

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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Net total sales, 911,644. Daily average, 29,408. GEORGE B. TSCHUCK, Notary Public.

The supreme court has not yet said that the Bartley bond is not enforceable.

Four battleships ready for commission is America's latest contribution to peace with all nations.

There can be no doubt that Ireland expects a general election soon or the war would not have been carried into Belfast last week.

If Russia really desires an effective navy it should devote its first efforts to discovering some means of keeping at least one harbor free from ice.

The man who made the calendar this year has also kindly fixed it so that Andrew Jackson's memory may be celebrated on one or all of several days.

If Speaker Rouse compels members of committees to work full time he may have a hard time to retain that popularity which landed him in the speaker's chair.

Political affairs in Oregon must be in a bad way when it is necessary to take a man from the Washington office of the Department of Justice in order to secure proper material for United States district attorney.

If President Roosevelt should succeed in bringing the "standpatters" and "tariff rippers" in congress into harmony he would confer a favor upon Iowa by taking the republican state chairman into his confidence on the subject.

The insurance agents are all sure it is a bad business proposition for the state to carry its own fire risks.

The acquisition of two of the leading hotels of Lincoln by a prominent politician suggests the thought that he wants to get back some of his campaign money that in other years has gone to defray awe-inspiring hotel bills.

These constant conferences of leaders called to advise with him do not bear out the charges that President Roosevelt is arbitrary, impetuous and headstrong.

Omaha's weekly bank clearings have, for the past two or three years, averaged from \$7,000,000 to \$8,000,000.

John Temple Graves vouches for the statement that the south is rapidly changing in its attitude toward President Roosevelt and are beginning to repose their full confidence in him.

The Omaha Ministerial association has not yet recovered from the shock that followed the withdrawal of the protest filed with the police board against the renewal of liquor licenses to keepers of tough joints in the proscribed district by the attorney retained by the Civic Federation for the prosecution and suppression of vicious and criminal resorts.

County Attorney Slabaugh's proposition to re-set the timepiece at the police court so that the hands of the clock will point to the figure 8 at 8 o'clock in the morning is revolutionary.

The gentry who accept the hospitality of a night's lodging at the city jail are not accustomed to rising from their slumbers so early in the morning and if forced to appear in public as so young an hour, may have to apologize for unkempt hair and disarranged clothing not up to the standard prescribed in polite police circles.

THE EXECUTIVE AND CONGRESS.

That President Roosevelt is taking an intense interest in the matter of legislation is confidently shown in the fact of his inviting republican leaders in congress to confer with him in regard to the legislative program.

As a matter of fact it means nothing of the kind. There is not a single fact in regard to the public finances or anything else concerning the business of the general government which should cause the American people the slightest worry.

The simple fact is that President Roosevelt is anxious that congress shall observe a due degree of prudence in the matter of appropriations.

In other words, as was said by President Roosevelt in his annual message, "the cost of doing government business should be regulated with the same rigid scrutiny as the cost of doing a private business."

A COUNTY CHARTER.

The committees designated by various commercial bodies and the city council to frame a new city charter appear to have no clear conception of the task devolving on them.

This leads us squarely to the question whether this is not the opportune time for formulating a charter for the government of Douglas county separate and distinct from the governments of counties whose conditions and whose wants differ very materially from those prevailing in this county.

The charter for counties of over 140,000 population should clearly define the powers and duties of all county officers, provide for the election of a county auditor by the people and expressly authorize and require the county treasurer and county assessor to be ex officio treasurer and assessor for all cities and towns within the county.

In addition to the changes proposed the new county charter should also provide for a county board of charities and corrections, elective, but non-salaried, like the Board of Education.

The board of charities should have control and supervision over the county infirmary and hospital, over the county jail, county work-house, whenever one is established, and all charitable and corrective institutions maintained at the expense of the county.

The board of charities should also have supervision over the distribution of fuel, clothing and supplies to the destitute, and incidentally to improvise measures of charity relief whenever emergencies may arise.

The new county charter should expressly prescribe the conditions under which franchises are to be granted, new bonds issued and the funding bonds negotiated. It should require that all fees from whatever source collected by any county officer, should be paid into the county treasury and prohibit the funding out of public funds and trust funds under severe penalties.

