

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

R. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 2d day of February, 1904. M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

The Irish are standing pat.

The yellow peril grows more threatening. A Japanese woman has just annexed a nephew of J. Pierpont Morgan.

If St. Louis is as successful in making a show as it seems to be in making a loan the success of the exposition is assured.

The Omaha Grain exchange had not been established forty-eight hours before wheat mounted up to \$1 a bushel in the Chicago wheat pit.

Spring must be opening early already in the Balkans. Announcement of the resumption of activity by Macedonian revolutionists is made this early.

The action of his senior senator shows that progress is making strides in Arkansas even though the state is handicapped by a governor named Jefferson Davis.

The railroads have a good many cardinal sins to shoulder. The heaviest of these is the charge of the Coal Dealers' association that they are responsible for short weight.

Governor Peabody announces that the inscription in the Cripple Creek district of Colorado has ended just as the Uruguayan rebels clamor for notice in the news columns.

John Redmond says that Ireland had rather be badly governed by itself than well governed by another power. The same sentiment has landed many men in British dungeons.

The Iowa legislature is now actively engaged in the same pastime that has taken up most of the time of all the preceding legislatures, namely, the repeal of four-fifths of all the statutory enactments of the preceding session.

The financial idea breaks into the most solemn occasions. The death of William C. Whitney was just announced when the dispatches told of the loss which would come to his stables through the lapse of entries of his race horses.

Roosevelt clubs organized by earnest and enthusiastic friends of Roosevelt regardless of faction are all right, but clubs organized to promote factional strife and subvert personal ambitions under the Roosevelt flag do not deserve encouragement.

Henry Watterson is almost as particular about the next democratic candidate for president as though he thought that party might be successful at the polls. He has now relegated W. B. Hearst to the scrap pile with Bryan and Cleveland without giving him a chance to show the mettle that is in him.

The all-absorbing issue among South Omaha politicians with a democratic bias is whether candidates for municipal offices, to be voted for at the coming election, are to be nominated by direct primaries or by a nominating convention. Parties familiar with South Omaha nominating methods say that it is as broad as it is long. In one case the candidates have to round up the voters; in the other case they have to corral the delegates before and after nomination.

If it turns out that William C. Whitney, former secretary of the navy, who was reputed to be a multi-millionaire, has left any part of his millions as a gift to charitable, benevolent or educational institutions there is liable to be a popular protest entered against its acceptance because Whitney was a turban and got some of his wealth from betting on racehorses, which certainly is just as immoral as Rockefeller pocketing railroad rebates and arbitrarily fixing the price of coal oil.

ROOSEVELT AND THE TRUST MAGNATES

The fact that several trust magnates and representatives of trust magnates have recently sought and obtained interviews with President Roosevelt is interpreted by correspondents at the national capital as preliminary negotiations for a political armistice. Some go so far as to declare that President Roosevelt has capitulated to Wall street rather than risk defeat in the coming national convention at the hands of the corporations.

This version of the recent conference between the president and the trust magnates is incredible as well as absurd. Theodore Roosevelt has never lacked the courage of his convictions. He has never yet been known to surrender or abandon any principle or policy which he believed to be right and just. The mere fact that he has entertained President Stillman of the City-National bank of New York, which is the financial depository of the Standard Oil trust, has no wider significance than the fact that he expressed satisfaction with the assurance of J. W. Rhyne, who claims to dominate Iowa politics, that the Iowa delegation would be for him in the national convention.

The doors of the White House have been open to citizens of all classes, stations and races since its occupancy by President Roosevelt. The trust plutocrats and multi-millionaires are received no more cordially by him than the most humble citizen in the land. The unfriendly attitude of the Morgans, Rockefellers, Goulds and other railroad magnates and captains of industry toward President Roosevelt has been an open secret for many months, and if they have recently experienced a change of heart it is not because Roosevelt has capitulated, but because they see the handwriting on the wall. They realize that the overwhelming public sentiment in favor of his renomination and re-election would make any opposition on their part foolhardy and extra hazardous. There is nothing so timid and cowardly as a million dollars, except two million dollars. The trust magnates are not so foolish as to butt their heads against the solid wall.

