor and strenuous habit of life the last two weeks have been specially enjoyable. He has been a privileged spectator of geysers, hot springs, mud volcanoes, palm pots, the marvels of Hell's Half Acre, and the glories of the Yellowstone canyon.

He has been followed by admiring herds of elk and gorged by mountain sheep and goats. With every bird and one he has been on terms of acquaintance, and to that one stranger his comrade, John Burroughs, gave him introduction. He has had twenty-mile walks by himself, and what twenty miles of walking on the beaten ways of the Yellowstone park means only those who have tried one mile will tell.

In those two weeks the president must have accumulated sufficient of nature's toll for the rest of the tour. To the ordinary tourist who rushes through the park by schedule, there is something wonderfully exhilarating in its pure, clear, bracing air. It is one of the few breathing spots not yet tainted by man.

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The Bensonite has now easily accessible the park's limit, and connecting drives should be laid out, so that it will be possible for tourists easily to reach some of the wonders which now are only accessible by horseback or by long tramping on foot, involving the necessity of camping. If the president's visit had had no other result than to call public attention and the attention of congress to this wonderland it would be hard to believe that it will not be possible to interfere with it.

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