

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 10th day of September, 1904. M. E. HUNGATE, Notary Public.

The "twentieth century forward movement" seems to be up to Kourapatkin.

Candidate Davis' speech at Boston singularly omits his personal recollections of the Boston tea party.

Nebraska football players will have to brace up in the light of the pennant trophy carried off by our base ball players.

The bookkeepers of King Ak-Sar-Ben's royal exchequer will now proceed to get busy and tell us how the royal cash account stands.

General Kourapatkin may be getting active just to show the czar that there is really no necessity of sending General Gripenburg to the Orient.

Tom Taggart must be busy in Indiana. He has not been able to carry the democratic ticket in all of the doubtful states for twenty-four hours.

The city council is always duly apprised of the return of Mayor Moores to the helm by the receipt of the usual number of veto messages, which accompany him.

Any private individual or corporation who owned Omaha's new market house and had the same facilities and authority would make it a paying proposition or know the reason why.

It is reported from Denver that the cattle raisers and sheepmen will merge their organizations. If so, this will probably place a large quantity of second-hand firearms on the market.

Sixty thousand divorces were granted in the United States last year; but before these figures can be used as basis of argument the number of marriages consummated should be made known.

And still Dr. Harper does not tell how the denominational college shall draw cash from the church while proceeding along non-denominational lines. Not every school manages to get in touch with the coal oil tank.

So far Senator Gorman has not been quoted on the prospect of democratic success. As the personal representatives of the vice presidential candidate, the appeals he bears are evidently designed more for the purpose of tapping the barrel than encouraging the privates in the ranks.

W. R. Hearst is said to have spent several hours visiting Judge Parker. If the yellow journalist does not look out some one may tell him that the man from Eopous is candidate for president on the democratic ticket, so that his papers can no longer pretend to be oblivious of the fact.

Now China wants England to consent to the abolition of the opium traffic. If the latter is in position to approve it may consent, but it is not likely that it will be willing to permit China to avulse itself from its opium dreams without the lion is firmly established in all the land it covets in Asia.

The railroads have been spending a great deal of money of late to stimulate travel, but if they want to get the full benefit of their promotion departments they will have to spend a little more money making travel safer. Unnecessary accidents are too liable to act as an antidote to the stimulation.

The president of the electric lighting company claims that his proposition for an extended street lighting contract will satisfy the public that they are getting a better bargain than they would by the erection of a municipal lighting plant of their own. Perhaps and perhaps not. If so, however, it will do no harm to let the voters say so at the polls by voting the municipal plant up or down at the coming election.

WATSON ON PARKER.

The letter of acceptance of Thomas E. Watson, populist candidate for president, is a vigorous and straightforward presentation of the principles for which he stands. There is no humping in the statement of his cause, no reservations and no equivocation. He has not been "reorganized," but adheres firmly to populist doctrines and earnestly insists that they are the only genuine Jeffersonian principles.

For the general reader of current political discussion perhaps the most interesting portion of the letter is that relating to the democratic candidate for president. Mr. Watson deals severely yet justly with Judge Parker. He is relentless, but at no point unfair and he fortifies himself with quotations from the utterances of Mr. Bryan before the meeting of the St. Louis convention. He declares that Parker is not a Jeffersonian democrat and says: "His attitude is thoroughly disingenuous, profoundly lacking in true manhood and leadership. He was willing to stand upon the New York platform which Mr. Bryan denounced as a dishonest platform. His position was so indefinite, so foxy, so entirely neutral, that Mr. Bryan declared to cheering thousands that Parker was 'absolutely unfit' for the democratic nomination." Referring to the gold standard telegram, which Mr. Watson justly states Parker was driven into sending, the populist candidate points out that "neither then nor in any utterance afterward did Parker say that the gold standard was right," until he had been shelled into doing so by the attacks of the free silverites.