It may also transpire that their withdrawal of opposition is simply a ruse de guerre. There is no possible chance of defeating Theodore Roosevelt's nomination except by creating a false sentiment of security, in other words, by lulling Roosevelt and his friends to sleep by spreading the report that he has nothing to fear from the trust magnates, and may even count on their support henceforth. We doubt, however, whether the president or his staunch supporters will allow themselves to be hoodwinked by these unnatural demonstrations of good will and friendship. Corporation magnates seldom forget and never forgive. At heart they are no more friendly to Theodore Roosevelt than they were three months ago, and if they can surprise him off his guard or trip him up they will do it.

BRITAIN'S COTTON PROBLEM.

A notable feature of King Edward's speech at the opening of Parliament, which is of particular interest to American cotton producers, was his reference to the insufficiency of the supply of raw cotton and the expression of a hope that the efforts being made in various parts of the empire to increase the area of cotton cultivation may be successful.

We referred a few days ago to the report of the United States consul general at Berlin regarding the efforts being made in Great Britain, France and Germany to develop in their colonial possessions the cultivation of cotton, in the hope of being able in time to emancipate their textile industries from dependence upon American cotton. There are associations in each of those countries for the purpose of promoting this policy and they are said to have met with some success. The British Cotton Growing association has been experimenting some two years in West Africa and a recent shipment of cotton from there was pronounced equal to the best American upland in both length and quality of fiber.

There seems to be no reason to doubt that cotton cultivation in Africa will in time become an extensive and profitable industry, but it is improbable that the time will ever be when there is not a demand for all the American cotton that can be grown. Yet the efforts of other countries to increase the supply of this most necessary product will be watched with interest.

NO AMERICAN CO-OPERATION.

A statement having gone abroad to the effect that the United States was likely to join with Great Britain and France in action unfriendly to Japan in the event of the latter maintaining an uncompromising attitude, it is said on the authority of the acting secretary of state that the United States had not and would not act with any power in regard to the issue in the far east. The report that went abroad appears to have been accepted by some of the Paris papers as having a substantial basis and they gave it special prominence, which simply showed how little foreigners understand the spirit and policy of our government.

There has been manifested abroad, so far as newspaper expressions can be taken to indicate public opinion, an earnest desire that the United States would co-operate with such of the European powers as want peace preserved in the far east, but no thought of doing this has ever been entertained at Washington and the assurance is now given that this government will not act with any other power in the matter. Intelligent Americans are taking a very great interest in the far eastern trouble. Doubtless a large majority of them are hopeful that war will be averted, realizing that this country has rights and interests in that quarter that might be imperilled by a conflict between Russia and Japan. But no American having a proper regard for the well-established policy of the country would approve of this government joining with any European power

in relation to the Russo-Japanese controversy. The United States is friendly to both the contending nations and its proper and only safe position is that of strict neutrality. Our government would be justified, by the terms of The Hague convention, in tendering its good offices, but as this would probably be useless, the obviously wise course is to stand aloof, at least so long as our rights and interests are not invaded.

TO AMEND ANTI-TRUST LAW.

A bill introduced in the United States senate by Mr. Foraker and referred to the committee on interstate commerce proposes to amend the anti-trust law of 1890, known as the Sherman act, so as to make it apply only to "unreasonable" restraints of trade. Under the decisions of the supreme court of the United States the law now applies to all restraints of trade, whether "reasonable" or "unreasonable." In the Trans-Missouri Freight association case the court said: "When the body of an act proclaims an illegal every contract or combination in restraint of trade or commerce among the several states, the plain and ordinary meaning of such language is not limited to that kind of contract alone which is unreasonable restraint of trade, but all contracts are included in such language and no exception or limitation can be added without placing in the act that which has been omitted by congress."

