

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

B. ROOSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 31st day of May, 1905. M. H. HUNNATE, Notary Public.

WHEN OUT OF TOWN: Subscribers leaving the city temporarily should have The Bee mailed to them. It is better than a daily letter from home. Address will be changed as often as requested.

Russian naval officers in the Black sea may ask for duty at the seat of war in lieu of the usual vacation.

If Harvard wins two boat races at many more meetings it will not bother much about producing statesmen.

St. Paul is to have an "automobile carnival." Here is a hint for the managers of Ak-Sar-Ben's forthcoming gaities.

The Ohio democrat platform is such an easy reading document that it is easy to believe those who framed it had little hope of political success.

Governor Pennypacker may be as desirous of muzzling the press as ever, but he has said nothing on the subject since the late Philadelphia disclosures.

This discussion of "the New York dialect" would be unnecessary had James Whitcomb Riley only been born in Gotham rather than in Indiana.

Remember that cigarettes cannot be made, sold or given away in Nebraska on and after Saturday next, and all you can do with the old ones is to smoke them.

The St. Petersburg government evidently fears the home population worse than it does the Japanese; but that fear is less for Russia than for the government.

Some Georgians will no doubt object to that form of race equality which causes a white man to be lynched with negroes; but politics will not be blamed for this crime.

The report that Kourapatkin was injured in battle must have been sent out to save that officer from interviews regarding the forthcoming retreat of General Linévitch.

From the number of trains "in the ditch" recently it would seem to be "up to" the roadmasters to abolish the ditch unless the operating department abolishes the accidents.

The new directors of the Equitable do not bear such prominent names as those who resigned, but it is to be hoped they will exercise a more active vigilance over the proceedings.

By the time an automobile is decorated with all the various numbers and signals required by our state, city and village regulations it will probably most resemble a lotto board.

A state registrar of births and deaths to operate under the jurisdiction of the state medical board will be appointed under the new law. Here is a soft berth for some statesman out of a job.

If Saunders county were not down on the political map so long as irrevocably popocratic, its complete surrender to the so-called Elevator trust would be a twentieth century puzzle problem.

Last time word was received from the water works appraisers the farthest date set for the completion of their report was July 1. It will be interesting to know what date is fixed by the latest bulletin.

Imported pheasants and partridges are protected under the new game law, but how is any Nebraska sportsman to know an imported pheasant from an unimported one unless the owner wraps a red collar around his neck?

CLOSE OF THE FISCAL YEAR.

The fiscal year of the federal government ends today and within a few days the country will have a full statement of the condition of the national treasury. According to the latest estimates there is certain to be a deficit of about \$25,000,000, which is somewhat less than had been indicated a few months ago, though considerably more than was estimated by the secretary of the treasury in his last annual report, which was \$18,000,000. The deficit for the fiscal year of 1904 amounted to nearly \$42,000,000.

There will be little change in the figures for 1905 from those of 1904 in the government's receipts. It is noted that the falling off in receipts from customs duties and internal revenue taxes that occurred last year in comparison with 1903 has been repeated during the current year, the total amount from these two sources in 1904 aggregating \$404,000,000, just about the amount they promise to yield this year. Customs receipts will probably show a decline from those of two years ago. The expenditures for the present fiscal year will exceed those of the preceding year by about \$35,000,000, of course deducting the Panama canal payment from last year's account. The New York Commercial remarks that the way that this steady falling off in revenue and increase in expenditures are eating into the treasury's resources is strikingly shown by the rapid manner in which the available cash balance has melted away in the last two years. It noted that on June 30, 1903, when the government receipts disclosed a handsome surplus over expenditures, that balance amounted to \$240,000,000 in round numbers, while now it is down to about \$138,000,000. Even after deducting the Panama canal payment the treasury's available balance is \$82,000,000 less than it was two years ago. That paper suggests that it will take only about twenty months of such work to land the government high and dry financially.

The figures thus presented and which will not be materially altered by the official statement, while not giving any warrant for apprehension, still forcibly suggest the necessity for some action by the next congress with a view to either reducing the expenditures of the government or increasing the revenues. The former is the more desirable if it can be done without any impairment of the efficiency of the public service. It is the opinion of not a few public men that a reduction of expenditures is not practicable and in fact that they must inevitably increase with the growth of the country. If this view be correct then the revenues of the government will have to be increased. This alternative has been a good deal discussed, disclosing a considerable sentiment in favor of such a revision of tariff rates as would promote importations and on the other hand a perhaps stronger sentiment favorable to adding to the internal revenue taxes.

There is thus presented for the consideration of the next congress a problem which is pretty certain to prove disturbing to the party in power. No confident prediction can be made as to what is likely to be done, but it is quite safe to say that there will be action intended to put a stop to deficits, which are unsatisfactory and more or less quieting. The national treasury is in an entirely sound condition and the public credit is unimpaired, but in order that this shall continue it is manifestly necessary that either expenditures be reduced or revenues be increased.

