

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROEWATER, EDITOR.

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GEO. H. TETZSCH,
Notary Public.

Subscribed in my presence and sworn before me this 20th day of September, 1904.
M. B. HUNGATE,
Notary Public.

Now for Ak-Ser-Ben's royal entry, illumined with electric incandescence.

Charles F. Weller has been a taxpayer in Omaha for fifteen years. How long has he been a taxpayer and how much has he paid?

At last accounts the official organization of the school board for 1905 had not yet been perfected, but we do not believe we shall have to wait long.

The residents of Panama find it difficult to get over the revolution habit, but a cure will no doubt be effected by the time the first ship passes through the canal.

For ways that are dark and tricks that are vain the heathen Chinese would not be in it at an election of Auditorium directors, if the stories in circulation are true.

Mr. Bryan's decision not to make speeches in Ohio threatens to leave the leaders of the democratic party in that state without a scapegoat when the votes are counted.

Tom Watson declares that if Parker would get out of the way the campaign would be more exciting. Tom's recent demonstration in Texas is proof that it would be at least more militant.

It is said that eighty junks are engaged in taking food and munitions to Port Arthur. The men in charge of the boats evidently believe "a blockade to be recognized must be effective."

Mukden reports exceptional activity and excitement, but as no reason is given for the condition it must be attributed to the desire of the war correspondent to let his friends know that he is still alive.

The report of the superintendent of Indian schools shows that the aborigine may become a good Indian without being a dead one, and the new process, while not so cheap, is apparently better than the old one.

Dr. John H. Gardner, the personal friend who entertained W. J. Bryan as his guest in New York, is playing no favorites. The week after he called on Judge Parker he spoke at a dinner given to Candidate Watson.

The republican county primaries to-day carry with them the nomination of candidates on the legislative and county tickets by direct vote. Every vote counts. Let every republican see that his ballot is properly cast.

The contest in the republican primaries for the South Omaha senatorship is squarely between J. M. Van Dusen and L. C. Gibson. Henry C. Murphy is merely a stalking horse and a vote for Murphy is half a vote for Van Dusen.

Probably the only people at the front who would hail the offer of the peace conference with unbounded delight are the press correspondents and the poor natives of Manchuria and Corea, but none of these has any influence with the belligerents.

Emperor William has sent a congratulatory letter to German citizens of the United States who are now at St. Louis commemorating the arrival of the first Germans on American soil. Uncle Sam will take some of the congratulation upon himself on the acquisition of so many good citizens.

Remember that Douglas county is a republican county. Its county affairs ought to be administered by a republican county board and they will be so administered after 1905 if republicans only see to it that a candidate is nominated in each of the commissioner districts in which vacancies occur this year.

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UNFOUNDED CLAIMS.

The democratic platform claims for that party the framing and passage of the national irrigation law. Referring to this in a speech at Virginia City, Nev., Senator Fairbanks said the claim was unfounded and that President Roosevelt deserved in the main the credit for that most important legislation. That statement is correct. The history of this legislation ought to be familiar to all western people. National aid to irrigation first became an immediate possibility when on December 3, 1901, President Roosevelt in his first message to congress devoted a vigorous paragraph to the subject, which had the effect of reviving public interest in it. On the previous day several bills relating to irrigation had been introduced in the two houses, among them one in the senate by Senator Hansbrough of North Dakota, a substantially identical bill being introduced in the house the same day by then Representative Newlands of Nevada, now a senator. This was known as the Hansbrough-Newlands bill and became the basis upon which the committee work was done, but it did not become a law as drafted. The measure was revised, the president suggested certain amendments and it became the law as it stands today. It is thus shown that President Roosevelt is due the main credit for that legislation. His argument in behalf of it was so strong and convincing that it broke down much of the eastern opposition to the policy of national irrigation. The democrats profess to be in favor of irrigation now, when its immense value has under republican auspices been demonstrated, but they were not generally in favor of it when the subject was before congress. Some of them regarded it as a dangerous departure, that threatened to divert unlimited millions from the general treasury for a strictly sectional advantage.