This interpretation of the anti-trust law of 1890 was reaffirmed by the highest tribunal in the joint traffic case and by the circuit court in the Northern Securities case. It is relied upon to secure a decision of the supreme court in the latter case favorable to the government. The defendants in these several cases have contended that it was not intended by congress that the law should apply to reasonable restraints of trade and the question has received a good deal of attention and discussion outside of the courts, those opposing the supreme court decision finding strong arguments for their position in the dissenting opinion of four of the justices of the court. It has been urged that under the interpretation of the highest tribunal almost any trade agreement or contract would be in restraint of commerce and therefore unlawful, and that the effect of this would be dangerous and demoralizing to the business of the country.

While no such result has followed the decision and hence there is no substantial reason for apprehension, yet the amendment of the law proposed by Senator Foraker certainly merits careful consideration. Quite naturally some democratic papers are attempting to make it appear that the measure is a compromise on the part of the administration with the trusts, but as to this the author of the bill says he never mentioned it to the president, who is in no way responsible for it. In regard to the measure Mr. Foraker said: "It will not weaken the present anti-trust law, but is intended to assist in its interpretation. The Sherman act was intended to prevent unreasonable restraint of trade. If my bill becomes a law it will not prevent the prosecution of dangerous and harmful combinations. My bill simply recognizes the common law definition of trade. It really carries out the original purpose of the Sherman anti-trust law." The supreme court has given its interpretation of that act. It is within the province of congress to place its construction upon the intent and meaning of the law and there can be no doubt as to the desirability of its doing this.

Change in Pockets Only.

Kansas City Times. "Who gets the beef profits?" asks Secretary Wilson. Well, the Creamery trust gets a portion of them since the oleomargarine law went into effect.

Any Old Excuse Will Do.

Chicago Tribune. The ice trust must have some compensation next summer, look you, for the discomforts its men have encountered in cutting the ice this terribly cold winter.

Too Much Sore Head.

Chicago Chronicle. The plutocrats against whom Mr. Bryan is now leveling his biggest oratorical guns are "the men who did not vote for me in 1896 and 1900." What other defeated presidential candidate ever exhibited his sore head in this manner.

A Few of Them Left.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Bryan says he will support none of the democrats who voted for Palmer and Buckner, and there were 18,424 of them. The McKinley democrats were still more numerous, and may also be presumed to be unacceptable to the indefatigable loser of 1896 and 1900.

Creditable to British Justice.

Louisville Courier-Journal. It is creditable to British justice that, in spite of the evident high influence exerted to shield Wright, his conviction was accomplished and a suitable penalty fixed by the sentence. His sudden and tragic death in no way affects the credit due the officers who prosecuted and sentenced him.

Shabby Business.

Philadelphia Press. The attempt to make out a ground of criticism against the Postoffice department because of the large increase in expenditures is shabby business. The postal expenditures come back in postal receipts. This simple business is not in the public interest.

Open Ports in China.

Springfield Republican. The circulation some time ago of the story that the cost of living increased by 100 per cent, was not free from ice in the harbor all the year has proved to be correct only in a qualified sense. The United States consul at Formosa, Mr. Davidson, says in a London Times interview: "It has been stated that Dally it not an ice-free port, and in a limited sense this is true, for at times a thin coating of ice forms in the harbor; but there has never been, and engineers are confident that there never will be, sufficient ice to interfere seriously with shipping. One small steam tug could easily keep the harbor free of all ice." This information renders superfluous all speculations to the effect that Russia must secure another port in Korea in order to have one that is ice-free.

COST OF LIVING.

Phases of the Problem in Figures and Assertions.

