

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR

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Published in my presence and under my hand and seal of my office on this 8th day of June, 1903. M. E. HUNDLE, Notary Public.

No twentieth century commencement is complete without a baccalaureate sermon to start it off. Those postoffice investigators seem to be proceeding on the idea of setting off their fireworks on the installment plan.

In fixing the district judicial convention for July the committee seems to be determined to have a hot time, if not one way, then in another. To a man up a tree it looks as if the visible supply of injunctions and counter injunctions had about run out in the seven courts of this district.

The agitation for a municipal code yard in front of the approaching dog days may be somewhat premature, but no harm can come from pounding away at the coal trust. With the glorious Fourth less than four weeks distant, it is high time to spread the Independence day oratory out to dry, to make sure that it is quite ready to set off at the appointed time.

What other country besides the United States could go through the storm and stress of business we have been encountering without impeding the onward march of prosperity more seriously? It is recorded that Adlai rode in the carriage with the guest of honor when President Roosevelt visited Bloomington last week. Adlai may yet get into the running for the democratic nomination in 1904.

With the bridge arbitrary raised, the floods subsided and labor differences gradually adjusting themselves, a brisk campaign by Omaha business houses should be in order, with promise of fruitful results. The effect of the flood is most conspicuously shown by the clearing house returns of Des Moines, which have fallen 54 per cent during the clearings in June as compared with the first weeks during the same period last year.

According to present program the populists will refuse to fuse in Nebraska with the democrats this year, but they will nominate a democrat to head the populist ticket and then permit the democrats to nominate the same man. It is to be noted that Charles M. Schwab's promised resignation from the \$1,000,000 presidency of the Steel trust has not been forthcoming. It will take a compulsory retirement act to pull a trusty trust magnate out of such a comfortable berth.

STICKING TO A BAD PRECEDENT.

In making the apportionment of delegates to the republican state and judicial district conventions the committees have made an arbitrary division of representation which cannot be defended or explained away except on the ground of established bad precedent and expediency. The representation of Douglas county in state convention, as apportioned by the committee, will give the 10,500 republicans of Omaha 54 delegates, the 1,500 voters of South Omaha 11 delegates and the 1,200 voters in the country precincts 27 delegates.

In the judicial convention the relative disproportion of city and country precinct representation is even more inequitable. In the judicial convention the 10,500 voters in Omaha are to be represented by 81 delegates, or one delegate for every 129 republican voters. The 1,500 republican voters of South Omaha are to be represented by 15 delegates, or one for every 100 voters, while 1,200 republicans in the country precincts are to be represented by 40 delegates, or one delegate for every 30 voters.

Why one republican voter in Dundee, Benson, Florence, Elkhorn or Irvington should count for nearly five republican voters living in the city of Omaha is past comprehension on any rational theory of popular representation. MAY BE SETTLED THIS MONTH. Two weeks hence the Colombian congress will meet in extra session for the consideration of the Panama canal treaty.

It is a very disturbing subject in Colombia and however disposed of may cause no little trouble in that country. It was stated in a Washington dispatch a few days ago that should revolution result, which is thought to be not unlikely, it would perhaps lead to the occupation of the canal strip by American troops. In the event of an uprising having the avowed purpose of imperiling the interests of this country on the isthmus, our government would of course be justified in taking steps to safeguard those interests, but it would be necessary to confine our action strictly to this one object.

There is also a serious problem concerning the employment of able-bodied convicts in mechanical tasks in the fabrication of commodities that do not conflict seriously with the products of free labor. It certainly is rather singular to use a mild phrase, that penitentiaries in other states have been self-supporting institutions, while the Nebraska penitentiary continues to be a very heavy burden to the taxpayers.

THE COLONIES DIVIDED. While sentiment in Australia appears to be very strongly in favor of Mr. Chamberlain's imperial sovereignty proposals, it is said that in Canada the plan is not generally approved and its unpopularity is increasing. When first announced by the British colonial secretary the proposed fiscal policy was cordially received by the Canadians, but discussion and more deliberate consideration of it has produced a reaction and the indications are, according to advices from the Dominion capital, that Mr. Chamberlain is not likely to get any very strong or ardent support for his scheme from Canada.