The analysis of the democratic candidate for president and his campaign is the most incisive that has been made and ought to have no little influence with those voters who believe in the principles represented by Mr. Watson. There is no abuse in characterizing Judge Parker as Mr. Watson does, for the democratic candidate has shown all the qualities that are ascribed to him. In hardly a single instance has he been candid and straightforward. It is now well understood that he was virtually forced to send the gold standard dispatch, leading democratic papers in New York plainly telling him that without such a declaration his campaign would be utterly hopeless. He talked in his speech of acceptance of giving the Philippines self-government and when prodded by the anti-imperialists to explain what he meant stated that the terms he used should be understood to mean independence. He ignored the race question: in his letter of acceptance and has since refused to express an opinion on that question. His position has not been clearly defined in regard either to the tariff or the combinations. As to one matter, however, there can be no mistake respecting his attitude. He is opposed to the pension order fixing 62 years as the age of partial disability of union soldiers. On that his position is clear and was adopted voluntarily and without the slightest outside pressure. Candidate Watson has very accurately described Candidate Parker and there is reason to think that the description will not be altogether without effect.

DISASTERS ON THE RAIL.

Disastrous railroad accidents have been so numerous during the past few months that an account of one no longer commands public interest. The average newspaper reader is apt to do no more than read the headlines which state the number of killed and injured and pass over the details. Yet the matter is one which very greatly concerns the public, for if the causes of these disasters are to be remedied the people must take a hand in providing the remedies and therefore should as far as possible acquaint themselves with the causes.

When comparison is made between the number of railroad accidents in the United States and in European countries it is difficult to avoid the conviction that there is something lacking or radically wrong in American railroad management. We like to think that this country has at the head of its railroads the most capable men for such service in the world and undoubtedly there is some warrant for this, yet it appears to be a fact that we have still something to learn from foreign management, at least so far as the prevention of accidents is concerned. We do not presume to suggest any remedial measures, but simply to point out that the epidemic of railroad disasters is a matter which should receive the careful consideration of the public as well as of the railroad managers.

COUNTING THE WAR COST.

There are no available figures showing what the war in the far east has cost the belligerents thus far, but the sum amounts to hundreds of millions, the Russian expenditure being of course very much the larger. In an address a few days ago to the Tokio clearing house Count Okuma, the leader of the progressive party, warned the people to prepare for a long war, the date of the termination of which it was now impossible to foretell. He predicted that the cost to Japan for a two years' war would amount to \$1,000,000,000, or \$20 for every man, woman and child in the country. The cost of war thus prolonged to Russia would be about half again as much as for Japan, but perhaps would not be as keenly felt by the former because of its far greater resources.

Both countries, however, would suffer enormously from a war of two years' duration and it may well be doubted whether they could keep up hostilities for such a length of time and maintain the large armies they now have in the field. Modern warfare is tremendously expensive. Great Britain found this to be the case in South Africa and our small war with Spain added \$120,000,000 to the ordinary expenses of the United States. The Japanese army is probably the most economical in the world and the Russian army is perhaps second in this respect, but subsisting armies is but a part of the problem. The cost for the

munitions of war is very heavy and constantly increasing. Count Okuma predicted that Japan will have to borrow \$250,000,000 next year, most of which would have to come from her own people, since it is unlikely that she could negotiate a foreign loan to any large amount. The people will certainly do all that is possible for them to provide the government with money, but it is really a serious question how long they can stand the burden of war expenses. Russia will also undoubtedly have to borrow abroad, for with all her resources she cannot get much more from her people, who are already severely oppressed by taxation.

It seems improbable, however, that the war will be prolonged for two years, for determined as both belligerents now are to fight to the bitter end, it is not unreasonable to assume that after a few more months of sanguinary conflict both may be disposed to listen to a proposal of intervention through which may be secured an honorable peace.

PROMISE AND PERFORMANCE.

The fusion candidate for governor is throwing out all kinds of promises these days as bait to catch voters. His latest is a promise to put an end to the free pass system in these words: "If I am elected governor, I promise you that I will recommend to the next legislature and exert every possible influence at my command to put into the statutes such laws as will at once and for all destroy the free pass system in Nebraska, or, if this does not sound entirely new and novel. The promise to abolish the free pass system has been part of the political capital of the so-called 'reform forces' ever since they got together under the fusion banner. To go back no further than the last time a fusion candidate for governor was elected, we find in the platforms upon which he accepted his nomination the following declarations: 'We favor the complete abolishment of the present custom of granting favors to persons by furnishing to individuals free passes. (Sill: republican, 1888.)'