Other salutary regulations and provisions that may suggest themselves may be inserted to enforce a businesslike administration of the county's affairs and prevent extravagance and wastefulness in any branch of the service coming under the supervision and control of the board of county commissioners.

Such a charter has been a long felt want. It would not only effect a material reduction of taxes, but would frustrate wastefulness and corruption in our county government generally.

Not Liberal Enough. New York Tribune. By the czar's decree, one month's service in the defense of Port Arthur will count for a year to the credit of the survivors.

Mr. Bryan Has the Floor. In 1900 Colonel Bryan, an old soldier in the war against corporations, emitted a plan for a federal license of corporations.

Get Busy, Please. Chicago Tribune. If there are 800,000,000 practically useless silver dollars piled up in Uncle Sam's vaults there would seem to be 800,000,000 good reasons for coining them over into the fractional currency for which the busi-

THE PANAMA COMMISSION.

The creation of the Panama canal commission was made with deliberation. The matter was most carefully and thoroughly discussed in congress and in the public press. It now appears that a mistake was made. The opinion is that the commission is too large and that as now organized and conducted it is a failure.

A bill having this in view has been introduced in the house of representatives. This measure calls for abolishing the commission and provides that the powers now vested in the president be extended until the end of the next, or fifty-ninth congress. The president is authorized to employ such persons with such official designation as he may deem necessary until such time as congress may otherwise direct and is authorized to fix the compensation until regulated by congress.

It appears to be unquestionable that as now constituted the Panama Canal commission is satisfactory and that the inevitable effect of its continuance will be to embarrass and delay the work on the great enterprise. While there is no doubt that the men who constitute the commission are thoroughly capable, there is diversity of opinion among them in regard to the course that should be pursued which is proving troublesome to the government and necessarily a hindrance to the enterprise.

Whether or not it would be wise to abolish the commission is a question. There are some who urge that this is absolutely necessary and that the only safe plan is to give the president the power and authority provided for in the bill before congress.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Thomas Kay Nidringhaus was born in St. Louis in 1859, and comes of a distinguished St. Louis family, widely noted for its philanthropy and public spirit.

Why should the city council hesitate about the establishment of a municipal asphalt paving plant? The experiment has proved a success wherever it has been tried.

The erection of half a dozen mammoth grain elevators in Omaha, South Omaha and Council Bluffs, with all the modern equipments for storing and handling grain makes assurance doubly sure that Omaha will henceforth occupy a prominent place among the great grain markets of the country.

The power of the legislature this winter should be a law prohibiting county boards from granting eternal franchises to suburban trolley lines on any condition. Every franchise granted should have a time limit not to extend beyond a period of fifty years under any circumstances, and no time limit franchise should be given without some compensation, either in a bonus or a royalty.

South Omaha politicians are said to be watching the legislature with trembling for fear that they will be out of an occupation should annexation be ordained. But the great majority of South Omaha people are not concerned about the future of South Omaha politicians.

Colorado's rioting experiences will cost the state nearly \$300,000. In these days of civilized government, anarchy is a luxury which comes very high to those who must have it.

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THE LEGISLATURE.

Fremont Tribune: Speaker Rouse talks like a man who has no strings on him. It is not to be seen if he acts that way.

Howells Journal: The present legislature shows the greatest possible economy; the financial condition of the state demands it.

Politeness and Appreciation. Cleveland Leader. Testimony for all the conditions of Russia who have been made prisoners by the Japanese is unanimous as to the conspicuously courteous treatment, mingled with a kindness that impresses even the most stolid Russian soldier.

Pretty Bunches from Royalty. Portland Oregonian. It is not alone the fair sex who abandon the United States for "dear, old England" that come in for criticism.

Cruel Waste and Drain. Boston Herald. If the pitiful heart will but unite in one tenderly pleading, thunderously reverberating demand, kept up year in, year out, this hideously cruel waste and drain of war will stop.

Missouri's Next Senator. St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Thomas Kay Nidringhaus was born in St. Louis in 1859, and comes of a distinguished St. Louis family, widely noted for its philanthropy and public spirit.