SPEED AND SAFETY.

In regard to the eighteen-hour trains between New York and Chicago, the Journal of Commerce says that the railroads should vie with each other not only in speed but in safety of operation and excellence of management. It remarks that this fast train rivalry should have the effect of stimulating those engaged in it to the utmost effort for safety, in the character of the roadbed and equipment, appliances for the avoidance of danger and in sleepless vigilance in operation and service. All this is of course essential whatever the speed, but it is especially so in the case of trains that run a mile or more a minute.

Some of the foreign visitors to the international railway congress were reported to have expressed the opinion that the speed of American trains is little short of reckless and this seems to be the view of the Railway Age, which observes that "in the circumstances we fancy neither the home public, nor disinterested American railway men, nor the stockholders of the companies concerned, nor foreign critics will express much sympathy with the new eighteen-hour ambition. All of them are far more likely to say that twenty hours from Chicago to New York by either route is fast enough." That there is any legitimate demand for these fast trains may well be doubted and that they are not profitable to the railroads, but the active rivalry between the New York Central and Pennsylvania will doubtless induce both to maintain the fast trains and it is not to be doubted that they will receive the patronage of those to whom a saving of two hours is regarded as important.

DIVIDENDS FOR JULY.

"Dividend disbursements for July it is estimated will amount in round numbers to \$140,000,000, a gain over the disbursements for the corresponding month of last year of more than \$5,000,000. To this gain the railroads contribute nearly a million and the industrial corporations more than a million. It is noted that as compared with a year ago bank and trust company dividends, in spite of the fact that money rates ruled on a low basis, show a small increase. It is further noted that in connection with the industrial dividends there are some particularly reassuring indications. The falling off in certain distinctly speculative directions is more than compensated by the gain in returns from securities which represent the more useful industries.

When figures prove prosperity, it marks an eastern paper in referring to the estimated July disbursements for dividends and interest. "They can be eloquent to a point unattainable by mere words. If there really has been a depression of legitimate business it is perfectly plain that there has been a thorough recovery from it." Although the gain over a year ago is not very large, it is still sufficient to show that there has been no good reason for those pessimistic views and predictions which have occasionally been heard since the beginning of the present year. What the figures evidence is that there has been steady progress made during the past twelve months in all branches of business and that the onward movement is being maintained. There is no gainsaying to the testimony conveyed in the figures of dividend and interest disbursements.

A PLACE FOR REFORM.

The people of Nebraska are again in the predicament of having a batch of new laws go into effect without having any means of ascertaining what those laws are. Acts that were hitherto innocent have been made criminal and penalties attached for the commission or omission of things specified in the statutes may be incurred without the slightest realization of the offense. The reason for this is that the printed copies of the laws enacted by the last legislature have not yet issued from the press, although the constitution is explicit in requiring their publication and distribution within sixty days after the adjournment of the session.

While there is nothing novel in this predicament, it is high time that a reform should be inaugurated. The excuse given for the delay in publishing the session laws is that the statute has changed the seat of responsibility from the secretary of state to a printing board, and that the act creating the printing board allows twenty days to get ready and ten days for the consideration of bids, thus consuming half of the constitutional sixty days and leaving inadequate time to do the work.

This excuse will not hold good. There is nothing whatever to prevent the state printing board from letting its contract for printing the session laws before the legislature adjourns, nor for the contractor from securing certified copies of the laws as they are signed and beginning his part of the work at once. With any sort of expedition and reasonable co-operation between the different bodies having to do with the publication of the laws, the completed volume could easily be ready for distribution within sixty days after the close of the session. If the state printing board cannot devise a method of getting session laws published in book form within the time specified in the constitution, arrangements should be made to have these laws published in one or more official newspapers, so that the necessary publicity would not be wanting. This ought to be done anyway with all laws passed with the emergency clause with a view to taking effect immediately and of which, at present, persons affected have no means of informing themselves.

Among other things prohibited by the Fourth of July proclamation issued by the mayor of Lincoln is "the use of all explosives on the street car tracks to be exploded by the passage of the cars." The explosion of torpedoes on the street car tracks has become one of the most annoying of the refinements of latter day Fourth of July celebrations, and while perhaps not especially dangerous, constitutes a nuisance that ought to be abated. If it can be abated in Lincoln, it can be abated elsewhere.

Among the unpopular laws enacted by the late legislature, which is about to go into effect, is a law to impose a poll tax of \$2 or two days' work upon roads within five miles of the corporate limits of any town or city. We apprehend able-bodied men will pay the \$2 rather than work two days on public roads for \$1 a day.