We demand the enactment of a law prohibiting the issuance of free railway passes to public officials and private citizens, except to bona fide employees, or the acceptance of the same. (Populist, 1888.)'

These promises go further even than that promulgated now by the fusion nominee this year. They not only pledge the abolition of the granting of free passes, but they pledge the officeholders to refuse to accept them. For some reason or other, however, notwithstanding a succession of populist administrations, not only in the governor's office, but in the legislative halls and in the supreme court, the free pass system seems still to have survived and to await destruction. If reports from those who are supposed to know may be believed, the free pass was even more rampant, if anything, at the state house when the populists furnished the occupants than it has been since it was restored to republican control.

Let it be understood that the free pass is an undeniable evil and that the Bee is heartily in favor of any practical measure that will abolish or even curtail it. It is well, however, for the Nebraska voters to be reminded that they have relied on poperaotic promises before.

THREE CHEERS FOR SEATTLE.

Generosity of the City Recalled by Launching of the Nebraska. The battleship Nebraska, launched at Seattle on Friday, was authorized under the act of March 3, 1899, but the contract for building was not signed until March 7, 1901. There were five battleships of the class authorized in the congressional act of 1899—the Georgia, the Nebraska, New Jersey, Rhode Island and Virginia.

Contracts for all except the Nebraska were let to eastern shipyards. The citizens of Seattle were so eager to have at least a battleship built in the shipyard in that city that they raised \$100,000 to enable the contractor to compete successfully with the eastern shipyards. There was delay in the construction of all the vessels of the Nebraska group. The Virginia, under construction at Newport News, was to have been completed in February of this year, but was sixteen months late; the Georgia, under construction at Bath, Me., was eighteen months beyond contract time; the New Jersey, under construction at Quincy, Mass., was fifteen months; the Rhode Island, under construction in the same shipyard, fifteen months beyond contract time; and the Nebraska seventeen months beyond contract time.

The delay was caused by the difficulty in securing materials. However, in the last year rapid progress has been made and all the vessels of the group will be ready in 1905. Later the larger battleships Connecticut, Kansas, Louisiana, Minnesota, and Vermont, each having a displacement of 15,000 tons, were put under contract. Three of these have already been launched. Much more rapid progress has been made in the construction of the smaller vessels ordered a year and two years earlier.

We are turning out battleships in our own shipyards at a rate not equaled by any other naval power except Great Britain. Since the Spanish-American war, in 1898, we have put in commission the first class battleships Maine, Missouri, Alabama, Illinois, Kearsarge, Kentucky and Ohio. Of the vessels ordered since 1900, the Nebraska, and two others have been launched. Eight of the new battleships under construction are to be ready not later than 1906. Meantime, we have put in commission new monitors, several lighter cruisers, and a score or more of gunboats and torpedo boats.

The Nebraska is to have a displacement of 15,000 tons, or is to be 2,600 tons heavier than the new Maine and nearly 5,000 tons heavier than the Oregon. Its success in launching on Friday signals triumph for the citizens of Seattle as well as for the shipyards of the Pacific coast.

erty owners to get their streets repaved within a reasonable time after they announce by petition their desire for a pavement and their willingness to pay for it.

One or two eastern cities in Omaha's class illuminate their streets after the fashion of our Ak-Sar-Ben's illuminations every Saturday night through the year. If Omaha had a municipal electric lighting plant it could do the same without great additional cost, with resultant benefits to retail business.

Force of Habit. Chicago Record-Herald. Mont Pelee has broken loose again. Pelee is like the average human being. Having had a taste of notoriety, it can't keep still.

Perversity of Voters. Washington Post. There is a good deal of natural perversity in the average voter. After he hears a lot of talk about an upright candidate he is filled with a burning desire to turn him down.

Good for the Other Fellow. Baltimore American. Disarmament seems to be one of those things which every nation thinks in the best possible policy in the way of bringing about the world peace—for the other fellow.

Making More Fun Than Votes. Chicago Post. Meanwhile Tom Watson journeys blithely over the landscape hurrying bricks at all parties without fear or favor. Tom may never land in the White House, but he gets considerable amusement out of his free-lance campaigns.