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THE NEW CONGRESSMAN.

Experiences of a Budding Statesman on His First Trip to Washington. A new congressman whose identity is a journalistic secret relates in Harper's Weekly a chapter of his experiences when he blew into Washington loaded down with new acquired importance as a representative of the people.

I am not a proud man nor a vain man, but I must confess that when I first began to be addressed as "congressman" I had a sensation about the head that very much resembled an enlargement of the cranium.

I reached the door of the house of representatives and was about to step in when the doorkeeper took me by the arm and said: "Pardon me, but you can't go in there. You'll have to go up in the gallery."

"Why?" I inquired. "Because this is for members only," said a member of the house, with some indignation in his voice.

The chief clerk of the house came out and identified me, and the doorkeeper, apologizing for his apoplexy, admitted me. After that I had no trouble in getting into the house.

One morning a measure that affected some of the people in my district came up for consideration, and I jumped to my feet and called: "Mr. Speaker, Mr. Speaker!"

"The speaker did not seem to notice me whatever. Instead, he looked on the other side of the house and, pointing to a man who was not claiming recognition at all, said: "Mr. Brown has the floor."

Once again I attempted to get recognition, but was ignored in the same manner. The third time I arose, and then some of the men behind me called out in stentorian tones: "Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of information."

"Will the gentleman yield to a question of information?" "I will," I said, surprised but curious.

"Then, Mr. Speaker," said the man behind me, "I desire to ask if the gentleman in charge of this bill has any objection to the status of any state in the union. True, in many cases some of its provisions are not enforced, but that is the fault of the officers charged with its enforcement and not of the law itself. We do not believe that if the question were fairly presented to them that the people of Nebraska would vote for a change."

Before I had been in Washington a week I found it necessary to obtain an audience with the postmaster general. There were quite a number of men in my district clamoring for fourth rate postmaster appointments, and I had a long list of applications in my possession.

You are asking a good deal of time. You remind me of an incident that occurred when General Arthur was president. The postmaster general at that time dropped in on the president and asked him if he could have a half hour of his time.

Beatrice Express: On the day the legislature organized, Representative Casebeer offered a resolution providing that members should supply each member with a written request for the same and file it with the keeper of the supplies.

I solved the problem by leaving the names of the applicants with him and promising to call some other day to learn his decision.

"Pardon me, but could you direct me to the office of the secretary?" "Certainly," he replied: "if you just continue down this corridor you will find the place you are seeking."

"I did so, but before going into the room of one of the assistant secretaries I stood to the usher."

Countess Helene von Schweinitz has just returned from a most satisfactory examination in dental surgery. Germany has many titled practicing lawyers and physicians, but the countess is the first titled dentist.

Judge Peter C. Pritchard, former United States senator from North Carolina, has been elected president of the golden eagle association which was captured on Bald Mountain and measured four feet from tip to tip.

Governor Durbin of Indiana is considering the advisability of suggesting to the legislature that the state appropriate money for a monument in Arlington cemetery to the memory of General Henry W. Lawton.

Emperor William sent to King Edward as a Christmas present an enormous wild boar's head, and the king sent the kaiser a choice hamper of turkeys and sirloins of beef from his own farm at Sandringham.

The Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce has given William H. Taft, secretary of war, the rare honor of a unanimous election by its board of directors as an honorary life member.

Andrew Carnegie has given or pledged himself to give 125 library buildings at an aggregate cost of \$13,325,240. These figures were given at Beloit, Wis., by Horace White of New York, who represented Mr. Carnegie at the dedication of the \$50,000 library building, the gift of Mr. Carnegie, of the Carnegie libraries 79 are in the United States. Of the total outlay, \$23,044,000, or practically three-fourths of the whole, has been expended in this country.

LEGEND OF HITONKAS.

Of the many Indian legends that are handed down through ages, some there are with strains of pathos rarely met in modern romances.

On the plains now called Iowa, once there dwelt the brave Hitonkas; in his soul unquenched ambition shone, but his people were few. There had come a peaceful spirit—For he loved the gory battle.

