

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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After this year Omaha will be the political convention city of Nebraska. "Scratch a Russian and you find a Tartar." Shoot at him and you find a sprinter.

A deadlocked convention is bad enough, but Wisconsin goes Illinois one worse by having a bolt. Who will make the vice presidential nominating speech for John L. Webster in the national convention?

General Kouropatkin displays a retiring disposition surprising in one who talked so loudly while enroute to the front. Denver also is to have an auditorium, but the Denver auditorium is to be built out of the proceeds of \$400,000 of city bonds.

Presbyterians may proceed to combine as soon as a plan is devised whereby no one will lose his job through the combination. Colonel Wattersson has told of the ideal editorial page. The colonel, like many another editor, finds it easier to preach than to practice.

Russia cannot be greatly depressed over the eastern situation as long as St. Petersburg can turn from the contemplation of the war to celebrate the birthday of the czar. The work of Commodore Decatur must be completed. After a lapse of eighty years bandits of the Barbary states are again carrying American citizens into captivity.

It is up to St. Louis to get even with those European tourists for the unreasonable charges which have been exacted from Americans in Switzerland, Paris and other European resorts. Mines in the Yellow sea are rivaling those of Pennsylvania as causes of sudden death. While the eastern ones make the most noise those of the Keystone state work with greater regularity.

WORK OF THE CONVENTION.

The republicans of Nebraska have, through their state convention, nominated the standard-bearers who are to lead their hosts in Nebraska in the impending campaign. The ticket nominated, taken altogether, will average up well with the tickets of former years, and in some respects rank above the average.

The renomination of Governor Mickey was a foregone conclusion. There was nothing to justify a refusal by the delegates to endorse him for a second term. The same applies to Lieutenant Governor McGilton and Treasurer Mortensen, both of whom have filled their positions with credit during the past two years.

The convention, for the first time in the history of the party in this state, nominated a candidate for United States senator, and for this honor selected by a practically unanimous vote Hon. E. J. Burkett, now representing the First district in the lower house of congress.

The platform is a fair statement of republican principles and endorsement of republican policies. On the national issues it is eminently sound and will command the approval of all intelligent republicans. Its reference to the new revenue law and the question of equal taxation is a demand for just and equitable assessments.

STANDARD FOR PROTECTION. The republicans of Iowa have reaffirmed their devotion to the principle of protection. There is no ambiguity or equivocation in the platform utterance on this question. It recognizes the fact that under protection the small industries as well as the large ones are benefited, to the advantage alike of labor and capital.

There are still other discrepancies. According to the report filed with the board the mileage of the Union Pacific and its branches in Nebraska is placed at 961.42 miles, the same as it has been for seven or eight years past.

NATIONAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN. Trustworthy reports from Washington state that the president has expressed his desire that the successor of the late M. A. Hanna as chairman of the republican national committee shall be Mr. George B. Cortelyou, secretary of the Department of Commerce and Labor.

Remembering the disastrous consequences to all interests of threatened free trade, or so-called tariff for revenue, only a few years ago, when industries were paralyzed and millions of people vainly sought for employment, when the products of the farm went to waste because there was no market for them and charity was taxed to the utmost in providing for those in want—remembering these things, the republican party has faith that the American people will not vote to abandon protection and invite a repetition of the hard and bitter experience that came upon the country at the beginning of the last democratic administration and prevailed throughout its term.

BOMB GLARING DISCREPANCIES.

Before the State Board of Railroad Assessment completes its work it should endeavor to adjust some discrepancies between the returns made to the board by the railroads and the reports made by the directors to the stockholders of their respective corporations. Take for example the Union Pacific railway.

According to the statement filed with the board the total gross earnings of the Union Pacific during the year 1903 was \$31,423,684.75. The total operating expenses and improvements for the same period were \$23,561,516.83, of which \$10,575,572.94 represented operating expenses and \$4,184,943.89 represented improvements or betterments.

If these figures represent the gross earnings, operating expenses and betterments in Nebraska they are misleading and in conflict with the reports of the directors of the Union Pacific to their stockholders. If they represent the gross and net earnings of the whole Union Pacific system for the year 1903 they are palpably out of joint with the annual official report for the year ending June 30, 1903, which shows the gross earnings of the Union Pacific system to have been \$51,075,188.86, operating expenses and taxes as \$28,747,215.98, receipts over operating expenses and taxes \$22,327,972.87, and a total income available for fixed charges and dividends of \$25,975,816.24.

On the other hand, if \$23,561,516.83 represents the cost of maintenance, operation and improvement of the road in Nebraska alone the cost of operating and maintenance of two-thirds of the whole system lying west of the Nebraska line would only be \$3,185,690, which certainly cannot be correct. In computing the net earnings of the Union Pacific the \$4,000,000 expended for betterments certainly should not be credited to the cost of operation and maintenance, but should by rights be added to the total net earnings.

While the wing of the party that controlled the republican state convention of Iowa was radically opposed to the Iowa idea as promulgated by Governor Cummins, they were sagacious enough and generous enough to accord Governor Cummins a place as delegate-at-large, together with Senators Allison and Dolliver and Joseph W. Blythe, on the delegation that will represent Iowa in the national convention.

Rooted to the Pay Roll. Chicago Record-Herald. The emperor of Korea has lost all interest in the war since Japan has assured him that he is to be kept on the pay roll even if no further fighting is done in his territory.