Handicapped by a Record. New York Tribune. Very seldom within the last fifty years has the democratic party been able, even for a brief period, to fool a sufficient number of people to answer its purpose, and it will not succeed this time. As usual, the contrast between character and professions is too glaringly in evidence. The party's spokesmen and newspaper agents are making a desperate effort to confuse and mislead the public mind, but meanwhile the party record stares the whole country in the face, and the men who for years have been making that record what it has come to be are right at the front, directing every movement and burning to appropriate to their own uses the proceeds of victory.

LIGHT FOR THE COAL TRUST.

Thoughts that Sir Consumers When They Pay the Price. Chicago Tribune. When a person pays \$8 a ton for hard coal delivered in Chicago (in Omaha \$10.50) he naturally thinks of the Coal trust. He knows there is a Coal trust. He remembers that he was buying coal a few years ago for considerably less. He naturally associates the increase in price with the monopoly. Perhaps he does the monopoly an injustice. Perhaps not.

Then it occurs to him that the commodity is a necessity of life, a thing which the poor as well as the rich must buy—something universally used where life and comfort are maintained. He recalls other monopolies—like the Standard Oil company and railroads, but he remembers that the price of oil has been reduced from time to time since the trust was formed, and that rates for transportation have been lessened since railroads were built.

He tries to think of some one feature of the Coal trust which would seem to justify its existence. He is not a socialist and believes that combinations of capital are a tendency of the age and must have something to commend them. But the more he learns of the Coal trust the more he wonders whether combinations of capital should be so completely unrestricted. He wonders if coal should advance 50 cents a ton between April 1 and September 1 each year; why the retailer should pay exactly the same advance each year for the same term; why the output should always be about the same.

THE OMAHA ARMY GOSIP IN WASHINGTON.

Matters of Interest Gleaned from the Army and Navy Register. There will be an opportunity for the appointment of twenty-three civilians to the army as second lieutenants. On July 1 the vacancies in that grade numbered forty-seven, which were held to the credit of the enlisted men who were found qualified for advancement. This week the general staff favorably acted upon seventeen with every prospect that at least six more would be appointed. One civilian candidate has already been commissioned. This leaves twenty-three places for other civilians, in which class there are several hundred candidates, some of whom are already at work through their influential friends to obtain appointment. The president has signified the intention of appointing, subject to examination, two civilians, and a third is likely to be permitted to take the examination. One of these three early favored applicants is a second lieutenant of the Porto Rico regiment.

The reports from the army paymasters relating to the deposits of soldiers show a material falling off during the last year as compared with previous periods, and this is becoming a sufficiently serious matter to engage the attention of the authorities. There are several reasons given for the decrease in the amount of deposits made by the soldiers. Some of the enlisted men on their way to the Philippines have fallen into the practice of allotting their pay in advance in San Francisco, with the result that they go to the islands with obligations at home, leaving them little or nothing for deposit with the paymaster. Others patronize local banks, the result of which is interest on the deposits. Then, too, the absence of the canteen has had its effect upon the soldiers' deposits. The enlisted men are induced to squander their money in disreputable places which have grown up in the neighborhood of army posts. This means of obtaining money from soldiers is as ruinous to any individual chance of economy and thrift as it is demoralizing.

The Army Register for 1905 will contain a new feature. It will include the list of officers of the active list who will be retired, under operation of law, during the year. This, with the dates of compulsory retirement, will appear in the records of individual officers, leaving very little to be provided by the War department in the annual Register. One of the "lessons" taught by the completed maneuvers in Virginia is the necessity of participating to the greatest possible extent the various agencies which make such a mobilization of troops. It is found that confusion, delay and annoyance resulted from whatever was postponed until the last moment. The experience of officers who had the work of supplying the outfitting of troops in no matter what the best results are obtained when everything possible is done in advance of the assembling of troops. This is an entirely feasible proposition when it is known beforehand how many, if not what troops are to participate, where the camps are to be located and how the commands are to be transported. The preliminaries, say the officials, should be arranged as far in advance as possible, to the end that on the day of mobilization there will remain only the work which could not be done previously.

