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E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.
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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this first day of May, A. D. 1908.
M. B. HUNTER, Notary Public.

This is when the Mississippi river comes in handy to carry off the overflow.

Mark Hanna pushed the button at Columbus yesterday and the Ohio state convention will do the rest today.

Above all the flood wreckage Judge Gordon's salary claim seems to float on the top as if it were made of cork.

More shipments of gold to Europe are scheduled in the financial news. Europe knows where to look when it needs the money.

Denver has bravely survived its city election contest, but it will take several days to take the bitterness out of its mouth.

At the rate it usually sprouts and ripens, it will not take Nebraska corn long to catch up if it can only once get started.

First round results in six points apiece for mayor and council, but each appears to have held out a few cards for the next deal.

Senator Hanna is holding an Ohio state convention of his own, but he will permit Senator Foraker to act as permanent chairman.

Just a little longer and the railroad time tables will again tell when the train will come in instead of merely when it is due.

These various organizations that have the temerity to appoint committees at this time to arrange for their annual picnics are deserving of success in any cause.

While the mayor and council are sparring over appointive patronage, the holdover incumbents whose successors have failed of confirmation can keep still and look happy.

Mayor Moores has started the ball a rolling for the relief fund for the Kansas flood victims. Let all disposed to help send their contributions to the mayor. Every little counts.

In return for his pains Mr. Tulloch seems to be getting it from all sides. It is quite evident that when he tried to spring his postoffice sensation he bit off more than he could chew.

It does not make much difference who pays the expense of the water works apportionment in the first place. If they buy the plant, the taxpayers of Omaha will foot the bill in one form or another.

Sir Thomas Lipton has been through the mill too often to be frightened off in advance by being told that his yacht has no chance to lift the cup. He goes on the theory that no race is ever won until it is run.

At one of the group meetings of the Nebraska State Bankers' association the serious subject will be up for discussion, "Overdrafts and How to Avoid Them." We would suggest that this subject properly belongs before some organization of bank depositors.

President Roosevelt is sure that the future will put Abraham Lincoln on an even higher pinnacle than we have put him. That has been the case through all history. It has always taken time to give the proper perspective to enable us to appreciate the real greatness of our great men.

The campaign entertainment given by Joseph Chamberlain to jolly up his constituents is called a "garden party." American politicians, will, however, continue to stick to the clam-bake, the barbecue and the good old-fashioned picnic and let these new-fangled British innovations severely alone.

THE OPEN DOOR POLICY.

Ambassador McCormick, who has just returned to this country from St. Petersburg, says that Russia will undoubtedly maintain the open door to trade in Manchuria and his opinion in the matter is of course entitled to great consideration. Recent advices from Peking, however, indicate that Russia is inflexibly opposed to having any new doors to trade opened in Manchuria and that therefore the efforts of other powers, including the United States, to have additional ports for foreign commerce established in that province by the Chinese government is likely to fail. If Russia is really favorable to the open door policy in Manchuria and honestly intends to maintain it, if she wants foreign trade to go there for the development of the country, as has been asserted by the Russian ambassador to the United States, why does she oppose the opening of new ports to such trade?

Perhaps the true explanation is apprehension on the part of Russia that if larger opportunities for trade were given foreign nations her policy in regard to Manchuria, which undoubtedly contemplates absolute domination, might be interfered with. With existing conditions maintained she can probably carry out this policy, but affording larger opportunities for the admission of other foreigners would be very likely to strengthen opposition to Russian advance and thus embarrass and possibly defeat the designs of that power. Her demands for certain concessions China has refused, on the remonstrance of other powers, to grant, but the Chinese government is unwilling to risk complications with Russia by acceding to the requests of other nations for the opening of new ports in Manchuria. In this particular Russian influence has shown itself to be supreme at Peking.

