

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

B. ROBEWATER, EDITOR.

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Table with 3 columns: Number, Circulation, Total. Rows 1-14 showing circulation data for various editions.

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 2d day of May, A. D. 1904.

GEO. B. TEASDALE, Notary Public.

The campaign has reached the letter writing stage a trifle earlier than usual.

Will Chairman Bleckburn resign, as suggested by Mr. Cornlah? Will a duck keep away from the water?

Admiral Alexieff evidently thought the Japanese bullet which struck him a sufficient invitation to move.

Laws barring lottery business from the mails are supposed to be suspended when Uncle Sam has land to dispose of.

Paradoxically speaking, only with the Butchers' union is there less danger of bloodshed in a strike than in industrial peace.

Arbor day has passed, but it is not yet too late to do a little tree planting to contribute to the embellishment of the city.

Russia, after sending its ships to the far east around "The Horn," will be an active advocate of the early completion of the Panama canal.

The Chicago Chronicle says that General J. B. Weaver is not a democrat. But the Chicago writer may not be an expert upon Iowa democratic varieties.

Methodists may not think their bishops have been "soldiering on the job," but the resolution adopted for them to show what they have been doing would indicate some are suspicious.

When Charles Bryan returns from New Orleans Johnny Maher may tell him something about dissension among Nebraska democrats which the brother of the peerless leader has denied.

Depend on the World-Herald to do all it can to promote factionalism among the republicans. The proprietor of the World-Herald depends upon republican factionalism to hold his seat in congress.

Iowa is again striking at a notable American industry. The State Bar association would restrict the introduction of "expert testimony" to witnesses called by the court rather than by litigants.

The United States has recognized the king of Serbia, but this must not be taken as approval of the method by which he reached the throne, although in one sense all kings look alike to America.

St. Louis reports a larger attendance than Chicago for the first six days of the exposition, but the paid admissions are about 10,000 less, and it is only the paid admissions that count when the paying time comes.

The railroads have paid tax bureaus with a retinue of able retainers to look after their interests in escaping taxation, while the general mass of property owners who must bear whatever burden the railroads evade must depend upon volunteer champions. The fight would be unequal were not the right all on one side.

If the direct primary system under which the county republican primaries are to be held is so fair that it is satisfactory for the selection of delegates to the national convention, as is admitted by the congressional committee, why is it not equally fair for the selection of a candidate for congress? As a matter of fact, it is so fair that the only fault found with it is that the county committee insists upon conducting the primaries instead of leaving their management to the congressional committee, which wants to usurp that function.

REFORM OF THE LAND LAWS.

Propositions for reforming the land laws failed at the last session of congress, but undoubtedly the subject will be considered at the next session and very likely some action taken. The San Francisco Chronicle says that disinterested public opinion in nearly all the arid west demands the repeal of the timber and stone act, the desert land act and the commutation clause of the homestead act, not, however, with the wish that the homestead act should remain the only act under which settlers can acquire title to their homes, but merely pending the enactment of new and rational laws which it must be presumed will be passed at the next session of congress, based upon the final report of the commission now studying the subject. That paper remarks that with the repeal of the timber and stone act it is always understood that there will be provided means of removing the ripe timber from forests under official regulations and with the payment of its market value.

This subject received attention in the last annual message of President Roosevelt, who urged the necessity of reform in the land laws, and he appointed a commission to investigate the operation of these laws, the final report of which should be ready by the beginning of the next session of congress. The subject was also considerably discussed at the last session, but it was thought best to await the commission's report. In view of the steadily diminishing public domain, as well as the protection of the government and people against abuses and fraud in connection with the disposition of the public lands, the matter is one of much importance.

THE CHINESE DANGER.

A St. Petersburg dispatch a few days ago said that the Russian authorities regard China as a powder magazine and that the effect of the disaster to Russian arms on the Yalu upon the Chinese was being watched with keen interest and considerable apprehension. A later report from the same source contains the statement that an ultimate retirement of the Russians to Mukden might possibly incur the danger of a Chinese uprising, which increases with the Japanese successes. There is still another report of increasing excitement among the Chinese in Manchuria. There is nothing unexpected in this. It is a danger which the Russians have seen from the opening of hostilities, knowing as they do that most of the natives of Manchuria are bitterly hostile to them and were certain to seize the first opportunity to manifest their hostility. Russia has taken such precautions as she could against the danger, but if her forces continue to fall back before the Japanese it is inevitable that the so-called brigands of Manchuria will strike at the Russians wherever they can and undoubtedly they can inflict a great deal of injury.

