

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR.

PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Daily Bee (without Sunday), One Year, \$1.00; Daily Bee and Sunday, One Year, \$1.25; Illustrated Bee, One Year, \$1.50; Sunday Bee, One Year, \$1.00; Daily Bee, One Year, \$1.00; Twenty-first Century Farmer, One Year, \$1.00.

DELIVERED BY CARRIER.

Daily Bee (without Sunday), per copy, 5c; Daily Bee (including Sunday), per week, 35c; Sunday Bee, per copy, 10c; Daily Bee (without Sunday), per week, 25c; Evening Bee (including Sunday), per week, 35c.

Advertisements of irregularity, by day, 10c per line; by week, 60c; by month, \$1.50; by three months, \$4.50; by six months, \$8.00; by year, \$15.00.

OFFICES.

Omaha—The Bee Building, South Omaha—City Hall Building, Twentieth and M streets.

Chicago—150 Unity Building, Washington—252 Park Row Building, Washington—100 Fourteenth street.

CORRESPONDENCE.

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

REMITTANCES.

Remit by draft, express or postal order payable to The Bee Publishing Company.

Only 2-cent stamps received in payment of mail accounts. Personal checks, except on Omaha or eastern exchanges, not accepted.

THE BEE PUBLISHING COMPANY.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION.

State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss. George H. 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 January, 1904, was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Copies and Total. Rows include Daily Bee (without Sunday), Daily Bee (including Sunday), Sunday Bee, etc.

Net total sales, 883,308. Net average sales, 28,493.

GEO. H. TSCHUCK, Secretary of The Bee Publishing Company.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 24 day of February, A. D. 1904.

M. B. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

If you see it in a yellow journal, don't believe it.

It is easy to locate new street lights, but awfully hard to dislocate old lights that are not needed.

Perhaps some of the reports from the seat of war are due to the fact that the fight is upon the Yellow sea.

With the opening of Lent one may don sackcloth, but a real seakins is more showy and comfortable.

Lent has come and the merry dancers and vivacious masqueraders will sober down and look at the serious side of life for the next six weeks.

New Englanders will insist there is no similarity, except in name, between the deposed Russian admiral and the man who made Molly Stark famous.

It is not surprising that Colorado statesmen are all champions of woman suffrage. Aesop once told a story of a fox which had lost its tail in a trap.

If that art discussion in the Reichstag does not bring on several different kinds of lese majeste German art patrons have lost much of their ancient fervor.

German strategists are now busy telling of the mistakes made by the Russian naval officers at Port Arthur, but German admirals make mistakes sometimes.

It will be noticed that the Korean port of Wifu was not opened to the United States until there was grave danger of the emperor of Korea needing a haven of refuge.

The hostility of the Russian press is accounted for. It was a representative of this country who first opened the eyes of Japan to the importance of western civilization.

Russia threatens to adopt toward the United States the same policy it has adopted toward Japan. The advisors of the czar realize that the American idea is not to strike a man who does not strike back.

It is to be hoped that the projected electric line from the city clerk's office to Papillion will not draw the line at free transportation to public officials. Such an innovation would be resented as an outrage.

A distinguished man has only to stay dead long enough and his enemies will recognize his ability. It is now said that eastern democrats are framing up a platform to be composed in great part of Blaine's speeches on the subject of reciprocity.

Japan proves itself to be a consistent expansionist. No sooner had the Russian government announced its intention of not exhibiting at the St. Louis exposition than the local Japanese commissioner filed application for the space assigned to that country.

The city council of Lincoln has voted unanimously to submit to the people of the capital city a proposition for the acquisition of a municipal lighting plant at the city election in April, and the prospect is that the bond proposition will be ratified by an overwhelming majority. If Lincoln can afford to invest in its own lighting plant, why not Omaha?

Ex-Postmaster Crow has gone to Sioux City to supervise the construction of an air line electric railroad to Omaha. If Mr. Crow succeeds in pumping wind and water enough into the concern to float its securities on the market and secures for himself a respectable salary, he will accomplish a greater feat than anybody in Omaha ever suspected him capable of.

CONGRESS AND THE SCHEDULES.

The expectation is that congress will adjourn in May and so far as the house of representatives is concerned it will undoubtedly be ready to do so by the beginning of that month. That body is pushing the appropriation bills through with great industry and will soon have completed the whole budget.