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A bullet proof cloth has been tested by the army ordnance officers and the conclusion is that the weight, discomfort and expense, together with the only partial protection afforded by this armor, render its use for individual soldier prohibitive. With reference to the use of shields for cannon, the difficulties of protection from the weather and the resultant deterioration and securing it to and holding it against the steel facing more than counterbalance the gain in weight. Tested over wood blocks, indentations half an inch deep indicate probable injury to the human body, even if the cloth were not penetrated.

No one hears anything of the various suggestions made by the bureau chiefs of the War department on the subject of increased staff corps of the army. Some months ago the chief of staff addressed a circular letter to the chiefs of staff bureaus inviting recommendations of changes required in the personnel and organization of those branches of the army. It is the impression that replies have been shelved and that nothing will be attempted by the general staff in the direction originally contemplated. This decision, if it amounts to a final conclusion, is probably due to the appreciation in the War department that during a short session of congress there is likely to be very little accomplished in the way of important or radical legislation.

The adoption of a new design for the medal of honor has required a change in the form of the inscription which shall be placed on the emblem. This is necessary to the end that the inscription shall be legible. The acting secretary of war has issued the following order: 'Because of the limited space available for inscription on the new medal of honor, it becomes necessary to shorten the inscription. It is therefore directed that all medals that have been issued in recent years, after including those that may be issued to replace medals of the old design, shall be engraved as follows: 'In all cases of award of the medal for distinguished conduct in some particular battle or other engagement, the inscription will be in accordance with the following form: 'The Congress First Serg't William J. Stevenson, Co. H, 25th N. Y. Inf. Vols. Gettysburg, July 2, 1863.'

In all cases of award of the medal on grounds other than distinguished conduct in some particular battle or other engagement, the inscription will be in accordance with the following form: 'The Congress First Serg't William J. Stevenson, Co. H, 25th N. Y. Inf. Vols. Just and Generous Act. Philadelphia Record (dem.) The president has done a just and generous thing in revoking the order of the commanding officer of the Schuykill arsenal regarding the manufacture of soldiers' uniforms. It is likely that the work could be done a little cheaper by contractors than by the seamstresses who have been doing it for many years. But it would be a little too much like the "sweating" process that has made the clothing trade notorious, and among the women who have to work on uniforms there are very many widows and daughters of soldiers, and the government certainly should not drive a hard bargain with them.

Japs as Railroad Builders. Brooklyn Eagle. The world doubted the staying quality of the Japanese soldier when this war began. The world no longer denies to him the possession of that quality and of every other that fits a man to be an achiever of war. The world must also concede to Japanese engineering enterprise the ability to push great undertakings to rapid and successful completion. Railroad construction in Corea and southern Manchuria is not easy at any time. It is especially difficult now. That it is being achieved at such a pace indicates the resolution and resource which great nations and great empire builders alone possess.

CURIOUS how much comfort there is in a fur scarf and muff. Still more curious how much style there is. Worn with or without an outer coat, the neck piece snugly up around your ear-tips and warms you all over; and the muff does the like for wrists and fingers. As for the style—it's all in the shape. A two-year-old muff or scarf is as obviously out of fashion as a two-year-old hat; and it is equally true that an illy designed muff or scarf, or one that's not made so carefully as to hold its shape—is a remorseful expenditure. Every Gordon Scarf or Muff is as smartly designed, as carefully made, as the most elaborate garment. Made in all good furs (long haired ones like Fox are the most popular). GORDON & FERGUSON, St. Paul, Minn. Established 1871.

A WORD TO FIRST VOTERS. An Independent View of the Problem Confronting Them. Minneapolis News (ind.). Mr. Cleveland in his Saturday Evening Post article seems to take the position that a young man in deciding how he shall vote the first time is making choice of his party affiliations for life; that joining a party is much like declaring one's faith in a religious creed—it is for good and all. Well, we do not subscribe to that doctrine. Parties change, outgrow their usefulness, survive the principles that made them strong, or indeed come to take views quite at variance with those long professed. In the thoughtful, conscientious voter still to cling to party, though it has ceased to stand for what he believed and believes? No, decidedly not. We have scant respect or sympathy for the man that says "I am a democrat," or "I am a republican," and votes blindly the ticket that bears his party label, no matter what the party may have declared for, and no matter what names the ticket may bear. And we believe that increasing numbers of voters are looking at men and measures free from the constraining bias of partyism.