Another unfounded claim of the democrats is that their party deserves the credit for the rural free delivery service. It is true that a democratic congress passed a bill, introduced by Thomas H. Watson, the candidate of the people's party for the presidency, appropriating \$10,000 for experiments in rural free delivery. This was in 1893, but the democratic postmaster general took no steps to establish rural delivery. Subsequently an appropriation of \$20,000 was voted by congress for the same purpose, but it was not applied and President Cleveland, in his annual message of 1894, said of the rural free delivery proposition: "The estimated cost of rural free delivery generally is so very large that it ought not to be considered in the present condition of affairs." This is the democratic record on the subject, after a republican postmaster general, Hon. John W. Foster, had demonstrated the feasibility of rural free delivery. That service was promptly established when the McKinley administration came in and has been steadily and rapidly extended, so that now there are more than 23,000 rural free delivery routes in operation in the United States.

The incontrovertible facts regarding the irrigation law and the establishment of rural free delivery show that the democratic assumption of all the credit for these great contributions to the public welfare is utterly unwarranted.

THE FONTANELLE MANIFESTO.

The manifesto issued to the republican electors in Omaha and Douglas county in the name of the Fontanelle club is an insult to the intelligence of all republicans who are familiar with its origin and star-chamber leadership. The manifesto penned by that unscrupulous impostor, R. B. Howell, makes an onslaught on the municipal administration. The platform upon which the Fontanelle club asks support for its candidates is:

1. The fair and uniform assessment of all taxable property, whether corporate or individual.
2. The limitation of main line rights-of-way of all railway companies, so that terminal facilities may be taxed for the benefit of the school districts, municipalities and counties within which they are situated, the same as other property.
3. An unalterable opposition to the repeal of the law creating the Omaha Water board, or to the legislating out of office any public official during the term for which he may have been duly appointed or elected.

4. The extension of the powers of the water board to include all matters respecting the acquisition of the present water plant, the reduction of water rates and the payment of hydrant rentals.

It is a matter of notoriety that John N. Baldwin, political attorney of the Union Pacific railroad, was the projector of the Fontanelle club. It is an open secret that John N. Baldwin contributed the funds with which the club has been carrying on its dark lantern work. John N. Baldwin is not known to have any money of his own to throw away. Where did the money come from if not out of the tax-fighting fund set apart by his corporation? Although a citizen of Iowa and a resident of Council Bluffs, John N. Baldwin is one of the inner leaders of the Fontanelle club and has been the chief spoke in naming the Fontanelle ticket for the legislature.

Will any intelligent man believe that John N. Baldwin wants a delegation elected to the legislature sincerely committed and honestly pledged to compel the Union Pacific or any other railroad to pay city taxes on the main line, right-of-way and terminals? Is it not as plain as the nose on a man's face that the manifesto is a bunco game to nominate men secretly pledged to repudiate the platform on which they are asking the support of republicans who favor municipal taxation reform?

The ticket recommended by the club flatly contradicts the platform. At least three of the candidates have been members of the legislature within recent years and are on record as favoring the present railroad tax law and against any change.

The third plank pledging unalterable opposition to the repeal of the water

board bill is a piece of arrant demagoguery. Nobody in Omaha proposes to repeal that law, although everybody knows it was gotten up and railroaded through the legislature in the interest of the water works owners, who want to unload the works at this time when water and labor are high rather than take a chance of a slump in the price of iron and machinery and the possible drop in the price of wages by 1908, when the contract with the city expires.

Last, but not least, why does the Fontanelle club recommend R. B. Howell for the water board as against a citizen of such high standing in the business community as Charles F. Weller? Mr. Weller has never been mixed up in factional contention in Omaha, but his leaning has usually been toward the anti-machine element. He is a man of approved integrity and character, while Howell lacks all the elements that make up a man of honor who could be trusted in such a responsible position.

HOWELL'S SUBTERFUGE.

Having indignantly denied that he was ever directly or indirectly connected with the Omaha Water company and had never directly nor indirectly been its beneficiary, R. B. Howell is now compelled to admit that he was on the payroll of the water company for more than a year, but he wants it understood that it was the American Water Works company and not the Omaha Water company that carried him on its payroll.

Everybody in Omaha knows and Mr. Howell knows that the controlling interest of the American Water Works company and the Omaha Water Works company has been the same for nearly twenty years, and the management has been substantially the same although the name of the corporation was changed from the American Water Works company to the Omaha Water Works company a few years ago.

This is not the first time Howell has been convicted of deliberate falsification. His attempt to pose as a much abused and much traduced individual will deceive nobody who is familiar with his checkered career since he left the naval academy. It may not be generally known that Mr. Howell has not been a monumental success as a promoter of water schemes. At any rate the investors in dry ditches claim to have been confounded by prospectuses that were just as misleading as the prospectus issued in the name of the Fontanelle club. For example, his Ozamala and Sidney canals which do not irrigate.

