

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: Daily Bee (without Sunday), One Year, \$4.00; Daily Bee and Sunday, One Year, \$5.00; Illustrated Bee, One Year, \$5.00; Sunday Bee, One Year, \$2.00; Saturday Bee, One Year, \$1.50; Twentieth Century Farmer, One Year, \$1.00.

DELIVERED BY CARRIER: Daily Bee (without Sunday), per copy, 2c; Daily Bee (including Sunday), per week, 12c; Sunday Bee, per copy, 5c; Evening Bee (without Sunday), per week, 6c; Evening Bee (including Sunday), per week, 10c.

COMMUNICATIONS: Communications relating to news and editorial matter should be addressed to Omaha Bee, Editorial Department.

REMITTANCES: Remit by draft, express or postal order payable to The Bee Publishing Company. Only 2-cent stamps accepted in payment of all accounts.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION: State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss: George B. Tschuck, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of December, 1903, was as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Circulation type, Number of copies, Total. Rows include Daily Bee, Sunday Bee, and Total.

Net total sales, 930,534; Net average sales, 30,229.

GEORGE B. TSCHUCK, Notary Public.

This should be a good season for revival of "The Mikado."

Perhaps Mr. Dowie reasons that it doesn't matter how many Zions there are, so long as they all worship their creator.

Ex-Governor Hill has already revised the slogan for 1904 by making it "Great is Tammany! And Murphy is its prophet."

Mr. Olney's eulogy of Mr. Cleveland puts him hors de concours for the votes of the Nebraska delegation in the democratic national convention.

Only one new member of the county board this year. The reorganization will be completed, however, the next time the voters get their chance.

If their resources were only equal to their public spirit, Omaha's progressive business men would push the band wagon along at a still faster rate.

Entries in the race for republican nominations for state offices are beginning to be registered. There will be a full field by the time the gong is sounded.

Ten times as much revenue in the police court in 1903 as in 1890. The change in the police judgeship was evidently a paying transaction for Omaha taxpayers.

The plan to make the Iroquois theater into a memorial church will have the approval of at least those persons who would rather see a church than a theater anywhere.

Mr. Gorman asks the senate to request of President Roosevelt the papers and records incidental to "intervention" in the Isthmian troubles. The senator's motives are, of course, wholly disinterested.

It is intimated that our revenue law has not yet completed its ordeal of fire. Some of the litigation brought under it before long will be to enforce provisions which tax shirkers are disposed to evade.

How lucky the legislature was not in session at the time the Iowa state house caught fire—fanned by the breeze of windy oratory, there would be no telling what damage the flames might not have done.

"Prince Cupid," Hawaii's delegate to congress, when arrested for fighting, insisted upon release as a right of a member of the national legislative body. Evidently the prince has been reading the history of the Tillman family.

The official information has been conveyed of the death of the empress dowager of Corea, but neither the Japanese nor the Russians are evincing any disposition to utilize the mourning period as an occasion for a truce.

Congressman De Armond must have made a hot foot to get from the Jacksonton feast here on New Year's night to the Tammany banquet on McClellan in New York three days later. The step from the Jacksontons to Tammany, however, is not far.

The lesser towns of Iowa are clamoring promptly for the state capitol—through their local newspaper correspondents. A change in capital location is about as probable in Iowa as a change in political complexion, and everybody knows how probable that is.

Ohio republicans have confessedly called their state convention to select national delegates for the last possible day in the hope that something may turn up to their advantage. Ohio was never known to insulate itself to prevent political lightning striking in that vicinity.

NO OCCASION FOR DISTRESS.

Democratic organs in all parts and the demo-pop organs in these parts appear to be very much exercised over the alleged declaration of Perry S. Heath that President McKinley had expressed to him a desire to have Marcus A. Hanna as his successor in the White House. There is really nothing startling in that revelation. It was perfectly natural and eminently proper for the late president to express such a preference. Marcus A. Hanna was his most intimate personal friend and his largest political creditor, but the expression of preference on the part of Mr. McKinley imposed no obligation on the American people, or on the republican party.

