

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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Table with 2 columns: Number of copies and Total. Rows include 1. 30,500, 2. 30,475, 3. 30,200, 4. 30,500, 5. 30,720, 6. 30,440, 7. 30,670, 8. 30,810, 9. 30,740, 10. 30,778, 11. 30,440, 12. 30,370, 13. 30,920, 14. 30,780, 15. 30,680, 16. 30,890.

Net total sales, 945,552. Net average sales, 30,457.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 21st day of May, A. D. 1903. M. B. HENRY, Notary Public.

It is not always the horse carrying the smallest odds that is carried by the fastest feet.

In the interval the prudent Nebraska farmer has been planting corn and attending strictly to business.

Tom Johnson should be reminded to bring his circus tent along to Colonel Bryan's Fourth of July picnic.

Property owners on North Sixteenth street had better fall in line with General Manderson and sign the petition for revamping.

Next play in the water works purchase game will be the selection of the third appraiser. The third appraiser is the joker that counts the winning point.

The orators of the High school graduating class of 1903 have settled all the important problems of the hour and the earth may now rotate on its axis without further friction or disturbance.

Nebraska's floating debt approximates \$2,000,000, whereas the constitution expressly forbids an indebtedness in excess of \$100,000 in times of peace. But then, what is the constitution between friends?

Every ominous fire that is extinguished with comparatively small loss is added proof that no mistake was made when Chief Salter was put in the place formerly occupied by Chief Redell.

Nobody seems to think it worth while to discuss the chances of Chairman James K. Jones for being retained at the head of the democratic national committee through another presidential campaign.

Six Omaha milkmen are being prosecuted for mixing formaldehyde with their milk. The dealers have none but themselves to blame. Nobody will sympathize with people who mix Graeco-Welsh words with Anglo-Saxon.

Nebraska is ripe for a system of inter-urban electric lines that will afford better facilities for social and commercial intercourse of the rural population with the principal towns and cities during all hours of the day.

Government by injunction has struck a snag at Richmond, Va., but Uncle Sam's cruiser is bound to get out of dry dock as soon as it has put on its war paint notwithstanding the extra judicial dead rest mandate.

With what has been accomplished in the way of tax reform in Omaha before them, the people of South Omaha will have only themselves to blame if they stand for continued corporate tax abridging that makes low tax rates impossible.

Members of the police force are gradually discovering that to resign from the department requires the assent of the police board. In the past police officers have been allowed to resign as a matter of course to keep their records clear when other measures of discipline would be more in order.

In trying to banish the dope fiend from Omaha, Chief of Police Donahue has tackled a heavier task than he has ever undertaken before. Confirmed morphine eaters do not all live in the Third ward any more than the confirmed drunkards all by their rum in the saloons.

The only way to get results in advertising is to select the medium that reaches the largest number of regular paying subscribers. Experienced business men are not caught by fake circulation claims in red or in black. The proof of the pudding is in the eating. The black auction advertising fakirs only catch the credulous gudgeon who snaps at the tempting baits offered as special inducements.

CONGRESS TO MEET IN NOVEMBER.

Announcement is again made that President Roosevelt intends to call congress in extra session in November. The chief purpose in view is to secure action on the Cuban reciprocity treaty, but other matters may be considered, perhaps a currency bill if the subcommittee of the senate finance committee should have a measure ready by November. It thus appears that the President is as earnest as ever in the desire to establish closer commercial relations between Cuba and the United States and it is regarded as highly probable that the treaty which has been negotiated will be ratified by congress.

Meanwhile it is said that the business men of Cuba have become quite indifferent in regard to the reciprocity treaty. The opinion appears to have been obtained among the industrial and commercial interests of the island that they would derive no substantial benefit from the small concession in the tariff on Cuban products, or that any material difference would occur in the course of importations. It is said that manufacturers would still come chiefly from Great Britain, Germany and Spain, and even sugar machinery would be brought from Scotland. About the only increase from the United States would be in grain and provisions and Cuba is likely to become tolerably capable of feeding herself. An eastern paper remarks that when the treaty comes up in congress it appears as if the Cubans, outside of the official class, will care little about what becomes of it. This view is based upon the observations of some representatives of American business interests who have recently visited Cuba. Whether or not the view be correct, it is a fact that so far as present trade conditions are concerned this country is not enjoying any such advantages in the Cuban market as it might reasonably be expected, for obvious reasons, to have. The island continues to import liberally from European countries, thus giving renewed demonstration of the fact that sentiment plays a very small part in business affairs.