Everybody's Magazine. Every pocket knows its own bitterness. According to the statistics of the Department of Labor which got its figures from families with an average income of \$277.12 and an average expenditure of \$284.64, the cost of living in 1902, when it was highest, was 15.1 per cent more than in 1896, when it was lowest. Average wages have accommodately increased by just that 15.1 per cent; in some cases by more. The Employers' Association of Chicago estimates that the cost of living increased by 107.12 per cent from 1880 to 1902. Various newspapers and independent observers have guessed a much higher increase of cost, even more than double. Statistics are arranged here and in figures there is no comfort. Ask your wife how the household bills for groceries, and meat, and so on, the two or three years ago, and you will find that if she does not say that they have gone up from 60 to 50 per cent, you are a mighty lucky man. Wages may or may not have gone up 15 per cent. Salaries have not gone up at all.

bled from Nebraska consumers of petroleum. The United States is friendly to both the contending nations and its proper and only safe position is that of strict neutrality. Our government would be justified, by the terms of The Hague convention, in tendering its good offices, but as this would probably be useless, the obviously wise course is to stand aloof, at least so long as our rights and interests are not invaded.

The experience of all large cities is in favor of small parks centrally located. The city of St. Louis, for example, has twenty-three parks, of which twelve contain less than six acres each; four contain ten to fifteen acres, three less than fifty and more than twenty acres each, while only four have an area exceeding fifty acres. The demand in St. Louis is for additional small parks in the downtown district. If the Omaha Park commission could dispose of two or three of its outlying tracts of land that have been included in its park system and expend the proceeds for small breathing spots in the downtown district, it would materially increase the comfort of the people who are compelled to live in tenement houses and business blocks, and at the same time would contribute toward beautifying the city.

The bill introduced into the Iowa state senate to compel married men to work or go to jail is class legislation of the most pronounced type, besides being ungenial and unconstitutional. Men who habitually abstain from work whether they are married or single are constitutionally opposed to compulsory exercise either with the jack-plane, hammer, saw or shovel. Habitual idleness is, however, most pronounced in married men when they know that they can depend upon their wives to earn a living for them. To send this class of hardless people to jail would simply impose additional taxes on the people who are willing to work.

Now that the Porto Rican delegate has been admitted to congress, the necessity for easy English substitutes for some of the native names of islanders becomes more apparent. Delegate Kalaniana'olaha kindly brought along the pseudonym of "Prince Cupid," which has saved many warm words on the part of those who write.

The Kansas State university is the recipient of a legacy of \$25,000 from a friend of higher education, and the acceptance of this gift will, according to the World-Herald, be an open confession that the state of Kansas is either unable or unwilling to maintain its educational institutions at the public expense.

ARTHUR AND ROOSEVELT.

Deduction Drawn from Alleged Similarities Falls in Important Points. Leslie's Weekly. Some democratic and some assistant democratic papers are printing what they call "a parallel" between the case of Arthur and that of Roosevelt, which they show up complete and in the latter. Each of these New Yorkers was on the ticket with an Ohio man (Garfield in the earlier instance and McKinley in the later one), and each, after the assassination of the Ohio man, went to the presidency. Postal frauds engaged the attention of McKinley in the collection of odd snatches, which he thinks of publishing. Mr. Boutell is a storehouse of information regarding oddities of American and English history. Although there are still ten indictments hanging over Dr. A. A. Ames, former mayor of Minneapolis, for malfeasance in office, none of them will be prosecuted, as the recent decision of the supreme court setting aside his conviction under the strongest of the cases against him renders a second conviction practically an impossibility.

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THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR

ROYAL BAKING POWDER

It is a Matter of Health

What the Administration Has Done to Break Up Trusts. Kansas City Star (Ind.) A reader of the Star desires to know what President Roosevelt has done to oppose Wall street or hamper the trusts; what has become of the Northern Securities case, and whether the secretary of the treasury "has not rushed to Wall street every time a monetary stringency threatened it." As a reason for seeking this information the writer says: "I believe that I am not alone in my doubts as to the sincerity of Wall street's opposition to Mr. Roosevelt."

It is necessary, of course, to distinguish between the Wall street—the natural center of American finance—and speculative Wall street, which inflates stock and promotes monopolistic enterprises. The president is not hostile to organized capital so long as its purposes are honest and its methods lawful. Secretary Shaw has been visible anywhere in 1904. There is no republican feud of magnitude in any state. All over the country the party is harmonious, aggressive, and enthusiastic.