Ours is not a hereditary republic. The divine right of kings to name their successors is not one of the prerogatives of our presidents. No president, from Washington to McKinley, has ever been allowed to name his successor. George Washington would probably have preferred some one else than John Adams as his successor. General Grant would have preferred Roscoe Conkling to Rutherford B. Hayes, had he been privileged to name his successor. It is fairly known to all men that Grover Cleveland did not want William Jennings Bryan as his successor, but silver crazed democracy overruled Cleveland.

Under our form of government the people have more to say on that score than the man on the throne. The preferences of presidents have no greater binding force than the preferences of the humblest citizen. There is no good reason why Mr. Heath's statement should be discredited, but the fact that William McKinley, had he lived to serve out his full term, would have been highly gratified to see Senator Hanna inducted into the office which he was to have vacated on March 4, 1905, should not bar Theodore Roosevelt from aspiring to a popular endorsement of his course while filling McKinley's unexpired term.

At all events, it seems passing strange that the democratic press and democratic leaders who maligned, vilified and accused William McKinley of all the crimes in the calendar while he was president, should exhibit such distressing solicitude lest the republican party should not carry out his expressed preference for an heir presumptive.

FRIENDSHIP FOR JAPAN.

There is said to be some feeling of resentment in Russia toward this country because of our friendship and sympathy for Japan. It is the most natural thing in the world that Americans should entertain such sentiments regarding the island kingdom, since the United States has been so largely instrumental in raising Japan to the position she occupies among the nations. It was this country which first acquainted the Japanese with western civilization and pointed them the way to the great material progress they have achieved during the last half a century. The expedition of Commodore Perry to that land gave it a new light and an inspiration that has had wonderful results and ever since Japan and the United States have been on the most friendly relations, to their mutual advantage.

But there is ample reason for American sympathy with Japan in the fact that she is in the right in the controversy with Russia. Her contention is in the interest of the world's commerce and of civilization. She is courageously standing against Russian aggression and rapacity not wholly for her own welfare, but for that of all the nations that have rights and interests in China and are opposed to the spoliation and dismemberment of that empire. American sympathy for Japan, which is general and strong, is based upon the soundest reasons and cannot be affected by Russian resentment.

DEMOCRATIC HARMONY EFFORTS.

The efforts of Democrats to harmonize and place the party on a solid fighting basis for this year's campaign are characterized by interesting and instructive features. The reactionary tendency of the party in recent years the country is familiar with. In 1890 it sought to revolutionize the monetary system of the country and four years later it demanded that the nation should recede from the position it had taken as the result of the war with Spain, at the same time adhering to its platform declarations of the preceding presidential campaign. Overwhelmingly defeated in both contests, the democracy has since been considering how the conflicting factions of the party can be brought together and made to agree on a candidate and platform for 1904.

Within about six months the democratic national convention will be held and there is not at this time any positive indication as to who will be the standard-bearer of the party in the campaign or what will be the character of the platform. A number of men are being talked of as possible candidates, but none of them commands a very strong following or represents principles upon which the party can harmonize. Mr. Cleveland, in spite of his explicit statement that he would not be a candidate, is still being talked of by some democrats as the most available man to again lead his party. Mr. Olney is being urged by the democrats of Massachusetts as one who would prove very strong in New England and in some of the doubtful states. Judge Parker of New York has a considerable body of admirers who confidently believe that he would prove a successful leader. Senator Gorman has earnest friends and there are some democrats who think that Judge Gray would be a strong candidate. But it is by no means certain that any one of these could unite and harmonize the party.

In regard to the platform an even greater difficulty than that of selecting a candidate confronts the democracy. This is quite clearly shown in what was said by the principal speakers at the dinner in New York Monday night, Mr.

Olney and David B. Hill outlined what each thought should be the democratic platform for 1904. There are some quite important differences in their views. For a simple noteworthy example, Mr. Olney said nothing about the currency, while Mr. Hill, obviously with the intention of catching the ear of the silverites, suggested that there might be a plank in the platform simply declaring in favor of international bi-metalism, a policy long since shown to be utterly impracticable. There is not a little in the utterances of both of these prominent democrats that is distinctly demagogic, but David B. Hill goes much farther in this direction than the representative of Massachusetts democracy, who had the good sense to say that the democratic party "will of course bow to the logic of accomplished facts," a statement which the members of that party in the United States senate as well as in the country at large would do well to give attention to.