There appears to be nothing more for the powers to do than to continue to insist that China shall grant no further concessions or advantages to Russia in Manchuria which might be inimical to other foreign interests. They cannot reasonably expect China to do anything likely to involve her in serious complications. Certainly the United States will go no farther than to insist upon its treaty rights, which are ample for the protection of our interests in China. Under the treaty concluded nearly sixty years ago, before there was any appearance of Russian influence in Manchuria, it is provided that citizens of the United States resorting to China for the purposes of commerce shall in no case be subject to other or higher duties than are or shall be required of the people of any other nation whatever, and that if additional advantages and privileges of whatever description be conceded hereafter by China to any other nation, the United States and the citizens thereof shall be entitled to a complete, equal and impartial participation in the same. Nothing has happened to impair the force of this obligation. On the contrary it has rather been broadened and emphasized by our subsequent commercial treaties with China. Our right, therefore, to equal trade privileges and opportunities in Manchuria is not due to Russian favor or concession, but is distinctly a treaty right, which our government may properly demand of China shall be respected.

THE HIGH JOINT COMMISSION.

It has been expected that this commission would reconvene at some time during the present year and again take up the questions awaiting settlement between Canada and the United States, giving the subject of reciprocity chief consideration. It is now said that the commission will not reassemble, owing to a change of attitude on the part of Canada respecting reciprocity. This change is understood to have been brought about by the Chamberlain proposition for preferential treatment of the British colonies under a tariff policy yet to be formulated. It seems almost incredible that the Canadians should take thus seriously the proposition of the colonial secretary, since the policy he advocates is not likely to be adopted and in any event cannot be for several years, still there is probably substantial foundation for the statement. There is a very strong imperialistic sentiment in the Dominion and to this the Chamberlain program peculiarly appeals. It holds out a promise of advantage over the United States which is very pleasing to a large majority of the Canadian people. It is safe to say that Mr. Chamberlain can rely upon them for hearty support, if he shall be able to convince them that his policy would operate to the injury of this country. As to the high joint commission its reassembly would be useless so far as reciprocity is concerned, but there are other matters for settlement which would justify again calling the commission together.

RELATIONS OF SENATE AND HOUSE.

It is said to be the intention of Representative Cannon and other house leaders in the fifty-eighth congress to assert to the fullest legislative prerogatives of the house as against the senate. They are determined, according to report, that what they regard as the undue preponderance of senate influence in shaping legislation shall no longer be tolerated if they can help themselves and they believe they will be in a better position to accomplish their purpose with Mr. Cannon in the speaker's chair than they have been in a generation, since he will be chosen to that position without any senatorial influence. Besides, the Illinois leader has always been one of the most earnest champions of the legislative prerogatives of the house, having in the closing hours of the last congress made a stirring speech in which he declared that a small body of senators had taken the house by the throat and was endeavoring to force that body to enact legislation which its members were well aware was of an improper character and would take from the treasury money for

which the government would receive no equivalent.

There was a very strong feeling shown by representatives in the last house in regard to what was deemed an overbearing attitude toward that body on the part of the senate, but the disposition to resent the encroachments of the upper body was not sufficiently general to have any effect. The spirit of protest then manifested, however, may easily grow in the next house and it appears that arrangements are being made with a view to stimulating it. It is unquestionably the duty of the house to insist upon and protect its legislative rights and there is no doubt that it will have popular support in doing so. In recent years the senate has arrogated to itself prerogatives the authority for which was questionable and this tendency will certainly grow if allowed to. The intention of the house leaders to maintain the rights of that body is altogether commendable.

THERE MUST BE SOME MISTAKE.

Among the appointments made by Mayor Moores and confirmed by the council is that of Paul H. Patton for the position of city electrician. This selection is absolutely at variance with the specific provisions of the charter prescribing the qualifications of a city electrician. The charter provision reads as follows:

The city electrician shall be a practical electrical engineer of not less than five years' actual experience as superintendent of electrical construction work or electric light or power station. He shall thoroughly understand the principles of the telegraph, telephone and electric light and power construction. The appointment of the mayor must be accompanied with an exhibit of the several works and their nature which have been supervised by such appointee. He shall have charge of all city electric light, telephone and telegraph lines and plants and the supervision of all electric appliances with the city, and shall have power to enforce all rules and regulations of the city in connection with their use and construction. He shall inspect all public electric light of the streets and other public places and perform such other duties as may be required by ordinance.