It is pointed out that the French Canadians, who comprise fully one-third of the Dominion electorate, have with Great Britain relations as intimate as they wish for. They would prefer more to less independence, but are quite well satisfied with the existing situation, which secures them in their language, laws and peculiar institutions, and they fear their safe position might be imperiled by the realization of any project for binding them more closely to what is not their mother country. It is stated that Scotch, Irish and German Canadians are, no more than the French, in love with the scheme. They are apprehensive that there is more under than on the surface of the scheme and feel that it would be safer to let conditions remain as they are.

are naturally not enthused by the Chamberlain scheme. A correspondent at Ottawa of the Boston Transcript says: "Canadians are extremely prosperous now and they are extremely jealous of their political and economic freedom. This makes of them essentially a nation, heterogeneous constituted and nominally dependent though it be. That they will not abate a jot of their liberty for commercial annexation to England seems as sure as that they will not yield any of it for political annexation to the United States."

Mr. Chamberlain, if he does succeed in converting England to imperial preferential trade, is likely to find when he tries to put his thumb on the colonies that they are no more there than was the Irishman's flea. Some American newspapers are urging that now is the opportunity to negotiate a reciprocity treaty with the Dominion, asserting that by so doing we not only could do a good stroke of business for the people on both sides the border, but should be able to bring the whole idea of inter-colonial preferential tariffs to the ground, for the reason that we can offer Canada more than England can. It is by no means certain, however, that conditions are as favorable now for negotiating a fair and equitable reciprocity treaty with the Dominion as before the Chamberlain policy was broached. It is quite probable that Canadian statesmen would be found less disposed to make satisfactory concessions than before the announcement of the colonial secretary's project.

A BURDENSOME INSTITUTION. When Nebraska abandoned the system of leasing the penitentiary it was assumed that the state prison would be made approximately self-supporting, if managed directly by the state. The penitentiaries of many other states have not only been self-supporting, but in some instances yielded a small revenue above the expense of maintenance. The report of Warden Beemer just made public fails to justify the expectations of the advocates of the state management of the penitentiary. Taking the exhibit of operations for the last six months as a basis, we find that the expense of maintenance and salaries of officers and guards of the penitentiary aggregate \$30,576, while the receipts from convict labor net but \$12,047, leaving a deficit of \$18,529 for the six months, which is equivalent to a deficit of \$37,000 for the year, or over \$3,000 per month and more than \$100 per cent for every day of the year.

While the number of convicts is 8 per cent less than the average of fifteen or sixteen years ago, the cost of officers and guards exceeds one-third of the entire expense of the institution and the cost of feeding the prisoners is fully double the contract price for feeding the prisoners in the city jail at Omaha. On a rough estimate the state is paying from 30 to 34 cents per day for feeding penitentiary convicts, while the city of Omaha pays only 16-23 cents.

Why there should be such a great discrepancy between the cost of living in a prison at Omaha or Lincoln is incomprehensible. The contractor at Omaha supplies his own cooking apparatus, his own help and pays for his fuel, while at Lincoln the state owns the kitchen utensils, has the meals prepared by the convicts whose labor costs them no more than the feeding and clothing. Manifestly, there is room for reform. There must be higher grade living or wastefulness somewhere in the state boarding school for involuntary servants.

REMARKABLE DRY SPELL. Extent and Duration of the Drouth in the Eastern States. The drouth is more or less over in this vicinity, although on four days of last week rain fell. But as the total precipitation was only a little more than half an inch and was quickly drunk up by the thirsty soil the result was far from satisfactory. Much more rain is needed before the drouth-stricken states will have had the moisture required.

It is probable, however, that the dry spell which marked the spring of 1903 has been broken. This period can be dated from April 17 and limited by May 27, both inclusive. From the first date about 12.9 inches of rain had fallen since January 1, or more than one-third the average annual precipitation in this neighborhood. The excess of rainfall up to that time was about 3.20 inches for the first 106 days of the year. From the dry spell began, and from April 17 to May 27, inclusive, a period of forty-one days, only a little over half an inch of rain fell. The average rainfall during that period is about 4.98 inches. So the deficiency during the dry spell was 2.99 inches of rain, a serious loss at this time of the year.