VAN DUSEN'S DENIALS AND PLEDGES.

For sublime cheek and audacity Van Dusen takes the bakery. In his appeal to the Real Estate exchange for support Van Dusen challenged any man to prove that he had ever been a lobbyist before the legislature and solemnly pledged himself, if nominated and elected, to work and vote for a bill or an amendment to the charter that would compel the railroads to pay city taxes upon their terminals.

Van Dusen's denial of being a lobbyist was doubtless made with a mental reservation very much like Howell's denial of ever having been in the pay of the water company. It is a matter of notoriety that Van Dusen is and has for years been one of the attorneys of the Nebraska Telephone company and his high standing with that corporation was attested by President Vost not very many months ago, when he declared that "Van Dusen is worth ten other friendly influences on the door of the legislature."

Under the Van Dusen code, a lawyer who gets a paid retainer is not strictly a lobbyist, but what was Van Dusen doing when he put in nearly all of his time around the legislature of 1901 and 1903 when he was not a member? Was he just mixing with the members to keep up his acquaintance? And who paid the freight?

When did Van Dusen get converted to municipal railroad taxation? Why didn't he insert a provision in the charter to place the railroad terminals on the tax list just the same as their headquarters? When the charter was up before the legislature why did he persistently refuse to take any part in amending the Omaha charter in the interest of the taxpayers and tell his colleagues that he represented South Omaha and didn't want anything to do with Omaha? Why has not his sonorous voice been heard in favor of municipal tax reform when that issue became paramount?

Of course, Van Dusen is willing to pledge anything now, but if the Real Estate exchange would take any stock in his pledges it would lean on a broken reed. In his case, as in the case of Senator Saunders, the biblical adage would apply, "By their acts shall ye know them."

UNWISE AND UNTRUE.

In these terms the Boston Herald, a democratic paper, characterizes the utterance of the democratic nominee for vice president, Mr. Davis charged the republican party with rehabilitating the race issue and with commendable candor the Boston paper tells him that the republican party was doing nothing to bring the issue into prominence again, when the democratic party of the southern states set about its new crusade against the colored citizens of the southern states, depriving them of the suffrage which they had enjoyed under the laws, national and state, since these states were restored to the union upon their express acceptance of the war amendments to the constitution of the United States as the basis of the relations of the races in their own borders, and practically depriving them of the right to hold office or receive employment in national or local administrations.

It points out that President Roosevelt has been more careful than any republican president since the war in making appointments of colored men to office in the south and that when the southern democrats resolved that no colored citizen should be so recognized they raised

the issue of which they complain. "It is a reappearance," says the Herald, "of the old misrepresentation when the slave power was making its steady encroachments on free territory. It then always insisted that the resistance to its encroachments was the primary fault and the provoking cause of political unrest." Judge Parker has been more sagacious in this matter than his running mate. He has ignored it. Only a few days ago he was asked for an opinion as to whether colored citizens should be allowed to enjoy the voting privileges which the federal constitution guarantees them and he declined to express an opinion. The issue, however, has been made by the democrats themselves and the candidates of the party cannot escape the consequences.

RESUMED HIS CAMPAIGN.

Mr. Chamberlain has resumed his campaign for reform in the British fiscal policy and it is presumed will now push it with all the vigor of which he is capable. It is probable that his cause has been losing ground from neglect, there having been some pretty definite indications of this, among them the expression of a representative body of workmen against any change of policy, but if Mr. Chamberlain shall not be able to recover all the ground that may have been lost, he will revive popular interest in the discussion.

Premier Balfour opened the autumn campaign with an address last Monday, when he said that he was no protectionist, but one of those who thought protection was not the best policy under existing circumstances. It was not a policy that he recommended, directly or indirectly, either to his colleagues or to the country, and he did not think he could remain the leader of his party if protection were adopted. He agreed with Mr. Chamberlain that the only way out was to have a free conference with the self-governing colonies. It is very probable that this course will be taken and it is likely that the result of the general election in the Dominion of Canada next month will have a decided influence in determining the proposition. Meanwhile fiscal reform on the Chamberlain lines is not to be regarded as a possibility of the near future.

A MUNICIPAL LIGHTING PLANT.