While he slept and dreamed of struggles Where his people were few, Came a spirit from the Father, Whispered in his ear: "Hitonkas, On the plains now called Iowa, There had come a peaceful spirit—For he loved the gory battle."

Quick he broke the sleep that's mortal, Took he up his trusty weapon, Took he all his store of wampum, Ere the sun shone on the dawn, He gazed he back across the waters, And he heard his people's wail. As he heard his people's wail, And his heart was sorely pained.

While thus poised a voice as tuneful As the birds of the air, Thrilled his ear: "O, marvel! Art thou sent to me, Hitonkas, To fulfill my sweetest vision."

"Yes," he cried, her kiss returning; And I came to bear the thither, Though thy tribesmen come against me, With their spears and their arrows, I will stand by thee, Hitonkas, Which I may not leave behind me."

Met their lips again with fervor; Whispered vows were fondly pledged, Then she led him to the dancing, To her tepee, where a thousand warriors were, and a thousand ribbons. Gave him of an amber liquid, Which soon soothed and numbed his senses.

Sweet he smiled on dreamland angels, While his wampum she extracted, Fierce he frowned when armed warriors Dragged him from her tepee's shadow Early on the morning after.

Reaching for his trusty weapon, Far beyond the hills, where the Potawatimies hold council, Came before our dread tribunal, "Come before our dread tribunal!"

All the warrior roused within him, At the summons of the chief; But he missed his trusty weapon, And his arm fell limp beside him. As they dragged him into council, Here again he felt the warrior, And the warrior's gaze about him. But a moment, then that spirit sank within him, and forever he was dead, and his people wailed. And the charge was "Drunk a plenty," Leavitt, Neb. ISAAC A. KILGORE.

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sudden that the prime minister of the president looked very much like his portraits. I was very much impressed, at that time, as I have been ever since, at the extreme courtesy of all the State department officials. That is more than can be said for some of the men who are in public life in Washington. I was in one of the other departments not many days after this, and was trying to impress the head of a certain bureau with the merits of one of my office-seeking constituents.

"This man," I said, "is especially fitted for the position to which I have recommended him. He is an expert and understands his business thoroughly. He is a graduate of the University of Iowa."

"What do you think of that college professor who says he never kissed a girl?" "Possibly," said Miss Cayenne, "it is the simple confession of an unworried soul and then again it is a very wise way of advertising for bids."—Washington Star.

"What is the matter?" asked the optimist. "I thought your uncle had left you \$100,000." "He did," replied the pessimist, "but, counting the cost of the funeral, I have only \$50,000 left to buy him a tombstone."—Chicago Record-Herald.

Father—What did the teacher say when she heard you swear? Belle—And was she? Father—What did you tell her? Boy—I didn't want to give you away, pa, so I blamed it on the parrot.—Detroit Free Press.

First Zernstov—What did the car give us? Second Zernstov—Life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. First Zernstov—Is, we are allowed to live and are free to pursue something like Zernstov's life, may we never catch—Cleveland Leader.

"That captain of industry who arrived yesterday keeps up a continual holler for water," grinned the superintendent of stocks. "Well, we won't be too hard on him at first," said Mephisto thoughtfully. "Until further notice we may be watering one share of Brimstone common three times a day."—Town Topics.

"Music hath charms to soothe the savage breast," said the young lady with a simper as she seated herself at the piano. "That may be," muttered a savage bachelor, "but the music may be very noisy."

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We wish you would feel perfectly free to write the Doctor at any time. Ask him anything you wish to know about your hair. You will obtain the best medical advice free, and no one will see your letter but the Doctor. Address, Dr. J. C. Ayer, Lowell, Mass. Testimonials? We can furnish them by the thousand. Here is one: For over half a century Ayer's Hair Vigor has been sold in every civilized land on the face of the globe. Is not this long, unbroken history of success the very best kind of a testimonial? Made by the J. C. Ayer Co., Lowell, Mass. Beware of cheap imitations. AYER'S SERRAVALLO—For the blood. AYER'S PILLS—For constipation. AYER'S GARRA PECTORAL—For coughs. AYER'S AGUE CURE—For malaria and ague.