Under a reciprocity arrangement, however, even with the small tariff concession contemplated it is not to be doubted that exports from the United States to Cuba would be quite materially increased, though probably not to the extent that some of the more ardent advocates of reciprocity have predicted.

CAN'T SQUARE THE WRONG.

The mere fact that the assessors in five or six of the ninety counties of Nebraska have listed lands and chattels at a lower valuation for 1903 than they had been listed at for the preceding year is projected to the front as a justification of the favor of the State Board of Assessors to raise the assessments of railroads to a fair proportion with the valuation placed on all other classes of property.

There is an adage that one swallow does not make summer, and five or six counties, representing possibly 5 per cent of the grand assessment roll of the state, should not be taken as the standard of valuation for the assessment of the entire state. Take, for example, the assessment of Douglas county, which aggregates about \$25,000,000, or nearly one-sixth of the total valuation of all property in the state, exclusive of railroads.

The ratio in Douglas county to actual value is one-sixth, or fully 16 per cent, and that is the ratio in fifteen or twenty other counties in the most densely settled portion of the state. It is a matter of fact, also, that in some of the western counties the ratio of assessed value to actual value is from one-fourth to one-fifth, or from 20 to 25 per cent.

Taken as a whole the grand assessment roll, exclusive of railroad property, represents a ratio of from one-seventh to one-eighth, or from 12 1/2 to 14 per cent of the actual value, while the railroads are assessed at from one-twelfth to one-thirteenth of their true value, or from 7 1/2 to 8 per cent of their actual value.

These are stubborn facts which no amount of sophistry or juggling with figures can disprove. The worst of the thing is that while the State Board of Equalization may at its coming meeting in July equalize in a measure the burden imposed in the shape of state taxes upon the respective counties, it cannot undo the rank injustice that it has perpetrated in the assessment of the railroads by undervaluation in the face of the increased earnings and increased valuations of those properties over what they had been during preceding years.

FOR ELASTIC CURRENCY.

In a recent address Mr. Ridgely, comptroller of the currency, urged that there should be greater elasticity in bank note currency and explained how he thought this could best be accomplished. He said that the most conservative and practical suggestion seems to be to make no change in the present bank circulation, but to allow the banks to issue in addition to the present notes a certain percentage of notes uncovered by any bond deposit, but against which the banks should be required to hold in gold or its equivalent the same reserves as against deposits, and at the same time to add to the laws and regulations in regard to redemption as to provide very ample requirements and means for redemption and retirement. The redemption machinery should be made so complete and effective as to insure its constant application. A part of his plan is to provide a guaranty fund for the uncovered gold reserve notes, each bank being required to pay into this fund 5 per cent of its uncovered notes before they are issued, the fund to be maintained by a tax on this circulation. He thought that the proportion of uncovered gold reserve notes could be permitted to the extent of 50 per cent with safety, but 25 per cent is enough to supply a considerable element of elasticity and

IT WOULD BE WELL TO BEGIN WITH THE SMALLER AMOUNT.

In regard to the view that uncovered gold reserve notes would lead to a great inflation of the currency, the comptroller said that the change in our currency laws which the plan he advocated would require would introduce more factors which lead to contraction than to expansion. Bank notes, he said, should never be used for reserves, their true use being for current cash business only. Bank reserves should be gold, or some paper certificates which can be quickly converted into gold. He expressed the opinion that a currency not available for reserves and protected by gold reserves and ample facilities for redemption would not be made the basis for undue inflation of credits or used for speculation. It would only be used for those legitimate enterprises which have a proper basis of credit, and only to furnish the cash as long as it was needed for cash transactions.

Of course the plan for providing a more elastic currency advocated by Mr. Ridgely is not altogether new. Its more prominent features are familiar to those who have given attention to the subject. But his presentation of it is a valuable contribution to the discussion of a question in which the financial and business interests are very much concerned and which will be prominent in the attention of the next congress. The plan contemplates no very radical changes and would probably secure the desired elasticity without in the least impairing the safety of the bank currency.

There is no question but what the rural free delivery business has been played beyond the limit in some directions, but there is also danger that the present reaction may carry the pendulum just as far on the other side. Rural free delivery is deservedly popular and can be made a successful adjunct of the postal system by liberal yet not extravagant administration, while hard and fast narrowing of its scope may destroy its usefulness altogether.

Secretary Shaw in addressing a graduating class at Chicago drew on the impending Derby for an example of careful preparation for achieving success and declared that if it was worth while to go to so much trouble and expense to train a horse that might win, the educational training of our young people for the race for success could not be too carefully performed. It's dollars to doughnuts that this illustration did not go over his auditors' heads.