As to the senate, Mr. Allison, chairman of the committee on appropriations, is quoted as saying that he thinks that body will be ready for adjournment early in May, but no one can tell how much time will be consumed by the minority in efforts to make political capital and the democratic national convention will not meet until July.

However, it is reasonably assumed that the representatives of both parties in congress will be anxious to close up business as soon as practicable, with a due regard for the public interests, and get ready for the political campaign. The legislative program does not contemplate any important measures outside of the appropriation bills and this is well understood by both parties.

The question of economy in appropriations is receiving attention, but it is by no means certain that its importance is fully appreciated in either house. It is pointed out that the excess of receipts over expenditures for the fiscal year to date is only a little over \$4,000,000 and there is prospect of a deficit before the end of the year.

The payments on account of the canal and of contract appropriations made by congress in the past will reduce the surplus to \$93,000,000. If a deficit is to be avoided by the appropriations at this session, remarks the Philadelphia Press, \$42,000,000 must be cut from the estimates. It is very unlikely that this will be done and perhaps it cannot be without impairing the efficiency of the public service, but manifestly there should be no extraordinary appropriations for any purpose.

A PROJECT THAT MUST WAIT.

It is not likely that the movement for federal aid in the construction of public roads will meet with success at the present session of congress. We have already noted the introduction of bills providing an appropriation from the national treasury to assist the states in building roads, one of these measures calling for \$24,000,000. While there is a very strong sentiment in the rural communities of the country favorable to such legislation and this exerts a considerable influence upon congress, there is a feeling that it would be unwise in the present condition of the public finances, with the probability of a deficit at the close of the current fiscal year, to make such an extraordinary appropriation as the measures in congress call for and that the project can be expediently allowed to wait a year or two.

There is no doubt that the more ardent advocates of good roads will be sorely disappointed if something is not done at the present session for the advancement of the movement, but the more reasonable friends of the project will see that in view of the heavy and imperative demands on the national treasury it is not advisable at this time to increase expenditures. Of course it may be said that economy might be exercised in some other directions, but those who would urge this must be prepared to show in what direction economy can be practiced without injury to the public service. There is very much to be said in behalf of the good roads movement. It contemplates an improvement of conditions that would greatly benefit rural communities throughout the country. Perhaps it cannot be made successful without assistance from the general government. But it must give way for a time to the demands upon the public treasury that are of immediate and pressing urgency.

APPREHENSIVE OF CHINA.

Although China has declared neutrality, it appears that the Russian Foreign office has misgivings regarding her attitude, the reason for which is found in certain incidents of an unfriendly character attributed to Chinese. There are those outside of Russia who believe that China and Japan will eventually combine against their common enemy, but while this is far from impossible there is no good reason to believe that the Chinese government entertains at present any such purpose and certainly Japan is not thinking of a combination with China, for it was she who advised that country to take a neutral position and faithfully observe it.

There is no doubt that Chinese sympathy is very strongly with the Japanese. The ill feeling that was caused by the war between them of ten years ago, in which Japan won an easy victory, has disappeared and now the two countries are on the most friendly terms. It is most natural that with Russia occupying a valuable part of Chinese territory and undoubtedly contemplating further aggrandizement should she be victorious in the war, China should desire the defeat of that power, but it is not probable that the Chinese government will do anything hostile to Russia. On the contrary, it may be expected to do its utmost to observe strict neutrality. How well it will succeed, however, in restraining its people from the commission of acts violative of neutrality is another matter. The government is not fully recovered from the weakening and demoralizing effects of the Boxer outbreak. The prestige and authority it lost at that time have not been entirely regained. The former confidence of the people in their rulers has not been completely restored and this the rulers themselves understand. It is quite possible, therefore, that the government will find no little difficulty in repressing popular manifestations of hostility to Russia which the latter might rightfully regard as breaches of neutrality. An uprising of Chinese in the north is possible that would buffet efforts of the government for its suppression and divert from operations against Japan a considerable part of the Russian forces in Manchuria.

Then there are secret means of striking at Russia which the Chinese well know how to employ and are already accused of having employed on the Russian communications.

If Russia shall reject the proposition to recognize the neutrality and integrity of China the effect must be to intensify Chinese hostility toward her and increase the danger which is said to be apprehended by the Russian Foreign office. According to one report from St. Petersburg the American note is most unfavorably regarded there and the quoted expressions respecting it are anything but reassuring. A refusal to accept this proposition would be a virtual notice to China to expect loss of territory in the event of Russian success in the war and the effect could hardly be otherwise than to arouse the Chinese people to action for self-preservation. Russia could scarcely make a greater mistake than to reject the suggestion of the United States.

