

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 13th day of May, A. D. 1903.

Every little windstorm becomes a tornado on close acquaintance.

Governor Pennybacker by this time doubtless wishes that he hadn't.

In the meantime the book publishers combine has a cinch on the reading public and its members are pushing it to a finish.

"Is poverty an obstacle or an opportunity?" asks a contributor to one of the current magazines.

The Pennsylvania railroad is harvesting telegraph poles all along its roadway and the crop promises to exceed anything in the line ever known in this or any other country.

Insurance statistics show that women are longer lived than men. In other words men are required to fight a more strenuous battle of life and the casualties cannot be avoided.

The suppression of news about outrages and outbreaks by Russia and Turkey again emphasizes the truth that there can be no real liberty without the freedom of the press.

The woods are full of political soothsayers and mind readers in these days. Even such close mouthed men as J. Pierpont Morgan and E. H. Harriman cannot successfully conceal their thoughts or keep their own counsel.

If Senator Clark of Montana should really be precipitated into the presidential race as the democratic nominee, the platform would, of course, have to be expurgated of the word plutocracy and speak mighty softly when referring to the money power.

Congressman Littlefield of Maine denies the soft impeachment that he believes members of congress are under worked and over paid and that "in the future he will accept only \$2,500 a year from the government for his services."

That reminds us that Fourth Assistant Postmaster General Britlow, who is reaping most of the prestige from the probing of Postoffice department abuses, is the very man whose scalp the spoils-men were going to have a few months ago and whose place they were going to fill with a certain ex-congressman who could be relied on to stand in with them.

The pretext for depriving the people of Omaha of the right of home rule in the fire and police departments by vesting the appointment of police board members in the governor was to take the departments entirely out of politics. The pulling and hauling now on for the impending police commission vacancy, if course, proves that there is no politics in it.

There are radicals among the organized employers just as there are radicals among the organized wage workers. The trades unions that have accomplished the most and stand the best are those that have been conservative in leadership and policies.

Permanent results for the organized employers will have to come from conservatism and not from radicalism.

The prospects for the renomination of Mayor Low of New York are said to be growing more favorable from week to week. The people of the metropolis will soon have a chance to say whether they prefer to go back to Tammany rule. Tammany is a power, but it will be surprising if it proves powerful enough to get the government of the big city back under its grasp.

AFTER THE STORM COMES A CALM.

Now that the excitement incident to Omaha's labor troubles is gradually subsiding a calm dispassionate view of the battleground and the combatants may be indulged in without adding fuel to the fire.

In many respects the strike has been deplorable, but after all some good will come out of it. Omaha has by no means been isolated as a strike center, but it has furnished to the country an object lesson—a that a resort to military force to maintain law and order is not necessary in a well governed city.

While business rivals have sought to profit by the labor troubles in Omaha in industriously circulating sensational reports of mob violence and insecurity of life and property no city in the country of equal population has been as free from lawlessness and disturbance as has Omaha since the first day of May.

The mistake the business men of Omaha have made was in setting their faces against a rational consideration of the industrial conditions that have become a part of twentieth century progress. Their refusal to consider or entertain proposals for arbitration are in marked contrast with the course pursued by the business men of Denver in dealing with precisely the same controversies.

There were twice as many workmen out on a strike in Denver as there were in Omaha. The Business Men's alliance of Denver is more compact and better organized than the Business Men's association of Omaha, but the Denver merchants and manufacturers cheerfully submitted their case to arbitration and have settled all differences with the striking workmen within ten days.

In this connection we invite attention to the able and impartial analysis of the labor situation in Omaha by the New York Independent, a conservative paper published in the environment and atmosphere of organized capital, which we reprint on this page.

The article in question was evoked by the rejection of the arbitration proposals submitted by the Omaha Central Labor union and the subject is handled from the point of view of recognizing stubborn facts as more potential than fine spun theories.

When the smoke of battle has entirely cleared away, the mistaken policy by which conciliation and arbitration was repelled by the executive committee of the Business Men's association will, we believe, be manifest to all who have had practical experience in dealing with labor problems under modernized industrial conditions.

TO EVEN SILVER AND GOLD.

The American commission on international exchange, which went to Europe the past week, is expected to bring about important results affecting the monetary relations between gold-standard and silver-standard countries.

The movement looking to an arrangement of international exchange which will remedy the existing conditions was initiated by Mexico and the appointment of the American commission was at the request of the government of that country.

The great commercial nations of the world can come together in some plan to steady the rates of exchange between gold and silver using nations. Nothing that the commission expects to do will affect the monetary system of this or any other country, so far as the integrity of the gold standard is concerned.

There is nothing at all akin to the free coinage of silver or even the more extensive use of silver as money that is contemplated. The commission has been instructed to present to foreign governments the subject of putting an end by some monetary arrangement to the present fluctuation in the rates of exchange between silver-standard and gold-standard countries.

It does not appear that any definite plan has yet been formulated, though doubtless members of the commission have one in mind for suggestion to the governments of the foreign countries they will visit.

The matter is one in which the United States has a very great interest, perhaps not less than any other country. As a great manufacturing nation, producing a surplus that must largely be sold to the silver-using countries, it is obvious that the United States is very much concerned in the question of a sound monetary system for those countries.

There is no doubt that a very large majority of our people approve this view, because intelligent opinion in this country recognizes the fact that so long as other nations go on increasing their sea power, in order to be fully prepared to protect and safeguard their commercial and other interests, the United States must do the same.

Meanwhile Mexico is making good progress concerning the new monetary system, which will rest on the principle of the gold standard. According to the latest information Mexico will soon have a dollar of fixed value in gold. The free and unlimited coinage of silver will be done away with and the government will maintain an ample gold reserve for keeping the silver

A POPULIST RAINBOW CHASER.