ROUND ABOUT NEW YORK. Hipples on the Current of Life in the Metropolis. A newspaper woman tells this story of the life of a gang of New York toughs: She left the office at midnight and took a Third avenue train at City Hall station. She was no sooner seated than a pronounced specimen of the genus masher of the East Side family branch entered the car and made a display of his common wit and his instincts and education. Seeing a more than attractive young woman in one of the side seats upon whom he might force his attentions, he made for her and sat down.

TALK OF THE STATE PRESS.

Wood River Interests: Governor Mickey has doubtless discovered by this time that it is not all fun being governor of Nebraska. There are embarrassing and unpleasant situations in all walks of life from top to bottom. Kearsney Hub: The removal of the bridge toll at Omaha is an act of justice long deferred. The Omaha bridge toll has stood for years without justification, a species of extortion on everything going out or coming in; or, in other words, a "stand and deliver."

Stanton Pickett: The coal oil conference between Governor Mickey and Accident Savary very nearly reached the explosive point. Many of the people are of the opinion that nothing Governor Mickey may have said or left unsaid can materially affect the reputation of Mr. Savary, and it is not Mickey's fault. Plainview Republican: It is rumored that the combined railroad of the B. & M. and Union Pacific systems will try to prevent the indorsement of Roosevelt at the next state convention. They might as well try to stop a cyclone in the midst of its career. Roosevelt will be indorsed Messrs. Railroads.

Norfolk News: The sun smiled on the republican convention of Lancaster county, and the delegates indorsed Judge J. B. Barnes of this city for supreme judge. The combination is a good omen and the republicans of the state as well as the voters will undoubtedly improve the first opportunity of following the lead of the Lancaster county delegation. Fremont Tribune: The first gun of the season for the position of judge of the supreme court has been fired by the Lancaster county republican convention and in favor of Judge J. B. Barnes of Norfolk. This is a pretty substantial answer to the declaration of the sixth State City Record that Mr. Barnes would have to look out for breakers in that section because of some connection with a bridge bond suit.

Howells Journal: The Free Lance advocates doing away with the office of county attorney and return to the old system of district attorneys. This would be a saving to the tax-payers and the several counties would be as well served as at present. While we agree with Sprecher in this matter we do not for a moment believe the desired change can be made. Politicians of all political parties are clamoring for more money. This would be an easy task to induce a Nebraska legislature to do away with any of the official snags now in sight.

Schuyler Free Lance: Editor Rosewater of The Bee never quits in his work along the railroad tax question. At the recent meeting of the State Board of Equalization he was on hand with the speakers to show why the corporations of the state should be placed on the assessment rolls at a higher figure, but it did no good, as he was talking to a board which the railroads of Nebraska own. However, failure never affects the integrity of his efforts. He will try his next year just the same. We admire and respect Editor Rosewater. He and his newspaper are a great credit to the state.

Sidney Telegraph: We have seen him. We have heard him. We have studied him. We have read his books. We have seen his sincerity, his strenuousness, his honesty of purpose, his pure and unaffected democracy. Born, raised and educated among the rich and cultured, he recognizes, among the poor and lowly, the highest types of thought and noble womanhood. He believes in and preaches the brotherhood of man. He lays particular stress on "Do as you would be done by." He has no sympathy for or with the giant octopus in the shape of a trust that uses its power to crush and absorb its competitors. It is a never-ending strife between capital and labor he believes in arbitration and compromise, and gave the best exhibition on record of skill, courage and diplomacy in the successful termination of the anthracite coal strike. He believes in himself implicitly, and as a result all things come to him—"bull luck," he sometimes calls it. He jests when he says so, and none know it better than he himself. He is too good a general, too able as a politician, too thorough as a man, to have things come to him through "bull luck." No, they come in response to the touch of the master hand on the keyboard of the greatest talent on earth. His speech here was in part an eulogium on the great statesman of this country. This is in line with his self-appointed task of keeping alive the fire of patriotism. He realizes that we must be ever ready—ready to protect the weak, ready to resist the strong—and that this is the great duty of the citizen.