ON A STRICT BUSINESS BASIS.

In a discussion of city finances before the Prospect Hill Improvement club City Attorney Wright is reported to have made an able exposition of city financing and the negotiations under way for the acquisition of the water works. Before showing in how deplorable a state are the city finances Mr. Wright took occasion to defend the city council and city officials who, he declared, are trying to do the best they can, and he especially defended the action of the council in the matter of the new levy, arguing that "the heavy levy is good business policy under the circumstances." Mr. Wright wound up his able defense of municipal extravagance and wastefulness by expressing the hope and wish that "the city be put on a strict business basis as speedily as possible."

On behalf of the tax-paying citizens of Omaha The Bee ventures respectfully to disagree with the city attorney. The taxpayers of Omaha, we feel sure, do not consider the levy of a 14-mill tax good business policy. A 14-mill levy will yield \$1,400,000 of taxes, when the actual expenses of the city government and should be limited to \$1,000,000. A 10-mill tax would have been ample, especially in view of the prospective collection of from \$200,000 to \$300,000 delinquent taxes through the enforcement of the scavenger law. The additional 1-mill water works rental tax ordered by Judge Munger would have made the levy 11 mills, and that should have been the limit. The 3 mills additional tax on the old basis of one-sixth would have been equal to 18 mills, and the 14 mills on that basis would be equal to 84 mills. On a basis of one-fifth the 14-mill tax is equal to 70 mills, as against 54 mills, the highest levy that was ever levied upon city taxpayers.

Every taxpayer in Omaha will cheerfully join Mr. Wright in any effort to put the city on a strict business basis, but when is this to be done? Why was it not begun this year instead of some other year? The city officers may have good intentions, but Shoel is paved all over with that material. The fact that they have raised salaries and are carrying a lot of sinecures on the payroll disproves their intentions to put the city on a business basis.

There is no use of mincing matters any further. The last straw broke the camel's back, and the 14-mill tax is something that the people of Omaha will not regard as a good thing under existing conditions. It is an opening wedge for more pie biters and more extravagance and wastefulness, and, worst of all, it has undone all that has been accomplished by the strenuous efforts of the Real Estate exchange and property owners to reduce and equalize tax burdens and make Omaha more attractive for prospective investors.

LET US SEND MISSIONARIES ABROAD.

The business of the world is being carried on by the use of money. Money is the life of the world, and the shooting down of three other negroes, innocent of Holbert's crime, was one of the most atrocious outrages ever committed in any part of christendom or heathendom. No more hideous infamy ever cursed that land when the savages held it, before the coming of the christian era, with the shooting down of three other negroes, innocent of Holbert's crime, was one of the most atrocious outrages ever committed in any part of christendom or heathendom.

MUCH DEPENDS ON MAN'S INCLINATION AND OCCUPATION.

One of the prominent citizens of Chicago retired from business on Monday, in pursuance of a vow made in his youth that he would enjoy a life of leisure after he had reached the age of 60. The incident is suggestive. While each individual possessing a competency will determine for himself when his active career shall close, it is well to withdraw from the active pursuit of suit while one's powers and the ability to work remain.

We live rapidly in the telephone age. It has been truthfully said that we can crowd much more work into the day than our most industrious forebears did. Invention has given us many handy tools, and space have been conquered, so that the modern man of 60 has accomplished infinitely more than the man who lived to the patriarchal age, and, from this point of view, has earned the rest which his grandfather would not have dreamed of enjoying at that age. Whether this be so or not, many of the finest achievements in business, statesmanship, literature, in all activities, have been wrought by men long past 60. No strong man will accept 60 as the arbitrary limit of his ambition and working ability.

It has been discussed most knowingly on the obligation of the aged to leave the active scene have not undertaken to fix the age for retirement. The youth who is anxious to push his way into the working world thinks that a man is old at 40 and should be preparing to go on the retired list. In the fierce competitions of modern life it is probable that the age of retirement is gradually falling. The theory of retirement is gradually falling. The theory of retirement is gradually falling.

City Attorney Wright forecasts that it will take at least two years before Omaha finally acquires the water plant. In the meantime we are paying full water rent and \$20,000 a year to defray the salaries and incidentals of the Howell-Gilbert Water board. There is a possibility, however, that Mr.

Wright's forecast will fall short by three or four years.