Such an uprising within the area of hostilities the Chinese government could not interfere with and it would probably find it very troublesome to prevent its effect extending to the natives outside the theater of war. Japan does not desire anything of this kind. The influence of that government at Peking has from the first been exerted in behalf of a strict observance of neutrality on the part of China and undoubtedly it will be its position to the end, recognizing as of course it does that should China become involved in the war it would almost certainly draw European powers into the conflict. But the Manchurians being beyond the control of the Chinese government an uprising in their part would not affect the position of that government and the Japanese would be entirely justified in accepting whatever advantage might result to them from such an uprising. There is manifestly very good reason for the apprehension said to be felt at St. Petersburg regarding the Chinese danger.

WANTS AN EXPLANATION.

The New York Times, which favors the nomination of Judge Parker at St. Louis, thinks that before asking the democrats assembled in their national convention to place his name at the head of the ticket he should explain his views on public questions. It remarks that "since the ambition and the opportunity to become the leader of a great party and possibly the chief magistrate of the nation may be held to raise a man above and beyond the domain of common usage and convention, ought he to tell his countrymen freely and frankly where he stands, suggesting further that the judge might even ask himself whether resignation from the bench is not the indicated solution of the doubts that perplex him and his party."

In regard to the Danforth interview, purporting to be an explanation of the opinions of Judge Parker on public questions, which was sent out over the country a few days ago, the Times does not consider it satisfactory. It says the matter is quite too grave for the mediation of a vicar, that the democracy will read with an indifferent eye the testimony of Danforth, "but let Judge Parker speak by his own tongue or pen and democrats will read his words with eager attention; they will analyze them in the laboratory of party tradition, weigh them upon the scales of judgment, measure them by the needs of the time and submit them to the tests of common sense." It tells the judge that the right of the party to a reasonably full knowledge of the man it nominates cannot be ignored by him.

This reflects the thought of a very large number of democrats, who are not willing to accept Judge Parker upon the endorsement of such politicians as Hill and Danforth, both of whom have in the past been discredited by the democracy of their state because of their unscrupulous and untrustworthy character. Like the Times, a great many democrats feel that the party has a right to know where the man who is seeking nomination for the presidency stands and these democrats do not believe that the fact of his holding a state judicial office justifies him in withholding from his party the desired information and asking it to take him as its standard bearer on the blind faith that his views will prove satisfactory.

There is no question as to the ability of Judge Parker as a jurist, but there is a not unreasonable doubt as to whether he has any well-defined and settled convictions regarding political and economic questions. He has never given very much attention to politics and he is not known to have been a student of economic problems. The New York democratic platform, understood to have had the endorsement of Judge Parker, is an almost meaningless declaration. The Danforth statement, assuming it to have been authorized by the judge, makes little clear in regard to his opinions. It does not remove doubt from the minds of those for whom it was intended.

The position taken by the New York Times indicates that there is likely to be a very strong pressure brought to bear on Judge Parker before the meeting of the democratic national convention for a plain statement of his views on public questions, and if he shall persist in refusing to make such a statement he may lose some of the advantage he now has over rival candidates for the St. Louis nomination.

WORK AHEAD FOR ALL.

There are gratifying signs on every side that Omaha is on a decided upgrade in material progress, but there is still work ahead for all to stimulate its more rapid advancement. It is the time when all interested in Omaha's future should join in to build up rather than to pull down or to hold back. The impetus given to Omaha during the last year or two by the enlargement of its railroad facilities through the entrance of two new railroad systems should be taken every advantage of. The extension of the railroad facilities, enlarging the trade territory subject to our mercantile and manufacturing establishments, has opened the way for industrial expansion and we have not yet caught up to our opportunities in this direction.

The establishment of a grain market in Omaha is the direct outgrowth of a new turn in the railroad situation. Considerable headway has already been made, the grain exchange has been projected and has assumed tangible form, but there is yet much to be done. More elevators are needed to handle the grain shipped to this point—more mills and factories needed to furnish a local demand. The mills and factories to work up the cereal products will be forthcoming as soon as assurance is had that their product will have a local market guaranteed as the basis upon which to begin operations.

The growth of Omaha's retail trade is forcing the erection of more modern and commodious buildings, to provide the necessary accommodations. The store buildings in sight, however, will not suffice. The transformation of the business district of Omaha is but begun. To complete it will require still further encouragement of enterprise. Last, but not least, the call is for co-operation to make Omaha attractive to live in. If we want more people to make their homes here we must provide comfortable homes. If we want to draw newcomers from abroad Omaha must be made to appeal to them more powerfully than its competitors in point of beauty, healthfulness, cleanliness and general variety of attractions.

These are only a few points in Omaha's program, but they offer a chance for every one of us to play his part.

GRASS TRUST VS BEEF TRUST.

When Combine Meets Combine Look Out for Trouble. The Chicago Chronicle. The cattle growers of twelve states west of the Missouri river who have just completed an organization with the avowed purpose of fighting the so-called beef trust represent a class that has been practicing for many years the very methods they denounce. They constitute among themselves what may be accurately designated as the grass trust and by flagrant violations of the United States land laws, by threats, intimidation and violence that has often ended in murder they have monopolized the grazing lands of the west, and thus eliminated the packers who monopolized the price of beef. The existence of a meat trust is a question yet to be legally affirmed or denied and one that may be said to contain elements of doubt, but there is no doubt about the existence of a grass trust.