Be Patient, Truthful and Fair, Even if Fish Don't Bite. Grover Cleveland in N. Y. Independent. "Those of us who fish in a fair, well bred and reasonable way are not in a hurry for the reason and as a means of increasing the table pleasures of ourselves or our friends, may well regret the apparently unalterable degree which gives to all who fish, under the spur of any motive—good, bad or indifferent—the name of fishermen. We regard nothing in common with those who fish for a livelihood, unless it be a desire to catch fish. We have, in point of fact, no closer relationship than this with the miserably inclined, whose only motive in fishing is to make large catches, and whose sole pleasure in the pursuit is the gratification of a greedy propensity. Nevertheless, we, and those with whom we have so little sympathy, are by a sort of unavoidable law of gravitation clasped together in the same fraternity, and called fishermen. Occasionally weak attempts have been made to classify the members of some title of that kind, but such efforts have always failed. Even Isaac Walton could not change the current of human thought by calling his immortal book 'The Complete Angler.'"

THE SHIRT WAIST MAN. New York Herald. O Shirt Waist Man, you're here once more, That's what we're looking for, mountain, plain and shore. You scare the sheep, When you jump the cows stampeed, Like other things in nighttime seen, You're red and blue and green, You cause the fish to creep. O Shirt Waist Man, your trousers bag So at the knees, And why they seem to sag, And do not please, Your belt is cutting you in two, And yet it hardly seems to do, For now and then you take up slack, And hitch your trousers just like Jack. You're not at all green, O Shirt Waist Man, in colors gay, That fairly stun, Some people think you've come to stay, What's that you're doing now, We stood you all one season, sir, And, gracious, how we shuddered, "B-r-r-r!" And now you're all at sea, we'll say in warning, "Don't you get too shy, Or Johnny'll get his gun!"

SMILING LINES.

"What do you want with so many thermometers?" asked the dealer. "We wish to see what temperature it's getting to hot for preach now, so I've hung 'em around 'wiar de simmers kin see 'em good!"

"Go in and tell the editor I am out here with a horsewhip," cried the irate citizen. "He'll be very glad to hear it," replied the other. "You mean you don't want to see me and you won't see me? Well, I've had an auction up here last week and sold a dozen."

"Well, I got rid of that life insurance agent in short order," savagely remarked Mr. Higginbotham. "You didn't insult him, did you?" asked his wife. "Insult him? No, I gave him my application for a policy, blame him!"—Chicago Tribune.

"Why do you sigh for great riches?" "Well, I answered the milk man's man, 'I don't value money for its own sake, but I'd kind of like to be in a position where my neighbors' employees of large enterprises will say 'good morning, sir, instead of 'step lively.'—Washington Star.

"No, I cannot marry you, Mr. Spooner," said the pretty girl with a pair of pity in her eyes; "but you'll not do anything rash, will you?" "Rash? No! I don't do anything rash, will you?" "Rash? No! I don't do anything rash, will you?" "Rash? No! I don't do anything rash, will you?" "Rash? No! I don't do anything rash, will you?"

"Then again," said my nonsensical friend, who was in one of his hypercritical moods, "what is chamber music?" "That produced by the baby," we replied conclusively, for we were not disposed to treat his question seriously.—Detroit Free Press.

Ethel—I think she is making up her mind to be an old maid. Ethel—Why not? I'm not making up my mind to be an old maid. Ethel—She is learning to play solitaire.—Somerville Journal.

THE BEST POCKET TIMEKEEPERS MADE.

Waltham Watches The best pocket timekeepers made. The Perfect American Watch, an illustrated book of interesting information about watches, will be sent free upon request.

American Watch Company, Waltham, Mass. "The best pocket timekeepers made." "The Perfect American Watch, an illustrated book of interesting information about watches, will be sent free upon request."

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