We are unable to see that the democratic party has made any substantial progress toward harmony. The men who have been endeavoring to reorganize the party and rid it of the spirit which took possession of it eight years ago perhaps believe that success is assured, but there is little in evidence to warrant such confidence. The leaders of democracy in the last two national campaigns are yet to be heard from.

THERE IS NO SUCH EMERGENCY.

There is a well-defined rumor that a resolution is to be sprung and rushed through the council declaring with "Whereas" that an emergency has arisen that justifies and impels that body to summarily dispense with the services of the acting city electrician and to substitute in his place a man who is highly recommended for this service by the manager of the Omaha Electric Lighting company. If such a scheme is really contemplated it is altogether too transparent to deceive anybody. The office of city electrician is created by the charter and the appointment of the city electrician is vested by the charter in the mayor, subject to confirmation by the council, and conditioned upon specific qualifications named in the charter. In vesting the appointment of the city electrician exclusively in the mayor and subjecting his appointees to ratification by the council, the charter distinctly draws the line between the powers of the mayor and the council. The mayor appoints and the council is privileged to approve or reject, but the council has no right to usurp the appointing power under pretext of emergency. The manifest object of ousting the acting electrician, who is fully as competent as the man selected by the manager of the electric lighting company, is to fill the position of city electrician for an indefinite period in defiance of the plain letter and spirit of the charter. If the council can fill a vacancy by naming an officer in a resolution that does not require the approval of the mayor, it can practically exercise the appointing power and dispense altogether with even a suggestion from the mayor. All the council would have to do would be to declare an emergency, install a temporary officer by resolution and hold him in the place by rejecting every appointee the mayor might submit and leave his own appointee in the position during the unexpired term of the mayor. If the precedent for such a usurpation is once established, the council can declare an emergency every time an appointive office becomes vacant and dictate the appointment of its own choice by rejecting every appointment submitted by the mayor.

Such powers have never yet been conferred upon a legislative body and we can conceive no emergency that would justify their exercise. The mere fact that an imperative demand for strict inspection of electric wiring has suggested itself by the Chicago fire does not necessarily mean that an emergency exists that would justify the council in assuming the appointing power, vested exclusively in the mayor, especially when, as in this instance, the initiative comes from a public utility corporation that wants to control the city electrician.

The fact that the Filipinos regret the transfer of Judge Taft from the headship of their government augurs well for the kind of government we have been giving them under him. The very idea of fettering a departing governor during the late Spanish era would have been a novelty to the Filipinos, with whom government at that time was synonymous with oppression, and the only sentiment aroused by each change in administration was that of joy at the thought that the new could not be worse than the old.

The congressmen referred to in the Bristow report as having secured special favors from the Postoffice department through Beavers, the discredited salary allowance chief, might just as well stand up and be counted voluntarily without waiting to be smoked out by the democratic inquisition. It is just possible, though, that a few democrats, willing to take republican pie, are also in the number.

Where does the deputy state labor commissioner get his authority for stepping in with orders or advice to the theaters with respect to asbestos or steel curtains? The law gives him certain jurisdiction over the question of outside fire escapes, but he has no right to go inside the theaters—that duty devolves upon the local authorities, who ought to be competent to attend to it.

Whatever the mayor and council decide to do to provide for the collection and removal of garbage and refuse, now that the old garbage contract has expired, they should impose conditions that will make sure of improvement over what we have had. The health and cleanliness of the community should

ARMY GOSSIP IN WASHINGTON.

Trend of Affairs Gleaned from the Army and Navy Register.

A general order is in course of preparation in the War department prescribing the system by which will be established a reserve list of militiamen regarded as eligible to appointment as commissioned officers of an auxiliary military force in time of trouble. The order was prepared by the general staff and represents two drafts of a method of examination, the first being regarded as too severe in its requirements. The system is devised in accordance with the provisions of section 22 of the military law and when it goes into effect will provide a list of officers available for duty in a volunteer force.