A few days ago the populist weather bureau at Lincoln issued a circular letter to the numerous national committees of the populist party with a view to ascertaining the direction and velocity of the wind and the reading of the signs of the political zodiac for 1904.

The first response that reached the chief weather prophet came from Rainbow Chaser Elmer E. Thomas of Omaha, who rivals the renowned Munchausen in fertility of imagination and impediment of veracity.

According to that robust fakir "the recent city election in Omaha proven that the people's party in this city is alive and very much in evidence. All the honors of the election are with us."

How did this body of less than 1,300 voters prove so effectively? The populist candidate for building inspector was not endorsed by any organization or any party except our own. He received 1,300 votes. This indicates our strength, and it also indicates that we are about as strong in Omaha as we were ten years ago.

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EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE.

A Dispassionate Review of the Situation at Omaha at Long Range. New York Independent.

The Independent has received the following communication from one of its subscribers, a manufacturer of woolen goods and clothing. He says:

We have long been subscribers and readers of your weekly paper, and have been interested by your articles on the labor question. We herewith inclose you a clipping from the Chicago Record and Tribune, which includes a reply of W. H. Bell, the president of the Omaha Central Labor union, to the platform and principles of the Omaha Business Men's association.

The various associations of employers in process of formation in the different cities of the United States may have no machinery in common, but the natural development will be their amalgamation into some form of national association.

Another socialistic colonization scheme is on tap. The latest socialistic colony is to occupy an island twenty miles from Vancouver. B. C. Money is not required to purchase land, labor being the only perquisite asked of prospective settlers.

They do not have the trouble in Mexico over the election of a president that we have in the United States. There it seems to depend almost altogether on whether Porfirio Diaz wants to run again or not.

From the excited manner in which Colonel Bryan continues to hurl brickbats, old shoes and dead cats into Mr. Cleveland's back yard we gain the impression that he is somewhat more concerned at the political reappearance of the latter statesman than he professes to be.

When Russia gets a grip anywhere it is hard to loosen the hug of the bear. Even the British bulldog can hardly fasten its teeth deeper and hold on longer.

It is an odd coincidence that, now that domestic service in such a problem and servants are scarce, women are being told that the best way to preserve beauty and develop graceful figures is by the exercise obtained through housework.

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SECULAR SHOES AT THE PULPIT.

Minneapolis Times: A Peru (Ind.) preacher has left the pulpit for the circus tent. His ostensible purpose is to teach natural history with the menagerie as an object lesson.

Baltimore American: The efficacy of the bible as a curative measure has fallen into ill-repute among Hawaiian sorcerers, one of whom beat a native over the head with the good book until the patient died.

Philadelphia Record: Much more opposition is encountered among the laity than among the clergy to changing the name of the Protestant Episcopal church. The convention of the Pittsburgh diocese voted by a large majority against changing the name.

Indianapolis Journal: If we hadn't got pretty well away from the old notions about hell fire and swift retribution for sin we should expect the bible text to be torn up by fiery furnace or paralyzed by something awful.

St. Paul Globe: The church merger issue started in Ohio with a consolidated membership of 1,000,000 and moving to Pittsburg, where a national convention was held, has reached as far west as Des Moines.

Advices from Dublin indicate that the late Maud Gonne can do a clever turn in rioting Irish wrongs.

A stage ride of sixty-nine miles in ten hours is the sample of strenuously called his put up for President Roosevelt. High-grade come went with it.

Members of the Missouri legislature admit with delighted candor that they did not pass any \$1,000 or \$500 bills. They dodged every one that came their way.

Paris papers are fighting the proposition to permit an American syndicate to supply the city with gas. Perhaps the Parisians adhere to the belief that they can supply the local demand.

Papa Leo's is said to be willing to set aside his moral objections to the dollar. Holders of the claims insist on 90 cents as the proper basis, probably because it looks like Joe.

The head of the Jocksmiths' trust is said to be a shade of baldness calculated to produce a flock of smiles without further provocation. Unfortunately he cannot run it into the cornparrel column as an excuse for a salary.

If the convicted ex-mayor of Minneapolis could appeal his case to the Missouri supreme court he could smother his tear wells and snap his digits at the enemies of graft. That good fortune is not his, therefore he weeps.

Ever since Governor Pennybacker signed the press muzzling bill the newspapers of Pennsylvania have shown a grade of editorial vim and picturesque phraseology they have never been accused of before.

The secretary deserves cordial support in his new attitude of conciliation in another country's internal administration. The Tammany politicians, having in mind next November's city election, are on each other's heels in their eagerness to pass resolutions denouncing the Kischineff outrage.

It is a curious feature of this problem is the large number of employers who, after being compelled to unionize their shops, discovered that the labor question gave them much less trouble than when they insisted on the "open" shop.

It was bound to come. Mrs. Liberty on Bedloe's island has been slowly adapting herself to the landscape. Kindly nature has been sparing for her a fine cobwebby outer garment of verdantia, deeper in one place, lighter in another.

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CHARACTERISTIC INCIDENTS ILLUSTRATING THE STATE OF PUBLIC OPINION.

A Little boy went up Chestnut street in Philadelphia the other day, carrying a bag containing 3,000 pennies from a bank to his employer's office.

A building was being torn down on Monroe street in Chicago. An old woman came, with others, to gather up the broken and discarded lumber.

The old woman to balance it, and then went back to her home. The two men lifted the bundle, helped the old woman to balance it, and then went back to her home.

It was done as a matter of course, with no posing or professions, just as the search for the boy's lost pennies was undoubtedly conducted in Philadelphia.

This kindness is a quality of which the American people may well be proud, and which we ought to cultivate even more.

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