Mr. Patton, so far as we can learn, lacks the essential qualifications for the performance of the duties of city electrician. His electrical engineering experience has been confined to the inspection of telephone wires and telephone switch boards. He has had no experience whatever in electric lighting and has never turned his hand over in any electric light or electric power work.

Now that the water company has named its appraiser it may not be difficult for the two to agree on the third, so that the work of appraisement may be begun at an early day. Inasmuch as the city knows little or nothing about the man who will represent it on the appraisement board, would it not be well to extend an invitation to him to present himself for conference with the water board, the mayor and council, so that we may know to what extent we can depend on him to represent the city's interests?

The popular demand that custodians of public funds shall give the widest publicity to their financial transactions has had a very salutary effect, judging from the exhibit just published by State Treasurer Mortensen, which shows in detail every dollar of money handled in the state treasury, in what banks the public funds are deposited and in what securities the state now holds its permanent school fund.

The Board of Education is next on the list for a tussle with confirmations. Ugly rumor has had it for some time that there are too many incompetent teachers on the salary roll. Will the board have the nerve to meet the issue or will it, as usual, simply put off the evil day?

Deputy Labor Commissioner Bush is said to be busy preparing for the compilation of the biennial report of the state labor bureau. When Mr. Bush gets through with that laborious farce the compilation will be filed in the archives for future reference.

Denver polled only about 60 per cent of its vote in the municipal election just held, notwithstanding that the campaign was one of the most hotly waged in its local history. The new of woman suffrage must be wearing off.

If any of the drowned out establishments of the flood-stricken cities are bent upon seeking a new location, our Commercial club ought to be able to offer them a choice of fine, high, dry and healthy sites in Omaha.

NATURE SLIPS A COG.

New York Tribune.
Floods in the west and droughts in the east! Can any one strike a satisfactory balance by a reasonable method of adjustment?

Balance on the Right Side.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.
A treasury surplus of about \$4,000,000 is in prospect for the fiscal year ending with the present month. The war taxes were abolished last year, but the republican balance on the right side is still entirely satisfactory.

Courage in an Emergency.

Chicago News.
It is pleasing to know that somebody in the War department has sense and courage enough to cut through several yards of red tape when occasion requires. The opportunity to give relief to the flood sufferers through judicious use of military stores is one of these occasions.

Sample of Frontier Grafting.

St. Paul Pioneer Press.
Right in the midst of the prosecutions now going on in St. Louis, largely growing out of the dishonest use of corporation funds to influence the grant of valuable franchises without compensation to the city, the Terminal association of St. Louis applies for an extremely valuable addition to its franchise, and loftily resents any idea of payment therefor. The "good accruing to the city" from its enterprise it affects to deem sufficient, without dividing with the municipality any portion of its profits. Regardless of morals, and as a purely business proposition, it would seem as though, if a city is to get nothing in

any event from such franchise, it makes no difference to the people how much the "hoodlums" fleece the corporation to which they are given.

Great Lovers of Liberty.

Chicago Chronicle.
Having blown up a bank and killed a number of innocent people in order to attract the attention of Europe to their wrongs, the Macedonians announce that they will now proceed to scatter the infection of bubonic plague throughout Europe for the same purpose. These Macedonians evidently are great lovers of liberty.

Mighty Task of Assimilation.

New York Tribune.
Multitudes of immigrants are pressing with constantly increasing numbers into the New York gateway of North America. Four thousand newcomers passed through the buildings on Grand street in a day, and a single vessel has brought 2,000 stowaway passengers across the Atlantic. Is this really likely to become a weary Titan under the mighty task of assimilating all this extraneous material for citizenship?

Prospective Tariff Wars.

St. Louis Republic.
Mr. Chamberlain's policy of a retaliatory tariff war against the United States and Germany may ultimately lead all the great powers to enter into a more earnest and sympathetic study of the merits of protection. Wars of any sort are calamitous, and the lowering of tariff walls already in existence would contain more promise of international benefit and general prosperity than the upbuilding of new tariff walls for the sake of revenge.