IT'S ALL IN THE POINT OF VIEW.

It is generally known that President Roosevelt expects to have the ticket in 1904 rounded out with a western man for vice president, but here is U. S. Grant of California pleading guilty to an ambition to run for the vice presidency but expressing the apprehension that an eastern man will be honored. A western man for a New Yorker may be an eastern man to a Californian.

Governor Bailey declares that Kansas is still in need of aid for its flood sufferers, but he carefully confined his call for an extra session of the legislature to providing for the rebuilding of destroyed bridges. When Nebraska was sorely afflicted with drouth the legislature appropriated \$250,000 as a relief fund, although the state had to borrow the money.

Ex-President Cleveland in denouncing an interview credited to him as unauthorized, explains that he never talks for publication unless he requires the reporter to reduce his words to writing at once and submit them to him for verification. This is a commendable precaution on the part of an ex-president. It prevents him from talking too much.

Two-thirds of the paving repairs now demanded would be avoided if the public service corporations that cut the pavements lived up to their obligation to restore the pavement in as good condition as before. For repairs that come under this category these corporations should foot the bills.

Speaker-to-be Cannon intimates that if necessary he might take the chairmanship of the house postoffice committee himself. It won't be necessary, but Speaker Cannon could do worse without trying.

Just to Cheer Him On. Chicago Record-Herald. When Sir Thomas Lipton started for America the band played "For He's a Jolly Good Fellow," probably just to remind him of the headache he was coming.

Nature's Forces Worse Than War. New York World. According to estimates made in the weather bureau, the lives lost by food and tornado in this country this far in the present year number at least 1,500. Natural forces, therefore, have destroyed within a period a little longer than that of our struggle with Spain more than four times as many Americans as were killed in the battles of that war.

Who Can Answer for Him? Portland Oregonian. Ex-Representative Cobb of Alabama, who died recently, left behind him a record of having enriched the English language and adding to the safety of nations. He it was who halted in debate when a member of the house of representatives and inquired: "Where am I at?" Such as he had, gave he unto the world. Hence he should be held in grateful remembrance.

Recalling the Good Old Way. Chicago Chronicle. Nowadays when a young hopeful is taken by the collar and gently shaken by a school teacher his fond parents fret and have nervous prostration and then rush off and have the pedagogical arrested. Yet men who are scarcely middle aged can remember when the boy who came home from school howling that he had been whipped was very likely to be taken to the cellar for a reprimand of the dose on general principles—it being argued that if he was licked at school he deserved it and probably did not get licked enough. Probably all this was very wrong, but we cannot forget that there was not one juvenile "beat" in these days to a score in this era of moral evasion. The switch seemed to have a desirable effect.

Stretching the Charity of Belief. Washington Post. It requires considerable charity to believe it is a pure coincidence that so many places in the employ of government contractors are filled by sons and relatives of officials who pass upon the contracts.

The Road Roller of Thought. Philadelphia Ledger. Senator Beveridge of Indiana says: "The comic lessons of nature should be the daily study of the statesman and statesman. We object to that man even for vice president."

FADS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Enthusiastic Experimenting by Ethnographic Theorists. Minneapolis Tribune. It is not easy to trace the process by which the American public schools have become full of fads. The truth is, Americans have taken the excellence of their public schools too much for granted and have paid too little attention to the methods of teaching. This has given too much opportunity for visionary experimenting by ethnographic theorists. The mischief could go on for many years without detection, because the fact that children were not taught the elements of education was not discovered until they came out of school and tried to make a living.

For another thing, children of educated families pick up a good deal of elementary knowledge before they go to school and absorb a good deal at home afterwards, so that educational defects do not appear to those who would be first to notice them. The main sufferers have been the children of immigrants, themselves without much education, who fondly dreamed that their parents were getting an education for them for American citizenship when they were in fact learning to weave Chippewa baskets and cut out paper dolls. This is what makes the matter most deplorable.

No one but the faddists could tell exactly how the schools of ethnographic theorists wish to get an education fit for those who would be first to notice them. The main sufferers have been the children of immigrants, themselves without much education, who fondly dreamed that their parents were getting an education for them for American citizenship when they were in fact learning to weave Chippewa baskets and cut out paper dolls. This is what makes the matter most deplorable.