The council has ordered the gas inspector to locate the new Weisbach gasoline lamps, but why not also require the gas inspector to locate leaks in gas meters, and why should not the city electrician be required to inspect all electric meters that register power and light for consumers?

John Hay served his apprenticeship in a school where diplomacy of a high character was required almost hourly. It was only by the greatest efforts that the United States was kept from trouble with other nations during the civil war.

The Open Door.

Detroit Free Press. About the only door that is now open in Manchuria is the one that leads to the cyclone cellar.

Credit Mobilier Outdone.

Kansas City Times. The Siberian railroad cost \$37 a mile more than the Union Pacific, and it had no Credit Mobilier deals, either.

The Innocent Spectator.

Chicago Tribune. Corea is a "disinterested spectator" in the sense that a crippled rat over which two terrors are fighting is a disinterested spectator of the dog fight.

In the Thick of the Fog.

Boston Transcript. While you are fingering the atlas in search of Masampho, Fusan, Mokpo and Chemulpo, the map of the Pacific on which the Netherlands are outspread and see if you can find anything of a place called The Hague.

A Fight for Plunder.

Kansas City Journal. The czar's exhibition of piety in calling for Divine assistance may be regarded as a part of his strategy. It calls the attention of christian nations to the fact that the conflict is one between a christian power and a pagan power. The struggle is in no sense a religious war, however. It is purely a fight for plunder.

Another Issue Knocked Out.

New York Press. It turns out that the magnificent, full-blooded and perfumed horses shipped to this country by the sultan of Morocco are not gifts from that sovereign to the president of the United States, but are for exhibition at the St. Louis fair. Once again the movement to defeat the renomination of Roosevelt is cheated of a good argument.

Will Consumers Strike Back?

New York Tribune. Western raisers of cattle are complaining bitterly that they are getting less money a pound than they received a few years ago. Eastern buyers are willing because their steaks are still selling at a profit in cost. If only 10 per cent of the devotees of a meat diet should try vegetarianism for a few months the packing houses might be brought to terms.

Bunch Your Hits.

St. Paul Pioneer Press. If every merchant who suffers from the nuisance of postage stamps used for small remittances, or from the habit which people have of using torn or mutilated bills in paying amounts by mail, would write to his congressman urging the passage of the postal check currency bill, he would do something to promote the interests of the people at large as well as his own.

AGE OF RETIREMENT.

Philadelphia Ledger. One of the prominent citizens of Chicago retired from business on Monday, in pursuance of a vow made in his youth that he would enjoy a life of leisure after he had reached the age of 60. The incident is suggestive. While each individual possessing a competency will determine for himself when his active career shall close, it is well to withdraw from the active pursuit of suit while one's powers and the ability to work remain.

REMARKS ON DEMOCRATS BY ONE WHO WAS "IN THEIR MIDST."

Remarks on Democrats by One Who Was "In Their Midst." Congressman J. Adam Bede's Speech. I realize that it is pretty hard work for a democrat to leave his party, and in extending this formal invitation for him to come into the republican party and be one of us, I know how hard it is for him to do it. There is a little railroad down in southern Minnesota, in a district represented by one of my colleagues, a few miles long, which is a very good train that always gets to its destination too late for a connection.

OMAHA GRAIN MARKET.

Bloomfield Journal: President Stickney of the Great Northern seems determined to stick by Omaha in its fight for a grain market. From its geographical position and its valuable connections by water and rail, it is destined to be a great commercial center. President Stickney has struck a popular chord and it is to be hoped, in the interest of fair play and common good, he may win.

A SMILE FROM MINNESOTA.

Central City Reporter: On Monday, February 1, the Omaha Grain exchange began business and Omaha makes its bid to become the market town to all the country naturally tributary to it. Natural conditions favor the project and if Omaha business men have the intelligence, the breadth, the honesty and the liberality with which we credit them, a new era of prosperity for the city and the state is before us.

Wausau Gazette: The Omaha Grain exchange is now in operation and the effect on the grain market has already been felt by local dealers. The cutting of grain rates by the railroads has had a good effect in the advance of the grain market. With the live stock markets that already existed and the new grain exchange, Omaha will be the great trading center of the west. To no one can this mean more than it does to the citizens of Nebraska. The future of our farmers is now assured.

RAPID FIRE PARAGRAPHS.

Detroit Free Press: Japan appears to realize that while public sympathy is a good thing to have in case of emergency, it does not mold bullets, and it is taking no chances on that score.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat: Sounds a little wild, that story that Japan is to appeal to the United States to ask for the release of 49 prisoners in the hands of Russia. This is not our war.