The open season for the shooting of prairie chickens has been extended by the new law to three months, and for the shooting of quail to two weeks under the new law that goes into effect July 1. Prairie chickens and quail out, on a lark will take due notice and govern themselves accordingly.

ROUND ABOUT NEW YORK.

Hipples on the Current of Life in the Metropolis. A contest possessing all the eagerness of a tax shirker pleading for a reduction in valuation is on between the backyard scientists of Harlem and Hoboken. Eminent members of the tribe on both sides of North river claim priority in a discovery that promises to revolutionize many things and solve a few perplexing domestic problems. The alleged discovery has to do with the determination of sex before birth.

While the scientists are squabbling for the honors of discovery, the great club of Flatbush puts in a claim so well fortified with proof that the claims of "mere men" will be ruled out as irrelevant, immaterial and innocuous. The discovery came about in this way: Last year, along in June, just when Flatbush society was getting active with its summer campaign, the mothers gave a peanut lawn party. Peanut ice cream was served in paper mache imitations of peanut shells. The Japanese paper napkins had a peanut design. There were peanut waffles and peanut glue, peanut bonbons and peanut butter sandwiches. It was one of the most brilliant social functions ever held in Flatbush.

The Epworth league's peanut party for the missionary fund eclipsed in interest even the croquet championships. The piece de resistance on the bill of fare was peanut fudge; a popular dictionist recited "Uncle Rastus and the Peanuts" and gave a shriekingly amusing impersonation of an Italian peanut man; the members of the club were seen in a very pretty and instructive series of tableaux, representing the course of a recent storm from its planting to its sale from a pushcart.

Next the Shakespeare club gave a peanut afternoon, with papers on the growth and cultivation of peanuts. There was a debate on the question, "Are Peanuts Indigestible?" Richard Brinsley Sheridan devoted two weeks to the study of peanut dainties. The public mind was on the subject and the consumption of peanuts grew apace.

The number of pushcart men handling the vast quantities of peanut butter and trebled. Children cried for them. Housewives served peanut desserts at luncheon and dinner. The autumn and spring stoop parties on the front porches of Flatbush gossiped and sparkled over sacks of peanuts until the first of November. Richard Brinsley Sheridan said on one occasion: "I ripen an idea with a glass of port, and if the result be a happy one another glass is the reward."

When the young king of Spain was in London he one day saw a banner of welcome bearing these words in colorful Spanish—up to the last word: "Que vuestro reinado, señor, sea largo y feliz," which was intended to mean: "May your reign, sir, be long and happy." But that last word threw him into fits of laughter. It should have been "feliz." As it was it meant nothing in Spanish, while in French, a language with which his majesty is familiar, it is equivalent to the American "get out."

BLOOMS THE SUMMER GIRL. A Glad Variation in an All Too Melancholy World. Baltimore American. Is the summer girl simply the sweet girl graduate, just escaped from classic halls? Statistics are silent, but it is a good guess that the girl graduate and the summer girl are largely identical. Only a change in the plumage befitting the lakeside, seashore or mountain summit surroundings. Full of the new wine of life, seeing things as they are, but they ought to be, the summer girl is a glad variation in an all too melancholy world. Perfect, with the freshness and luster of the new-blown rose, life upon the whole world would be very much less beautiful without her.

Perhaps there is an entirely new crop of summer girls with each season. The bureau of statistics of the Department of Commerce and Labor, which seems to be gathering facts and figures and tabulating information upon all sorts of odd social

Well, spring broke, and the population of Flatbush went right on increasing. Yet as the March 23rd, 1905, dawned, no other borough guards and others who notice such things began to mark a strange fact. They were all boys.

In one week of early March five citizens of Flatbush, popular in church and women's circles, passed their morning hours and wrung their hands; and in two appeared five nurses, who said: "Doing nicely, sir, and it's a fine little boy."

Next day the scene jumped back, and since that it has seemed to rain boys in Flatbush. Hotelkeepers and merchant princes, who are glad to see a dollar and a cop-it is all boys for their. Now and then a little girl came by way of variety. In every single case it was found that the parents of the girl babies, crop of the spring, were either members of church and women's club society.

The peanut parties of last year and the boy crop of this year are regarded by the scientists as related revelations, marking a tremendous advance in human knowledge. Meanwhile the Mother's club of Flatbush converse in baby lingo and wink the other eye.

The pioneer 16-inch breech-loading coast defense gun, which cost about \$300 to build, is lying in a ditch at Sandy Hook proving grounds, and may never be fired again. The gun is only three years old, and has been discharged only about a dozen times. One of the strong claims for the gun is that, with proper elevation, it is possible to fire it at Sandy Hook and land its ton-weight projectile in City Hall park, twenty-one miles away. Even if the gun is mounted again, it is said that a shell would never be fired, but by the government, because an extended firing, even in practice, would make a big inroad in the United States treasury.