Therefore both school boards and superintendents have been an easy mark for educational theorists, eager to try new experiments on the infant mind. These have been banded together in a kind of fad trades union, have held conventions, issued a manifesto and have gradually expanded a new theory of education, evolved out of their own easy minds. This seems to have been adopted by the plain persons elected to be school directors and superintendents, under the mistaken impression that they were doing better than themselves.

It is undeniable that the change has been helped along by persons of real education in the colleges, who ought to know better. These have been influenced by their eager desire to convert the schools of the people into preparatory schools for the colleges. They wish to get large classes out of the public schools has led them to encourage overwhelming ambition for higher education, and has led to the sacrifice of solid fundamental education to a hasty and superficial acquisition of college learning.

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TALK OF THE STATE PRESS.

Tobias Express: The people of western New York are looking for a rainmaker. What's the matter with Rainmaker Wright of Nebraska? We can spare him for a few days.

Holdrege Citizen: It is not likely that any more office-seekers who want a position under Governor Mickey will attempt to get it by improper means. People have learned that Governor Mickey is a man as well as governor and that they must govern themselves accordingly.

Kearney News: It is no more apparent now than ever that there is no better place in the central Nebraska. Other sections have had floods, drouths and fires, while the worst that befalls us is an occasional dry spell. A soaking series of rains like we have had this spring only makes us thrive.

Creighton Courier: The largest alfalfa field in the world—comprising over 5,000 acres in Nebraska—is the largest bar in America in its Dodge county, this state; the largest county in any state is in Nebraska and no state has as many miles of any one river as Nebraska has in the Platte.

Fremont Tribune: The governor has a vacancy to fill on the State Normal board, and it is committed to the task of locating the new normal school the state will build. The board is supposed to be about tied on location, so that the new appointee is likely to prove the determining factor in the matter. Naturally there is a good deal of political bartering in the interests of a good many ambitious towns anxious to be the center of the distribution of state funds.

Norfolk News: The fusionists forgot all about the desirability of a nonpartisan supreme court when they were in power, but now that the state has returned to good old-time republicanism and is able to detect the real sentiment that inspires the agitation and will meet it in the manner that will insure republican success.

Central City Nonpareil: It is with considerable pain that we observe that a large number of towns over the state are proceeding with the preparations for a Fourth of July celebration, regardless of the prophecy made by Mr. Bryan during the last presidential campaign to the effect that if McKinley were elected there would be no more celebrations. Some people seem to have no regard for prophecies.

Norfolk Press: There is a systematic attempt being made to minimize the offense of the people who violate the game and fish laws, and this attempt should be frowned down by every good and decent citizen. The safety of American institutions depends wholly on respect for law and obedience to the law. The man who knowingly violates the law is an enemy to his country. The man who has no respect for the law is an anarchist, pure and simple.

It matters not whether a law is good or bad it is entitled to enforcement and obedience. The officer who is charged with the enforcement of a law and fails to do so is guilty of as great or greater crime as the man who violated it. The Press favors the punishment of the violators of the game and fish laws because it wants every law respected and obeyed. It doesn't believe in a false sentiment in favor of violation of any law.

Wilber Democrat: Upon request, F. J. Sadtler, register of deeds, compiled from the official records the following statement of real estate mortgages filed for record and released for the first three months of the years 1901, 1902, 1903.

Table with 2 columns: Year and Amount. Rows include 1901, 1902, 1903.

Totals, \$128,487 more released than filed. Comparing this with the figures of nine years ago, when the mortgage indebtedness record was first started, for the same period of the first three months of the years 1893, 1894 and 1895, the amount of filings was \$621,136, and released \$492,026. Ten years ago there was selling at a little over one-half than is readily realized now. Loans are being paid off before maturity and the mortgages filed during the last year represent, with few exceptions, indebtedness incurred for the purchase of more land and improvements.

A JOY OF JOURNALISM.

Tribute to the Happy Days of Country Newspaperdom. Atlanta Constitution. A few days ago Colonel Alexander K. McClure, the veteran editor and Nestor of the Philadelphia Press, said that the happiest days of his journalistic career were those in which he was the editor of a country weekly paper in Western Pennsylvania.

There are thousands of the older men in the profession today who can heartily say "Amen" to Colonel McClure's experience. They remember those joyous old days in some ramshackle print shop in a country town; the old Washington press; the roller boy; the roller mold and the casting of a new column; the sitting up at night to make the edition of 600-2 that 900 more formidable over public affairs and world interests than the charge made at Baklava by that other 600 of old England! The country editor—who is his peer? He writes and the people hardly realize that he is a week to know "what he has written" on the burning issues of the day! He gets invitations to all functions, free passes to all shows, appointed on all sorts of commissions where there is no pay, gets cake from the wedding, cord word for subscriptions and, occasionally, "gets it in the neck" from a contemporary.