The fact that a first voter this year shall decide, say, to vote for Roosevelt and Fairbanks ought not to be tantamount to a commitment by him to be a republican henceforward and forever. It ought to mean for him, if he be a thoughtful and intelligent young man, simply an acknowledgment that this year he prefers the republican ticket and platform to the democratic. And, seriously, what has there been in the recent history of the democratic party, in its leadership or achievement in national politics, to attract the thoughtful young man? And what is there in the present professions and appeal of the party to attract him? It has apparently no clear view and no definite policy on any of the great questions before the country. Democracy means one thing to Mr. Bryan and quite another to Mr. Cleveland. It means one thing in Nebraska and something very different in New York. The first voter ought to consider all this and it ought to have great influence with him in determining his vote this year.

PERSONAL NOTES. First Assistant Postmaster General Wynne seems to have won out. One of the young women copyists of the government has broken the record by typewriting 33,000 words in a departmental day of seven hours. Dean Thomas Holgate, the new president of the Northwestern university, elected to succeed President James, has been connected with the university for eleven years. A physician who formulated a set of rules as a guide to living to be a hundred years old died at 46 the other day. Perhaps he was like the physicians and refused to take his own medicine. For the sixth consecutive term Hon. Cyrus A. Sulloway, known as the "Tall Pine of the Merrimac," has been unanimously renominated by the republicans of New Hampshire for the first congressional district. While arguing a case in the state supreme court Judge Heintz, Mont., the other day, ex-governor P. H. Leslie, annually mentioned that he had just entered upon the sixty-fourth year of his practice as a lawyer. Before President Cleveland appointed him territorial governor of Montana he was governor of Kentucky. Truly honors are about to be rendered to Major "Ent" the distinguished French engineer who drew up the plans for the national capitol at Washington more than a century ago. A monument will be erected in his honor in the capitol and a stone will be placed at his grave at Green Hill, Prince George county, Maryland.

SIMILING LINES. "There's no getting around it," said the caller. "Are they all yours?" "No," replied the man of the house, flushing with resentment. "I'm not so durned poor as that."—Chicago Tribune. "Do you believe that army officers ought to marry none but rich girls?" "Indeed," replied the lobbyist, "I don't see why we might not as well let our money go to the army as to the foreign nobility."—Washington Star. "Yes," said the crooked legislator. "I'm opposed to the bill at present, but I'd change my mind for, say, \$1,000." "Indeed," replied the lobbyist, "I don't doubt that such an exchange would benefit you. Your mind doesn't appear to be worth that much."—Philadelphia Press. "Your yard is pretty full of dogs," said the caller. "Are they all yours?" "No," replied the man of the house, flushing with resentment. "I'm not so durned poor as that."—Chicago Tribune. Husband—What! You don't mean to say you are going shopping in all this rain? Wife—Of course I am. I've saved up \$1 for a rainy day, and this is the first opportunity I've had to spend it.—Chicago News. Subbubs—I tell you, old man, if you'd only move out to our town you'd never live anywhere else. Citizen—I guess that's right. I see poor Coffin, who used to live in your town, died on his way to New Mexico last week.—Philadelphia Press.

THIS BLUE SIGNATURE J. Liebig GUARANTEES EBIG COMPANY'S EXTRACT OF BEEF BEWARE OF 'JUST AS GOODS'

Plain Facts—Plain Figures. Orchard Wilhelm Carpet Company. A Remarkable Genuine bargains in couches. Couch Sale. Every couch in our store marked at a very liberal reduction in price, not because they are undesirable, but because our stock is larger that it should be. Here are a few of the bargains: \$9.50 couch, tufted top, oak frame, reduced to 6.50. \$10.00 couch, tufted top, oak frame, reduced to 7.50. \$12.50 couch, tufted top, oak frame, reduced to 8.75. \$15.00 couch, tufted top, oak frame, reduced to 9.00. \$18.50 couch, tufted top, oak frame, reduced to 13.00. \$22.50 couch, tufted top, oak frame, reduced to 15.50. \$38.00 Genuine leather couch, reduced to 34.50. \$42.50 genuine leather couch, reduced to 37.00. \$47.00 genuine leather couch, reduced to 39.50. \$48.00 genuine leather couch, reduced to 40.00.