Chicago Inter Ocean: It will require some time, apparently, to clear the Oriental situation so that the American reading public will learn definitely whether it is the Russian battleships or the dispatches from the front that have been blown up.

New York Tribune: Cha Foo ought to prove his good observing station for the Mole St. Nicholas experts, who during the Spanish war used to regale us with tales of long continued and deadly cannonading in West Indian waters almost every other day.

Chicago Chronicle: Mr. Mangazaan is surprised that the people of this country should sympathize with the Japanese in the eastern struggle, because they are "Godless people." Probably it is because the Japanese are a cleanly, industrious, brave, chivalrous, intellectual, moral, progressive people. If they are all this without being Godless, so much the worse for Godliness.

Indianapolis Star: Swearing has always been supposed to be a necessary accomplishment of the soldier. Now it appears that in the Japanese language there are no swear words. Just how the Japanese soldier expresses his warlike anger, just how he shows his contempt for his men in tight places, we are not told. Sheridan, history records, swore roundly when he finished his ride from twenty miles away, and even George Washington, father of the country, resorted to profanity in the field at times. If we can guess by the first of the war news, the Japanese are not prone that one does not have to swear to fight.

PERSONAL NOTES.

Senator Ankeny of Washington acted as interpreter the other day when a group of Yakima Indians were presented to the president at the White House.

A tablet was unveiled last Friday to James J. Hoffman, the first president of the Hebrew Technical Institute, at its celebration of its twentieth anniversary in New York.

William Miller, probably the oldest engineer in service in the United States, has just been killed near Leadville, Colo. Miller began railroad engineering fifty-two years ago, with the Reading. He took the first Rio Grande engine west. He was 71 years of age.

At the Lincoln league meeting in New York on Friday night Dr. Howard Russell, the founder of the league, said that 50,000 people had signed the pledge which Abraham Lincoln composed and wrote and signed himself in Springfield, Ill., in 1862.

It is expected that Eugene F. Ware, pension commissioner, will be the speaker at the convention of American press humorists to be held at St. Louis on May 29. A feature of the occasion will be a pilgrimage to Hannibal, Mo., the old home of Mark Twain.

H. C. Henley, chief of the St. Louis fire prevention bureau, has been appointed a lecturer on insurance at Yale. The position is an honorary one, carrying no salary, and the incumbent is not expected to deliver more than one lecture a year before the insurance classes.

The emperor of Russia recently ordered six private passenger cars for use of the imperial family. These cars will be comfortable and luxurious. They are to be constructed entirely of Russian material and will be built at the famous Putiloff works. Each car will cost \$25,000.

James H. Morrow, for many years editor-in-chief of the Cleveland Leader, has resigned his position and will retire from the editorial profession on March 1. He first became identified with the Leader as a reporter and his rise was due to his diligence and grasp of the business.

M. Caruso, the great tenor of the Metropolitan company, New York, who has just sailed for home, made the following announcement just at embarking: "I have but two criticisms to make of the American critic. They object to my clothes and to my fat. When I return I trust I shall have overcome those objectionable features."

GLORY ENOUGH.

Baltimore American. There was more glory in the coming down of the American flag in Cuba than in the raising of the flag in Cuba. The coming down of the American flag meant a voluntary gift to a young nation of its complete freedom where other powers would have eagerly welcomed the chance to beat me for the nomination. That's worth a lot more than it costs me."

BITS OF WASHINGTON LIFE.

Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketched on the Spot.

The Army Register, a pamphlet recently issued by the War department, shows how steadily the army is growing in Washington. The Register gives the names and addresses of 23 officers of the active list on duty at the national capital. The establishment of the general staff naturally brought a lot of new officers to the department, but it did not cut down any on the old list. If anything, it served to add to its length. The bureau chiefs, who are afraid of the power of the general staff, brought their best men in from the field in order to have them on the ground to protect their respective interests. Officers are as thick as flies in all the bureaus of the department. The first floor of the building is given up practically to officers. This is absolutely true of the north front of the building. The overflow is accommodated in a large private residence, formerly occupied as the temporary White House during the repairs to the executive mansion. This structure is occupied by officers by the center of the general staff. Uniformed men are found in almost every room of the main office of the War department, and they have their headquarters in all the annexes and outside buildings rented by Secretary Taft.