The weight of the gun is so great as to make it almost impossible for its builders to construct a carriage strong enough to hold it. The chief objection to the gun is that too many men are required to handle it. More than half a ton of powder, costing \$250, is needed to fire the gun's projectile, which weighs 1,200 lbs. and is about as tall as an ordinary man. It was the intention of the government to build forty guns similar to the one which has been sidetracked at the proving grounds. All were to be used for coast defense.

William Snyder, an animal keeper at the Central park menagerie, was attacked by "Lanky Bob," one of the largest alligators in captivity. The alligator inclined its head toward Snyder and was assigned to the job. The water was drawn off and he entered the tank armed with a long iron shod pike.

With his pike Snyder "hooped" the alligator, which cut about \$300 to build, is lying in a ditch at Sandy Hook proving grounds, and may never be fired again. The gun is only three years old, and has been discharged only about a dozen times. One of the strong claims for the gun is that, with proper elevation, it is possible to fire it at Sandy Hook and land its ton-weight projectile in City Hall park, twenty-one miles away. Even if the gun is mounted again, it is said that a shell would never be fired, but by the government, because an extended firing, even in practice, would make a big inroad in the United States treasury.

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GOOD MIXER OF TROUBLE.

Chicago Letter Column. It must be admitted, however, that the disinterested party at present engaged in stirring up the spirit of revolt in Russia exhibits all the characteristics of an old hand at the business.

Time for Thoughtful Study. Chicago News. White little Johnny is informing himself as to the latest varieties of high explosives and other implements of celebratory torture, his parents should read up on the latest styles in antisepsis.

Will the Parallel Work Out. Chicago Chronicle. In Russia the situation begins to assume a sinister resemblance to the conditions in France in 1792. In Russia now as in France then we see a weak and vacillating monarch, a corrupt and arrogant aristocracy, a sullen and disaffected peasantry and the working classes of the cities raising the red standard of the commune. The parallel is close enough to prepare us for anything that may happen in Russia.

Joint for Judicial Dignity. Cincinnati Enquirer. There are intimations that Secretary Taft is still too young and frisky to think of participating in the solemn marches of the judges of the supreme court of the United States. As that august body crossed the public corridor on the way from the robbing of the bank, the secretary's old friend from Cincinnati in the throng of spectators. Then the dignity of the highest tribunal might take a dreadful drop. Some one might be encouraged to even cry out: "Hello, Bill!"

NATURALIZATION FRAUDS. Necessity for Reform in the Operation of the Law. Boston Transcript. It is a great thing to be an American citizen if one is born to that distinction or attains it by legitimate means; but about the meanest spectacles humanly is he who masquerades as such and enjoys corresponding privileges, unless it may be the man who helps him to carry out the fraud. Yet there are doubtless thousands and perhaps tens of thousands of these usurpers of successful privileges in our country, and the laws seem to lend themselves in a measure to their manufacture, or at least they do not altogether prevent it. This evil is recognized in government circles, and a board that is now considering this very question has recommended that congress at its next session some radical changes in legislation governing naturalization.

The board has been appointed at the suggestion of the president, who has become convinced that scandal involving bogus citizenship by the wholesale exist and should be unseathed. In the first place naturalization papers as now issued lack uniformity. Each court prepares papers after its own fashion without reference to the practice of other courts, and this inconsistency creates a delay in the number naturally tends to abuse. Even the corporation courts of the cities have power, it is said, to naturalize aliens, and in that privilege there is an easily discernible temptation. It is a free and easy method that brings out an election day in some places such unexpected results. But more, if not worse than that, is the traffic in bogus certificates which are printed and bought and sold through the cities of Europe, where they have a regular market value.

Another phase of this fraudulent practice is for foreigners who have been naturalized, either legitimately or otherwise, to send their certificates to friends and relatives in the countries from which they came, to enable them to secure admission to the United States. Some 30 such cases were detected at the port of New York alone last year, while probably many more than that, which were undetected, occurred. The recommendations of the board will probably point to a considerable extension of the number and selection in the character of the courts authorized to issue naturalization papers. These will be the courts of more responsible jurisdiction, and in addition it will ask to have issued a kind of paper that cannot be duplicated except in violation of the law.

It is even suggested that no naturalization papers be issued for a period of thirteen days prior to a national or congressional election. These and some other provisions ought to be stricken with proper elevation, it is possible to fire it at Sandy Hook and land its ton-weight projectile in City Hall park, twenty-one miles away. Even if the gun is mounted again, it is said that a shell would never be fired, but by the government, because an extended firing, even in practice, would make a big inroad in the United States treasury.

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William Snyder, an animal keeper at the Central park menagerie, was attacked by "Lanky Bob," one of the largest alligators in captivity. The alligator inclined its head toward Snyder and was assigned to the job. The water was drawn off and he entered the tank armed with a long iron shod pike.

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