In 1902, unlike the case of 1892, the republicans carried congress, they won New York, and they made gains, as compared even with 1900, in the other states which voted. Roosevelt's policy, despite the assertions of his enemies, has been so popular that it has commanded the support of many of the democrats. On the paramount issue, that of the Panama canal's construction, he has won the south over to his side and split the democracy in that region. In the canvass Roosevelt's administration will necessarily be the issue, and that administration has commended itself so powerfully to the American people of all sections that it is sure of an overwhelming ratification at the polls.

Present indications are that Roosevelt will have a longer lead in the electoral college of 1904 than the winning ticket of McKinley and Roosevelt received in 1900.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Samuel Roads, legislator, editor, author and founder of the famous 824 Serpent club of Marblehead, Mass., has just died.

Maurice Vignaux, the French billiard expert, retains the billiard championship of the world through defeating George Sutton, the American player, 500 points to 400, in a game just played in Paris.

The emperor of Austria, when chided by his physicians for working too many hours, replied: "But what can I do? As it is, I can only just get my day's work in; and where should I be if I began even an hour later?"

Princess Schahowakoff, Stechnoff, who lives in Paris, owns the most sumptuous private car in Europe, for which she employs an enormous suite of Circassian attendants, secretaries and servants, all wearing gorgeous Circassian costumes.

There seems to be quite a decided movement among the rank and file of the republican party in Massachusetts to honor John D. Long with the place of delegate at large to the republican national convention at Chicago.

The city attorney of Chicago says that for personal injuries such as falls caused by rotten sidewalks, there are suits for over \$38,000,000 against the city. He blames it on an organization of young doctors and lawyers who hunt up clients in order to loot the city treasury.

Congressman Henry S. Boutell of Chicago has a passion for digging into old records and hunting up literary conceits. He has by rotten sidewalks, there are suits for over \$38,000,000 against the city. He blames it on an organization of young doctors and lawyers who hunt up clients in order to loot the city treasury.

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WHITTLED TO A POINT.

"He doesn't seem to mind his Wall street losses at all, does he?" "Oh, no; he's a hardened speculator—been married four times."—Detroit Free Press.

"Has your wife the what crass?" "No," answered the sardonic person. "She keeps her mind all right; it's the person she has for a partner that is in danger of crassness."—Washington Star.

"I don't suppose you propose to make any sacrifice during Lent," said the first clubman. "I expect to sacrifice the truth occasionally when I get home late."—Philadelphia Press.

"We see Pipes the plumber sitting in deep meditation, a contented smile hovering upon his face. 'Ah!' we venture gayly, 'holding all-ones.' 'Better'n that,' he tells us. 'Plumbing them.'—Judge.

"Funny how those old-time Alchemists strove to make gold out of dross." "Yes, and alchemy isn't necessary nowadays. It's easy to make gold out of the very dirt in our streets today."—Philadelphia Press.

"Get a contract for removing it, and let the main do your work."—Philadelphia Catholic Standard.

"Didn't I see that young man kissing you?" asked the mother. "I fear you did," replied the girl. "Don't you know that you should never let a man kiss you?" "But, mamma, it seems so forward for a girl to do the kissing."—Chicago Post.

"Money doesn't always bring happiness," said the drapery millionaire. "That may be all true enough," replied the struggling young man, "but it's one of those truths that nothing but experience can teach."—Detroit Free Press.

"Don't you think that your love of money exercises a dangerous influence on your career?" "Dear sir," answered Senator Borghum, "I doubt if my own love of money has had as much effect as the willingness to say anxiety of other people to accept my money."—Washington Star.

A party whose candor was shocking was once reprimanded for knocking. "Carried he had said." "Of the hearse we wed; She carries her coil in her chateleine!"—Milwaukee Sentinel.

GIVE 'EM THE LAUGH.

James Barton Adams in Denver Post. When your spirits are down And the world seems to frown And the clouds hide the blue of your skies, When the care-load you pack Puts a curve on your back And