Washington is getting to be more and more important as a military center. In the course of a few years the number of officers here probably will run up to 300 or 400. The completion of the War college will require the detaching of another large staff of them to act as professors and instructors. Then it is proposed to build a monster medical college and hospital on the outskirts of the town, where the officers of the medical corps will make lectures delivered and experiments conducted.

All hands were making political speeches in the house the other afternoon when a representative making his maiden speech shot off a few rhetorical fireworks for the young men of New York. "Parker, Parker," said the crushing Grosvenor of Ohio, in a musing tone, getting to his feet and stroking his Santa Claus beard reflectively. "Seems to me that I've heard that name before somewhere. Do you mean Judge Parker of New York?" "That's whom I mean," promptly replied the young man making his maiden speech. "Um—exactly," said Grosvenor. "By the way, what's Judge Parker's first name?" The new representative flushed and started to stammer some reply. An old-timer in a seat some distance behind the new man made a funnel of his hands and cried out whispering his maiden speech. "Um—exactly," said Grosvenor. "By the way, what's Judge Parker's first name?"

The new representative flushed and started to stammer some reply. An old-timer in a seat some distance behind the new man made a funnel of his hands and cried out whispering his maiden speech. "Um—exactly," said Grosvenor. "By the way, what's Judge Parker's first name?" The new representative made some floundering reply to the general effect that Judge Parker's first name didn't make any difference, etc., but he failed to get away with it. The house roared, and presently the new representative brought his talk to an abrupt close and sat down, looking flabbergasted.

While the late William C. Whitney was secretary of the navy he was one of the hardest working men in the department and he was very popular among all the employees, most of whom had been inherited by him from a republican administration. He had a marvelous capacity for accomplishing results, and without seeming effort he managed to get things done with a celerity that kept the men under him constantly guessing. He had a high desk in the big reception room at the Navy department, where he used to stand and sign his mail and do the business of the department. He liked to meet people in that way because he could get through with them quickly than he could if he received them one by one in a private room. Anybody with whom he really wanted to hold private conversation he would invite into the smaller apartment, but that was a somewhat rare occurrence.

Secretary of War Taft's father, Alphonso Taft, was secretary of war before him, serving with Grant in 1876. An oil portrait of Alphonso Taft hangs on the wall facing Secretary Taft's desk in the War department. When he reached his office on the morning after the day of his swearing-in as secretary of war Mr. Taft stood before his father's picture and viewed it for a long time. Then he turned to one of his assistants.

"That's a good picture," he said. "My good governor certainly has a commanding eye. I say nothing about the compelling force of his hand." Then he added, his eyes twinkling: "I am afraid I'll just naturally have to be good here under that steady and questioning gaze."

The ravages of Father Time are at last beginning to show on Senator Morgan of Alabama, the gallant champion of the Nicaragua canal route. The old hero's physical powers are falling fast, but his mentality remains undimmed and as keen as ever. The senator's voice has been getting weaker and weaker ever since the beginning of the present session, and yesterday it failed him altogether. He was compelled to call on a substitute to deliver part of his speech.

Senator Morgan's capacity for work is prodigious. Those who are associated with him say that he works until 3 or 3 o'clock every night in the preparation of material for the Panama canal treaty and cause. It is known that Morgan acts as a sort of literary bureau for other senators, and that he furnishes them with prepared speeches in opposition to the treaty. Although his voice is entirely gone and his strength has about deserted him, too, his mind is as bright as in the days when he was constantly in his prime. He can dictate an hour very good, clear and logical arguments against the pending treaty. Morgan is certainly one of the remarkable men of the present generation.

Representative McClary of Minnesota has a rural district of large number of country newspapers, republican as well as democratic, circulate among his constituents. About 100 of these newspapers of republican politics come in his mail to Washington weekly. "I take a good number of the democratic papers also," Mr. McClary recently remarked. "I print the names of many republican editors in my district. I like to read their papers." "But don't they attack you politically?" "Oh, my, yes," replied Mr. McClary. "And still you pay for these papers?" The Minnesota man smiled in a reminiscent way as he replied: "Ah, you ought to see how they treat any republican who tries to beat me for the nomination. That's worth a lot more than it costs me."

GLORY ENOUGH.

Baltimore American. There was more glory in the coming down of the American flag in Cuba than in the raising of the flag in Cuba. The coming down of the American flag meant a voluntary gift to a young nation of its complete freedom where other powers would have eagerly welcomed the chance to beat me for the nomination. That's worth a lot more than it costs me."

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