The country press is an inseparable factor from the forces that make up our civilization. It is on and of the soil. It is the mirror of the human problems of its environment, and it is the organ of the public opinion that the mammoth journals whose strongest purposes are commercial.

Any historian who would write knowingly and truthfully the history of these times must get the bulk of his material from the country newspapers. They are the last bees who gather the pollen of all the indignant blossoms of their habitat and compress these into the columns from which the honey of true human history is extracted.

Every community owes the prime duty of support to its local press. If a man can afford to take only one paper he should take his home paper. If he can go further and take a daily, let that be but the supplement to his country paper. The old Greek adage, "know thyself," should be expanded into "know thy neighbors," and the way to do that is to support your home paper. There is no better or more helpful asset to any county than a good newspaper, filled with neighborhood news, and dealings with the common sense and common interest of the weekly press usually does fairly and honestly.

QUAINT FEATURES OF LIFE.

An insurance adjuster in St. Louis tells of a new expedient of the incendiary. A man's store had burned and he had admitted setting it off to a friend who wanted full particulars with a view to similar practices. "I tell you," said the proprietor, "the rats gnawed matches and set it going." "How do you know?" "Did you see them?" "No, I didn't see them, but I know I rubbed matches in the lumberage cheese before I threw them on the cellar floor."

Jonathan Lefevre of Salt Lake City is 91 years old, has buried eight wives and has just married a ninth, Mrs. Mary Kersen, a widow of 40. Five generations of his descendants are present to wish the couple happiness. By his eight wives Lefevre had thirty-one children and all of them were born within a period of ten years. Mr. Lefevre was one of Brigham Young's counselors during Utah's stormy days. He is a devout believer in President Roosevelt's present, and the president's recent speeches on that topic so impressed Mr. Lefevre that he decided to marry again. Mr. Lefevre is wealthy and one of the most respected men in Utah.

Father W. G. Miller of St. Joseph's church, Waukegan, Wis., has caused a sensation by preaching against open lace apparel, low neck dresses and lace shirts-waists. At all masses on last Sunday he denounced this style of apparel, terming it "peepshoo" dress, and charging his flock with the sin of immodesty. He spoke scathingly of the present mode of fashioning dresses and especially censured the young women who were light waists with an abundance of open work. These garments, he said, were altogether too previous and allowed young men too fair a view of pretty shoulders.

A Maine county doctor tells this story on himself: He responded one night to a note left at his door by a farmer asking him to go soon as possible to see his little boy, who was ill with a very bad cold. The doctor gave one look at the child and asked severely: "Don't you know that your boy is coming down with the measles?" "Yes," replied the wife. "I know it." "Then what in the world did you mean by saying he had a bad cold?" asked the doctor.

The woman hesitated a moment; then, looking at her husband, she said, hesitatingly: "Neither me or him knewed how to spell measles!"

The luxury of grief is indulged in by all ages, but it is doubtful if it is ever again so much enjoyed as in childhood, according to the Boston Transcript. Perhaps, if our memories could take us back to the very earliest days of infancy, we should find that we were often revolving in delight when we were sympathetically supposed to be writhing with stomach ache—and with no language but a cry.

A little girl of most angelic disposition has just given the whole thing away. She had fallen on a brick walk and barked her knees and bumped her chin. To her next door neighbor, who inquired from the window some time afterward if she had hurt herself very badly, the sufferer replied with a quivering lip: "Oh, yes; I ought to be in the house crying now."

Owing to the fact that the assistant manager of Columbia Gardens, a pleasure resort of Butte, Mont., has trained the swans in the little artificial lake to bring to the shore articles thrown into the water, little Gertrude O'Neil owes her life.

When the child fell into the water and was in danger of drowning, she was near at the time, the great birds seized the little one by her clothing and dragged her to the shore, pulling her up high and dry on the bank. The spectacle was witnessed by several hundred men and women from the piazza of the pavilion, several hundred feet away, and when they reached the edge of the lake the child was safe, while the swans were standing around, waiting to be fed.

SEIZING OPPORTUNITIES.

How Charles Schwab Grabbed Chance for a Million or Two. Chicago Record-Herald. The statement issued by Charles M. Schwab concerning his connection with the United States Shipbuilding company gives pleasing glimpses of a few of the opportunities that have come to one industrious young man within the present generation.

Mr. Schwab, who has just turned 41, was invited into the company soon after it was projected, and owing