The general staff has continued its discussion of the establishment of a distinguished service class in the army, and various propositions have been presented with the idea of providing a means of reward for certain officers, which system shall not be at the same time a punishment to other officers. There is a sentiment in favor of stipulating that no officer shall be admitted to the distinguished service class save for unusual gallantry on the firing line or in the field during a campaign. It has also been suggested that those of the distinguished service class shall be regarded as on a preference list whenever an especially attractive billet is to be filled, or when appointments are to be made to the grade of general officers.

The vegetable and mineral kingdoms have contributed to the fighting machinery of man and it is only a step to the employment of the animal kingdom to the same end. The army board of ordnance and fortification has had before it such an interesting proposition, at least, and has contemplated the use of large fish, preferably sharks, in the propulsion of torpedoes. It was proposed to imprison the shark in a tube in the rear end of these projectiles and control and direct the shark in its movements by the active application of wireless telegraphy. When the shark became obtundate or desired to go off on its own account, it was to receive a shock and in this way be kept on its course until the deadly missile had reached its target. From the same ingenious source came the proposition that war balloons could be guided to large and powerful birds harnessed to the aerial vehicles, and also directed in this or that course by the principle of wireless telegraphy. The balloons were to carry torpedoes or bombs or other devastating projectiles which could be dropped at the right time, also by the use of wireless telegraphy. As has been stated, both propositions were regarded as presenting too many difficulties to be of practical service at present.

Secretary Root has transmitted to congress the claims of a man in Belle Fourche, Neb., for injuries to his horse which army officers aided in injured during the volley firing of Company M, Tenth infantry, at Fort Crook, Neb., and a board of officers convened at that post reported on the damage and recommended that the owner be reimbursed \$50, or \$30 less than the amount claimed.

The reports received from the army inspectors general all over the country contain a striking unanimity of view respecting the need of a military prison. The army has no such institution except in the inadequate prison at Alcatraz Island, in San Francisco bay. This does not begin to accommodate all the prisoners of the military establishment and the result at nearly every post is an overcrowding of the guardhouses. Some time ago the military prison at Fort Leavenworth in Kansas was turned over to the civil authorities, who are now about to vacate the property and move to more commodious structures on the Leavenworth reservation further removed from the army garrison. The recommendation has been made that the prison revert to the military authorities at least until some better provision can be made for caring for the prisoners. This would relieve the situation at the post guardhouses, where the condition causes more or less apprehension on account of the influence military prisoners have on the new arrivals.

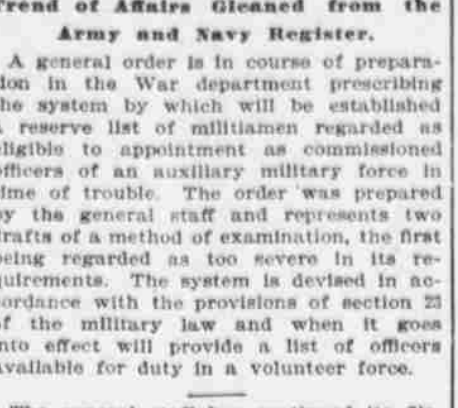
Another comment which is found in the reports of inspection of army posts is the criticism of the general mess system, and the more the officers see of this method of living and the more they hear of it the less they are to commend it. It is only a question of time when every post where the general mess exists will return to the company mess system. Indeed, arrangements are being made now for this change. The experiment has proven a flat failure and no one stands up in its advocacy and defender. In days of the company mess, and as the company mess exists today, there was and is general contentment with the table. There is a spirit of rivalry and a great deal of pride in table decorations with such features as special china and silverware and with the grade tablecloths and napkins for the gala occasions. All this is impracticable and impossible in the general mess, where everything is done by wholesale and where the food gets nothing of the special preparation of the company mess. The provisions are manufactured in vast bulk and this does not add to the attractiveness of the table.