Let the Dead Rest. Chicago Tribune. We protest that Uncle Adlai Stevenson is too fine an old gentleman to be dragged into the political arena again. Let him be left to the peaceful contemplation of the near future in which it is believed he has got seeing things that alarm.

I Will Be True to Poll. Philadelphia Record. The promise of Mr. William Randolph Hearst to bolt the St. Louis convention will not occasion vociferous rejoicing. There are thousands of sound democrats in all parts of the country who would have preferred the opposition to the support of the Hearst following. But the course taken by Mr. Hearst is discreet. A bolt would have exposed the character and the extent of his following, and nothing is quite so dreadful to a political aspirant as to be made to appear ridiculous.

GOSSIP ABOUT THE WAR.

Dispatches from New Chungwang report much activity in that community owing to the departure of the Russian garrison and the possibility of a raid of Chinese brigades before Japanese troops arrive. The unfortunate residents have good reason to be alarmed. Chinese brigades in that locality are said to be the most brutal gang of ruffians that ever looted a city. At home they are known as Chun-chus.

The Chinese government determined to monopolize the output from these gold fields and threatened the natives with the severest punishments if they continued to either sell or carry over any gold. Chinese miners were then recruited in great numbers by the Peking government and forcibly sent to Manchuria. The working of the mines was very soon organized in a remarkable manner by the mandarins to whom the government had entrusted this duty.

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Manifently if the \$31,423,684.75 reported to the board as gross earnings for the year stands for the mileage in Nebraska alone, which represents only one-third of the mileage, the excess of \$19,000,000 over the earnings for the whole system would represent two-thirds of the mileage, and therefore show that 961 miles reported for Nebraska have earned nearly \$12,000,000 more than 2,000 miles of Union Pacific in the other states.

Does intelligence in a soldier count? Are brains worth anything in an army? Certainly, if the reading habits of the Russian and the Japanese soldiers there is a startling contrast. writes La Salle Maynard in Leslie's Weekly.

Admiral Uru, who is winning distinction in the Japanese navy, received his nautical education at Annapolis, where he took high standing and was popular with his classmates. He was noted for studying hard and for great conscientiousness in the performance of the thousand and one duties of the naval cadet.

Teachers. You have seen that I do not stand before you. I am in the room by the much sickness. I do not feel like making the stir. I regret to miss your most beautiful instruction of the mathematic. Tomorrow I hope greatly to find it easy to make the stir.

Where the Trouble Brews. Washington Post. The position of commissioner of pensions would be so difficult to fill if the dealings were with the veterans. The trouble all comes with the pension agents, most of whom were born after the war.

Sidelights on Matters Connected with the Fight.

Count Eugene Zichy, the famous Hungarian explorer, known particularly for his researches in Asia, says the origin of the Chun-chus really dates back to the middle of the nineteenth century. At that time the Peking government began to turn its attention toward the rich gold fields of northern Manchuria. This icy region was still almost unknown even to the Celestials themselves.

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They set up, in the midst of the gold fields, provision houses and shops, built spacious barracks, of which the ruins still remain, made new roads over the mountains and across forests, to facilitate the conveying of provisions, but were unable, notwithstanding their efforts, to insure a regular service for the transport of victuals. The laborers were decimated by famines and by the arctic cold of this region, where the temperature often falls to 40 degrees below zero centigrade.

Gradually this federation of outlaws became more and more powerful as new recruits joined the ranks. In time the boldness of the Chun-chus increased; they established posts on every highway in Manchuria and took to robbing the mail coaches and pillaged government convoys. They robbed the inhabitants of the small villages and levied taxes on the most important towns of the province. They ruled over the country by the terror they inspired in the inhabitants.

Those dreadful lamias are "inflammable" the Tibetans against the British. It's getting so now nobody is encouraged to further the cause of civilization. Prof. W. F. King, chief astronomer for the Dominion government, is making arrangements for the survey of the Alaska boundary according to the tribunal award.

President Loubet has given the Breton woman, Nora Hors, a decoration for her bravery in rescue the survivors whose ship went down in a storm on the coast of Brittany last November. Wading into the breakers, chest deep, she threw the exhausted men a rope and dragged their lifeboat to the shore.

Until a year or two ago the emperor of Japan was an enthusiastic wrestler. He threw out challenge after challenge to the members of the court and his council and defeated fairly and completely everyone who tried conclusions with him until he met Count Tetsu, who proved so too many for him. Since that encounter, although he encourages the sport in every possible way, he has kept out of the arena.

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Fifty Years the Standard



Improves the flavor and adds to the healthfulness of the food. PRICE BAKING POWDER CO., CHICAGO.

RAILROADS AND FELLOW SERVANTS. Five-to-Four Decision by the Court of Last Resort. Chicago Post. Laymen find it difficult to account for the inability of the members of the highest judicial body in the United States to reach substantially unanimous judgments in cases which merely require the application of established principles to new questions or situations.

REPORTER—Have you ever held any public office (Chicago being interviewed)—Well, I was a pallbearer at a funeral once.—Somerville Journal. "The climate here is salubrious, isn't it?" inquired the tourist.

PERSONAL NOTES. Those dreadful lamias are "inflammable" the Tibetans against the British. It's getting so now nobody is encouraged to further the cause of civilization. Prof. W. F. King, chief astronomer for the Dominion government, is making arrangements for the survey of the Alaska boundary according to the tribunal award.

PLANTING TIME. Somerville Journal. Now Gladys finishes her flower seeds. And puts them in the ground. Most lovingly she tucks them in. And pats the earth around.

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