Councilman Zimman has introduced an ordinance providing for the submission at the coming election of a proposition to issue \$500,000 in bonds for the acquisition of a municipal electric lighting plant by the city of Omaha. The ordinance is in conformity with the recommendations of Mayor Moore, who re-enforces his position by calling attention to the fact that at the last city election all of the present city officials went before the public on the distinct pledge of municipal ownership. The city is now paying out approximately \$100,000 a year for street lighting and unquestionably it could get better and more economic service by manufacturing its own light, irrespective of cheaper rates to private consumers. The city of Lincoln has recently voted bonds for a municipal electric lighting plant and there are dozens of successful electric lighting installations owned by various cities around us. If the council will see that the proposition is correctly formulated and submitted for popular ratification at the coming election it will surely carry by an overwhelming majority.

The supreme court has handed down another unanimous decision upholding the validity of the new revenue law. The first decision sustaining the revenue law was rendered by the court while a fusionist majority was in control, and in this case the fusion chief justice concurs with his two republican associates. The demo-pop organs, however, will continue to denounce the republicans as the sole sponsors of the revenue law.

Charles F. Weller, candidate for the water board, has been a successful manager of a large wholesale jobbing house. R. B. Howell has been a failure in almost everything he has undertaken. Which of these people can best be trusted with the management of a water works plant which will cost from \$4,000,000 to \$6,000,000?

Hush, Hush, Hush!
Chicago Record-Herald.

Cleveland says the democratic party has returned to sanity. What the democratic party wants most, however, is to return to office.

Decline to Get Excited.
New York Sun.

If there was any real apprehension of the consequences of "anarchy" there would be no lament over "anarchy." The country would be better off. In effect, the democrats are saying to the voters, "You poor, ignorant devils, why don't you get excited?"

Can't Change the Barrel.
Philadelphia Press.

The treasury surplus of \$5,843,355 for the month of September will "cut no figure" in democratic speeches and newspapers. They have had much to say about deficits and they are not in the habit of publishing news that is detrimental to their arguments.

Si An-Gitting Wiser.
Philadelphia Press.

The Chinese government shows great wisdom in again sending students to this country to be educated at American universities. The large number of students here in 1904 were recalled and no more were sent by the government. But there are now to be sent thirty by the government, which is an indication of a better feeling toward the United States. It will also be advantageous to China.

Army Uniforms Less Fetching.
New Orleans Picayune.

The present idea of military organization, whether in the regular army or the militia, is utilitarian. The old dress uniform, with its glittering gilt and waving plumes, is tabooed, and the dress of the soldier is limited to the horrid khaki, with a plain, dark blue uniform for rare occasions, such as court-martials or the like. Of course, we do not refer to officers, who are expected to have uniforms without limit, but to the plain or common soldier. With all the pomp and display of military life eliminated, it is surprising that desertions are numerous in the army and that military enthusiasm is sadly lacking in the militia.

GOSSIP OF THE WAR.

Features of the Struggle for Supremacy in Manchuria.

In an interesting article on "The Commanders at Port Arthur," in Harper's Weekly, Charles Johnson recalls some singular prophecies made by two distinguished Japanese statesmen just before the beginning of the Boxer trouble. In the spring of 1900, which has a curious bearing on present conditions in the far east. The first was to the effect that "a Russo-Japanese war, the issue of which can never for one moment be doubtful, must give to Japan Corea, the Liao Tung peninsula, the military ascendancy in Peking, and the possibility of the reformation of China. About the same time, in April, 1900, another distinguished Japanese statesman said: "Corea must become Japanese. My own opinion is, that unless Japan be given a free hand in Corea, war with Russia is inevitable, but that it will not occur at least within the period of another year. So long as Japan holds the command of the sea, the preparations now being made by Russia in Manchuria are indifferent to it. By the occupation of Port Arthur, Russia has made itself more vulnerable than it was before. Even now, Russia can only be dislodged from Manchuria as the result of a victorious war. There is time enough for us to act five years hence."

Three men rule Japan's destinies in its present war with Russia. The first is Admiral Oyama, commander of all the forces in the field, and the second, a marked man, whom no caricaturist could fall to lampoon as a frog. Next comes General Baron Kodama, the executive brain of the Japanese general staff. The third member of the triumvirate is General Fukushima, whose genius has been the concrete mortar which has cemented into solid block the rough hewn material of Japan's general staff. The three men are of very small stature, and General Fukushima is fair for a Japanese. Oyama's military success is due to the fact that he whipped China on the very fields over which he is now so diligently pursuing the Russians. It is said that no other commander in history has ever been called to operate twice over the same squares of a map. Oyama knows Manchuria as well as he knows Tokio.