It is probable some effort will be made by the army authorities to amend the law so as to permit the counting of time as double for soldiers and marines serving in Alaska and Guam. It is believed that the best way to effect this would be to have it submitted as an amendment to the army appropriation bill. Official reports from officers in Alaska contain favorable reference to such a project, mainly on the ground that the soldiers on duty in the territory suffer privations, discomforts and serious incident to the severity of the climate. Added to this fact the cost of living is high in Alaska, and by contrast the workingman in the territory receives as a daily wage more money than the soldier has as his monthly pay. Under such conditions it is naturally difficult to promote contentment among the soldiers. General Greely in his bearings before the house military committee spoke with much warmth of the suffering endured by signal corps men in Alaska and has pointed out that something must be done to make Alaskan service less of a positive hardship and menace to the soldier who is now injured physically and mentally by duty in Alaska. There have been developed several cases of insanity among enlisted men of the territory and it is all traceable to the isolation and the hardships of the climate.

A Bay State Front. Minneapolis Times. If our Massachusetts friends want the wounds of 1890 to heal they will stop shouting for Olney. If there is a man on earth for whom the democrats of the west have less love than for Cleveland that man is Olney. And he is not a bad fellow, either.

Locking the Stable Door. Detroit Free Press. Mayor Harrison has closed all theaters in Chicago for failure to comply with the law. Chicago is a great city for locking the stable door after the horse has been stolen.

Ask Your Dealer For



WARRANTED BUCK SKIN. MCKIBBIN GLOVES NONE BETTER MADE.

PERSONAL NOTES.

California figures that it will be able to support 20,000,000 people when the year 2000 rolls around.

Joseph Friedenwald of Baltimore purchased a beautiful cane made of tortoise shell during a recent trip to Europe and presented it to recent trip to Europe and presented it to Cardinal Gibbons.

John Hazeltine, known throughout central New York as a philanthropist, has announced plans to take a colony of 1,000 Syracuse people to Montana for the purpose of establishing a town.

Paul W. Bartlett's heroic statue of General Joseph Warren is being exhibited in New York and sculptors of that city pronounce it one of Bartlett's best works and a strong and attractive statue full of character.

Dr. W. Seward Webb will throw open his park to the public. It is located near Utica, N. Y., and contains 8,000 acres of forests and lakes, and is well stocked with moose, elk, caribou, black-tailed deer, English stags and other game.

The bench and bar of Jefferson county, Kentucky, which includes Louisville, presented a silver loving cup to Judge Sterling B. Toney, on his retirement on January 1 from the bench of the circuit court, after seventeen years' service. The cup is fifteen inches high and weighs 600 ounces.

The French minister of war, General Andre, is one of the best abused men in France because of his recently announced purpose to promote equality in the ranks of the army. To further this object he has recently abolished the custom of "presenting arms" as a mark of respect.

William Durant, treasurer of the Boston Transcript company and for seventy years a faithful employe and guiding spirit of that corporation, died last week in his 88th year. Mr. Durant was born in Boston, studied law for a short time and in February, 1854, became a clerk in the Transcript office.

Secretary Hay has in his possession the Panama flag in which was wrapped Panama's treaty with the United States on its trip from Washington to the isthmus and back again. The flag was presented to him by Minister Bunau-Varilla, who himself kept the American flag which was also wrapped about the treaty.

A recent letter from Abyssinia describes King Menelik as a man of about 60 years of age, dark in complexion, his face marked with small pox and his chin covered with a slight gray beard. He has a keen, thoughtful face, brilliant dark eyes and through an interpreter converses intelligently with his guests.

A great number of offers of marriage have been received by Miss Lillian Bennett, the young English girl who came to America to marry Ambrose Good, who was killed in a railroad wreck at Dawson, Pa. She is now living with Good's brother in Mechanicsville, Pa. Miss Bennett has also received offers of money, theatrical engagements and positions by the score.

The women of the Northwestern states are trying to raise money to erect a statue to Sacajawea, the Indian woman who acted as a guide to the Lewis and Clark expedition in 1804. The memorial is to have a temporary place in the Lewis and Clark Centennial, in Portland, Ore., and afterward to be permanently erected in that city. The statue is to be of bronze, heroic in size, and to cost \$7,000.