"Fighting Joe" Speaks.

Boston Herald.
General Joe Wheeler punctures that story about his having got the cold shoulder at the recent reunion of his confederate comrades in the blue in a day, and in having worn his blue uniform on that occasion. The fact is that General Wheeler didn't wear his blue uniform, but arrayed himself in the ordinary garments of a civilian. No nobody will be compelled either to criticize General Wheeler for lack of tact in wearing the blue on an occasion when gray was the fashion, or to denounce the southern veterans for turning up their noses at nothing.

TRULY A "SPORT OF KINGS."

Contesting for the America's Cup Entitled to the Name.
Cleveland Leader.

Horse racing has ever been a pastime of those comparatively, if not absolutely, rich. The Indians of the plains who could distinguish themselves in the contests of their barebacked ponies were the possessors of animals which the poorer members of the tribes could not own. The race horses of the Arabs of the desert, whether in Asia or in the northern and northeastern parts of Africa, have always been highly valued. They do not belong to men of ordinary means. In more complex and luxurious societies swift and stanch horses have been and so consequently, as a rule, by the rich, that horse racing, as long ago styled "the sport of kings," is still so expensive and so fashionable among the wealthy and powerful that the old saying hardly needs explanation or comment.

But if the use of race horses for glory or prizes is sport for men with regal purses, what shall be said of such yacht racing as the struggle for the America's cup brings on this year? If horse racing is kindly in its cost and its pomp, the contest for the America's cup is a very rich British baronet is truly imperial.

The Lipton squadron, as it has been styled, with good reason, is leaving British waters with about 100 men employed. It carries thousands of dollars' worth of supplies for the entertainment of the owner and his guests. The vessels have been insured for hundreds of thousands of dollars. When they reach this country they will be a veritable foreign fleet, though welcomed warmly and wholly amiable in purpose. For many weeks before the Lipton race the Lipton yacht will be tried against one another, and many thousands of dollars will be spent in preparing the challenger for the America's cup, so that every inch of distance possible shall be won in the final struggle for the trophy of either party for irregularity.

All of which is sport that demands more than the wealth of many kings. It is possible only to a few of the richest men of the times. It makes the proverbial "sport of kings" seem cheap by comparison. Information as to the race will be given in the home of Great Britain and the United States, is what deserves that name better than any contests with horses.

NOT EASY TO AGREE.

Task Ahead for the Alaskan Boundary Commission.
Washington Post.

This is a hard job, in a sign said to have been displayed in an Alabama court, and according to the view of a number of public men this same sign might well be placed over the door of the Alaskan commission which is to assemble next September in London. With three members from each side and a contention in which both parties have displayed a great interest, it would be almost a miracle if anything but a disagreement on all disputed points should be the result. The Canadians have not got what they want in the present mode of settlement, but it is far better than if the commission should agree to the American contention. It is not at all probable that the American commissioners will make any further concessions than were made in the modus of October 20, like it is. It is a matter of either side will reach a conclusion different from his fellow members and votes against his country, making the necessary majority for a conclusion, so it would seem that a practically unanimous agreement must be reached or none, should there be a disagreement on all the vital points it would raise an interesting question as to how long the present modus shall last. This interesting document does not fix any date for its termination.

"It is hereby agreed," says the modus vivendi, "between the governments of the United States and of Great Britain that the boundary line between Canada and the Territory of Alaska in the region about the head of Lynn Canal shall be provisionally fixed as follows, without prejudice to the claims of either party in the permanent adjustment of the international boundary." Then follows a description of the temporary line. The disputed points are "provisionally fixed, but who can say for how long?" The lines do not prejudice the contentions of either party in the "permanent adjustment" of the boundary, thus implying that a permanent adjustment must be made. Americans in the region affected did not like the modus, and claimed that Great Britain was not the best of it, and that the Canadian line was advanced far beyond what has always been considered the boundary line by Americans. 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