"The Japanese are allowed to be among the very strongest people on earth," says the Medical Record. "They are strong mentally and physically, and yet practically they eat no meat at all. The diet which enables them to develop such brawny frames and such well balanced and keen brains consists almost wholly of rice, steamed or boiled, while the better-to-do add to this Spartan fare fish, eggs, vegetables and fruit. For beverages they use weak tea, without sugar or milk, and pure water, alcoholic stimulants being but rarely indulged in. Water is imbibed in what we should consider prodigious quantities to an Englishman. Indeed, the drinking of so much water would be regarded as madness. The average Japanese individual consumes about a gallon daily in divided doses."

"The Japanese recognize the beneficial effect of flushing the system through the medium of the kidneys, and they also cleanse the exterior of their bodies to an extent undreamed of in Europe or America. Soap and water are used for the purpose, on which the Japanese lay the greatest stress—so that deep, habitual, forcible inhalation of fresh air is an essential for the acquisition of strength, and this method is sedulously practiced until it becomes part of their nature."

The emperor and empress of Japan have just made a money gift to a Christian enterprise, the first in the history of the dynasty. It was to one of the mission schools in which their majesties happened for some reason to take a special interest. In handing over the gift the Japanese prime minister accompanied it with this interesting explanation: "Men sometimes put the matter in this way. Sometimes they stand for Christianity and Japan for Buddhism. The truth is that Japan stands for religious freedom. This is a principle embodied in its constitution."

A correspondent of the New York Evening Post, the front draws this picture of General Oku, one of Japan's quartet of lieutenant generals:

Several officers in uniform issued from the living quarters, and ranged themselves before us. One, with a most calm, impassive, tranquil face and the curved nose of an aristocrat, was indicated as the man we should go to greet. He had beautifully small hands, dimpled like a child's, and he carried an unworn pair of English tan walking gloves.

"Who is he?" we wondered.

"Prince Nishimoto," was the reply.

"But which is General Oku?"

He was the man we wanted to see. When the prince, nephew of the mikado, had drawn back, a tall, dark, very wrinkled officer came forward to us and shook hands with each. His grip was good to feel.

"Say, this man is a real soldier," someone remarked, and the explanation came—"Why, that's Oku."

You looked at him again, this man who had stormed Nanchang, who had driven the Russians at Tientsin through a defile against his own bayonets ranged secretly in the rear, and had pressed the enemy steadily back out of the whole Regent's Sword peninsula. There were no whites in his unquiet eyes, which were wholly of his sunburned skin. You caught their sharp glance only for a moment, then they shifted. You felt somehow that he was perfectly informed as to the point of view you had been taking in your correspondence from Japan, and was studying you with that swift, fixed look.

Looked at, at any rate, very hard at the elderly campaigner who had not been always pro-Japanese, and at those whose every other sentence had contained "these wonderful little people" he gave no look at all. So they observed afterward.

He is the most impressive Japanese I have seen.

He spoke in short, dry sentences, chips of sentences, which were interpreted as: "I regret that your long ride was beset with hardships. I am glad you have come through with safety. You will understand that I cannot reveal to you all that is taking place, but I assure you that whatever information I can give you without harm to the army's movements I will give. Three attaches have been designated to look after your wants, and communication with headquarters will be usually through them. He bowed, and the chief-of-staff stepped forth and elaborated, discouraging us in a general manner, and crushing our hopes with a smile.

"Shall we be permitted to see the next battle?" we asked.

"You know," answered General Oku, "that the corn in the fields is now very high."

"We'll fetch along chairs to stand on so we can see over it."

He smiled. "You will see much if you are mounted on horses."

Just how much this utterance means will be found out in due course. We are not likely to have any horses if the rains continue, for they have no shelter, and if they lie down in the mud under their feet they become rheumatic. Dry fodder is scarce and dear; indeed, the Chinese who own it often refuse to sell at any price. This is but one of our new troubles.

NOBODY has ever explained why the styles for women originate in Paris. But the fact remains.

So every year we import model garments from the most fashionable modistes in the French capital; garments which are just ahead of the present mode, and we copy the models faithfully in all particulars—but ONE.

Our garments are a good bit better made, (and generally from better skins) than the ones we get in Paris.

There's little to say of this jacket, for the picture tells the story.</