Ask Your Dealer For



WARRANTED BUCK SKIN. MCKIBBIN GLOVES NONE BETTER MADE.

WAIFS OF THE WITS.

Doctor—Well, how does the eye feel this morning? Patient—It's exceedingly painful, doctor. I'm afraid I'm going to have trouble with it. Doctor—Of don't worry; it will come out all right.—Philadelphia Press.

"Do I understand that you favor government ownership?" "Not exactly," answered Senator Scruggs. "I never favor extremes. But I do believe that government employes ought to own as much as possible."—Washington Star.

"Joshua" said Mrs. Chugwater, "have you ever seen a bureau of information?" "Yes." "What does it look like?" "You've seen a table of contents, haven't you?" replied Mr. Chugwater, somewhat irritably. "Well, I don't like that, only it's larger."—Chicago Tribune.

"Well," said the young lawyer, after he had heard his new client's story, "your claim appears to be good. I think we can secure a verdict without much trouble." "That's what I told my wife, and yet she insisted at first that we oughter get a first-class lawyer."—Indianapolis Journal.

Father—Doesn't Edith know what that young man's intentions are, yet? Mother—No. She says he is keeping her completely in the dark. Father—What! My dear, when I was calling on you you wouldn't let me keep you in the dark until after I had declared myself.—Philadelphia Press.

THAT'S ENOUGH FOR ME.

Bismarck Tribune. Sometimes I think I'll thrash him good. He needs it bad. I'm sure. An' sometimes—well, I believe I would thrash him good. I believe I would thrash him good. I believe I would thrash him good.

I guess a hundred times or more I've taken him inside. I've taken him inside. I've taken him inside. I've taken him inside. I've taken him inside.

First thing I know I'm sittin' there. First thing I know I'm sittin' there. First thing I know I'm sittin' there. First thing I know I'm sittin' there.

Holdin' him in my lap. Holdin' him in my lap. Holdin' him in my lap. Holdin' him in my lap.

He's got the same brown eyes she had. He's got the same brown eyes she had. He's got the same brown eyes she had.

Looks so like her, the little lad. Looks so like her, the little lad. Looks so like her, the little lad.

To lay a finger rough on him. To lay a finger rough on him. To lay a finger rough on him.

'T'd almost seem as though I was belin' hain't to her. 'T'd almost seem as though I was belin' hain't to her.

An' so I let him go. An' so I let him go. An' so I let him go.

He ain't a bad boy—no, he ain't. He ain't a bad boy—no, he ain't. He ain't a bad boy—no, he ain't.

Y' know, sometimes he'll come 't me. Y' know, sometimes he'll come 't me. Y' know, sometimes he'll come 't me.

Y' ain't goin' to whip, now, are ye? Y' ain't goin' to whip, now, are ye? Y' ain't goin' to whip, now, are ye?

Y' ain't bein' very bad. Y' ain't bein' very bad. Y' ain't bein' very bad.

My eyes got blurred and dim. My eyes got blurred and dim. My eyes got blurred and dim.

He puts his little arms aroun'. He puts his little arms aroun'. He puts his little arms aroun'.

Hot in his eyes, so big an' brown. Hot in his eyes, so big an' brown.

An' that's enough for me. An' that's enough for me. An' that's enough for me.

As Good as a Gift. Every suit, coat and vest, overcoat and uister, for MEN, left from our big 50 per cent discount sale, will be sold Wednesday morning at \$5.00. About the price of some of the linings—especially so of black clay worsteds, Prince Alberts and cutaways. But sizes are broken. They have to go. First come, first served. All \$1.00, \$1.50 and \$2.00 colored shirts. 50c, 75c and \$1.15. ALL Broken line 50c, 75c Neckwear—all shapes—at one price. 25c. And plenty of good things for the boys and children at Half Price. And for "one day only," WEDNESDAY—any hat in our store above \$2.00, except "Stetson's," \$1.00 off. \$2.00 hats, \$1.00. \$2.50 hats, \$1.50. \$3.00 hats, \$2.00. \$3.50 hats, \$2.50. \$4.00 hats, \$3.00. Browning King & Co. R. S. WILCOX, Mgr.