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THE SUPREME COURT CLERK.

Blair Courier: At last the supreme court clerkship has been settled and settled right with Harry Lindsay in the coveted position. Geneva Signal: The judges of the supreme court did the right thing Tuesday by appointing Harry Lindsay clerk of that court. Victor Seymour got the deputyship.

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Pawnee Press (Dem.): H. C. Lindsay of this city was yesterday appointed clerk of the state supreme court. The action of the judges was at once communicated to friends here, and everyone without distinction to hearty congratulations was glad to bear of Harry's success. That he will discharge his duties faithfully and in an eminently satisfactory manner is assured.

Humboldt Leader: Harry Lindsay has received the appointment as supreme court clerk and we are all glad of it. It is, however, a sad commentary on republican politics when such a man as Lindsay is necessary to land a place for one who has earned it many times over, while on every hand worthless hangers-on and grafters are kept in easy berths from one year's end to another.

Hastings Tribune: While it may be true that Harry Lindsay could officiate as chairman of the republican central committee of Nebraska and still attend to his newly born duties as clerk of the supreme court, it is doubtful whether or not it would be prudent to ask it of him. The man at the head of the state campaign committee should not be burdened with anything else to look after; especially a public office.

Tilden Citizen: Harry Lindsay's appointment to the clerkship of the supreme court will receive the hearty endorsement of republicans all over the state. His efficient and tireless work as chairman of the state central committee justified his selection for the most remunerative position in the gift of the party or its representatives and there can be no question raised as to his abundant all-round fitness for the place.

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PRICE BAKING POWDER CO., CHICAGO.

SCENES OF THE YALE.

Philadelphia Press: The Russians appear to know how to use their legs rather better than their arms, and in some of their recent difficulties their legs have come in quite handy.

Chicago Chronicle: The "famous Semenovskiy footguards" are on their way to the front from St. Petersburg. If they are any livelier on their feet than the other Russians they will have to be good sprinters.

San Francisco Chronicle: The tremendous advantage gained by Japan through the Yalu river victory is plainly indicated by the money market where the price of Japanese stocks has gone up and those of Russia have dropped an almost corresponding degree.

Philadelphia Record: The Russian admiralty went to unnecessary trouble when it ordered the commander of the fleet at Fort Arthur to leave the harbor under any circumstances. The Japanese appear to have attended to the matter of keeping the fleet securely in.

Indianapolis News: The Japanese soldiers seem to be no more afraid of the Russians than they were of the helpless Chinese, whom they drove to leave the harbor under any circumstances.

Indianapolis Journal: The wisdom of the Japanese in giving the special correspondents the freedom of Tokio and no other restriction whatever is justified by events. Had they been allowed to go to the front they would have given to the world advance news of contemplated military movements, and, Russians being warned, the outcome might have been different.

New York Tribune: To occupy Korea, to maintain command of the sea and to possess themselves of the ports and fortresses along the coast have been the essential objects of the Japanese campaign. Those objects are steadily and evenly rapidly being attained. When they are fully attained, it may be that the Japanese will think it well to rest content upon that vantage ground.

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WAIFS OF THE WITS.

"She said if any man kissed her without warning she'd scream for her father."

"I warned her"—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Maud—Did you hear about that fright George got on his wedding day?

Mabel—Yes, I was there. I saw her.—Toledo Blade.

"What we need in this town," says the Hickory Ridge Miscellaneous, "is a good sidewalk to the cemetery. The present facilities for getting there are wretched. Besides, the cemetery is crowded to some recognition. It's the only part of town where there have been any improvements made for the last four years."

"Of course," said the sarcastic man, "you always do your wife's bidding."

"Gracious! No," Cleveland Plain Dealer.

"That's just what his doing," answered Farmer Cottoswell. He just got employment the other way running the elevator in a big office building."

"I wonder where and when he got religion?"

"What? You mean Talkington? Why, he hasn't got religion."

"Oh, yes, he has. He got me in a corner the other day and wanted to know if I was prepared to die."

"Of course. He's a life insurance agent."

Philadelphia Press.

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Philadelphia Press.

"I trust," said the man of exalted ideals, "that your son is devoting himself in some way to the uplifting of the human race."

"That's just what his doing," answered Farmer Cottoswell. He just got employment the other way running the elevator in a big office building."

Ayer's Sarsaparilla advertisement. Text: "Ayer's Sarsaparilla has done me great good, purifying my blood and giving me strength and a general invigoration of the whole body." "Ayer's" is not like any other Sarsaparilla. Doctors know this. They have