

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING.

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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.

Count Tolstoy's idea that the Russians may liberate mankind shows a higher opinion of Russia than his previous writings justify.

Gamblers are to be barred from the towns where registration for the Utah land lottery is in progress. Uncle Sam insists on a monopoly in everything he undertakes.

The new Russian national assembly is to be permitted to advise the executive officers—so long as it gives the same advice those officers would have received from the czar.

Smokers of the weed will have to be careful in New Orleans while all standing water is covered with oil, although fire, properly applied, might remove several sources of infection.

If the governmental experts succeed in exterminating the mosquito that carries yellow fever, the rest of us might try the same plan on those which carry only profanity in their wake.

When Secretary Wilson finally locates the men he can trust implicitly to prepare crop statistics the danger will be that he will find them holding jobs at better salaries than he can offer.

King Ak-Sar-Ben wants a suitable name for the amusement thoroughfare of his carnival grounds. Perhaps the proper way would be to adopt a name and then make the carnival live up to it.

The Nebraska Grain Dealers' association insists that it has not been doing anything wrong, but just to assure the public it will not do it again it is willing to annihilate itself by going out of business.

The costs of administering the new juvenile court law and detention home continue to pile up. The question that experience will have to answer is, whether we are getting our money's worth?

That "mistake" of Santa Fe rate makers is likely to prove interesting to the stockholders. A fine in place of a dividend would cause them to take a greater interest in the operation of the company.

School board candidates are coming to the front early under the new primary law. It is to be noted, however, that school board candidates are not required to put up any fee to qualify under its provisions.

The statement of a Japanese editor regarding probable terms of peace indicates that the yellow newspaper of Japan follows the lead of its American contemporary in saying what it thinks its readers want it to say.

The railroads operating in Iowa have not yet gone into court to get an injunction to prevent the collection of taxes upon the increased railway assessment fixed by the Iowa State board. Can it be that that device is patented for Nebraska only?

Nebraska populists propose to act independently this year in calling their state nominating convention without waiting for the aid or consent of any other party with whom they were formerly allied. The democrats, however, will reserve the right to call their convention for the same time and place as the populists and go through the old fusion program as heretofore.

SECRETARY WILSON. The announcement that Secretary Wilson will remain at the head of the Department of Agriculture will cause very general gratification, particularly among those who know and appreciate the very important services he has rendered to the country.

The agricultural interests of the United States owe a greater debt of gratitude to Secretary Wilson than to any other man who was ever at the head of his department. He has shown more interest in the work of that department than any of his predecessors and has done more to promote the interests and the welfare of the American farmer.

What he has done in this respect cannot easily be overestimated, and the fact that his confidence in his subordinates has been abused does not in the least reflect upon the integrity of the secretary. No fair-minded man doubts his absolute honesty or will for a moment question his declared purpose to make a thorough investigation of his department with a view to ridding it of every one in regard to whom there is the slightest suspicion or taint of wrongdoing.

In this respect Wilson has the unqualified support of President Roosevelt. There is the best authority for saying that the president desires that the secretary of agriculture shall spare no effort to probe to the bottom whatever charges may be presented against employees of the department and to discover who may be responsible for or implicated in any of the wrong-doing that has been charged against the department.

This is all that can reasonably be asked by the public. Meanwhile it is announced that a new arrangement is to be instituted in regard to crop reports which it is believed will do away with the objections hitherto made to such reports. In short, there is to be a radical reform in the department in which our great agricultural interest is especially concerned and there is no doubt that its usefulness will be greatly enhanced.

THE DISCLOSURES MAY INVESTIGATE. The disclosures in regard to wrongs in several departments of the federal government have naturally created a demand for the investigation of all departments and it is reasonably to be assumed that this demand will persist until there is an investigation that will extend to every portion of the government as to which there may be any suspicion in regard to the proper conduct of public affairs.

There is unquestionably a demand in the country today for such a cleansing of the various departments of the government as has not taken place in the last half a century and there is no doubt that this demand will be insistent. It is the outgrowth of developments which show beyond question the necessity of a reorganization in nearly every department of the government and particularly in those departments where there is great financial or pecuniary interests involved.

It is a most unfortunate reflection upon American integrity and character that our people must be at all times put under bonds, so to speak, in order to keep them in line, and that even when the utmost care is taken to secure honesty and integrity some of them will stray away and by their conduct wrong the government and the people.

This has been done by the men who have been found to have betrayed their trust in two departments of the government and the disclosures naturally suggest that there may be delinquencies in other departments. The thought inevitably points to the expediency of extending investigations to all departments of the government. The idea is to have a general investigation, which will determine whether or not there is absolutely correct and honest conduct in every branch of federal affairs.

There can be no question in regard to the propriety of this. The country is entitled to know whether or not the departmental business of the nation is being administered honestly and on business principles. The people who support the government have the right to know as to whether or not those who are chosen to manage the affairs of government are doing their duty and it is a very encouraging fact to find that the people are from year to year becoming more solicitous to discover that their public servants are doing their duty.

The statement that congress may investigate the several departments of the government ought to be correct. Such an investigation should be made by the representatives of the people. It is needed in the interest of honest and good government and the republican party, having control of the government, will make a mistake if it does not institute an investigation of every governmental department.

The stranding of a steamboat on a Missouri river sand bar within the jurisdiction of the surveyor of the Port of Omaha should be duly noted and recorded in the official annals for citation when the next river and harbor bill comes up. Navigation in and about Omaha must by all means be kept open even if an embargo has to be declared against floating sand-bars and charismakers engaged by the year to keep track of the Missouri river channel.

STOP BUILDING WOODEN BRIDGES. The county board has just entered into a new contract for the construction of wooden bridges in Douglas county at a fixed rate per linear foot, with additional items for caps, guards, wings, etc. Into the merits of the controversy between competing contractors, each claiming to be entitled as low bidder to the work, The Bee does not care to enter, but it does not hesitate to express the belief that the whole policy of wooden bridge building is wrong and that the county should get away from it as fast as possible.

The building of wooden bridges along county roads is at best a temporary makeshift and the expenses for repairs and replacement make them a continuous drain upon the taxpayers. In the early days when it was imperative to get biggest results for the least money wooden bridges were not only excusable, but in most cases necessary. The roads through Douglas county now, however, are all pretty well laid out. The building of new bridges is a comparatively small portion of the work, the principal part being the replacement of worn-out bridges.

It seems to us that the time has arrived when it will be conducive to economy to adopt a general rule against wooden bridges and for the replacement of the wooden bridges as they wear out with bridges of iron and steel, or masonry, that will stay where they are put and remain serviceable under proper care for generations. There will doubtless always be more or less temporary or emergency bridge work for which wooden construction will prove most serviceable, but nothing in the way of a permanent bridge should hereafter be put in of wood.

Douglas county has spent almost enough money on bridges in the last dozen years to put a masonry arch over every gully and a steel span over every creek, but an inventory of bridge assets would disclose that the taxpayers have comparatively little to show for their money. Every dollar spent out of the bridge fund from now on ought to be made to count toward the permanent improvement of our county roads.

THE SUGGESTION THAT automobiles be barred from the parks will hardly strike Omaha automobilists with favor. If automobile drivers will observe all the regulations with respect to speed and rule of the road there is no good reason why they should not be allowed to go anywhere that other pleasure vehicles may go.

If Douglas county has paid the state from \$25,000 to \$30,000 more than it should have paid, it should by all means try to get the money back. At the same time it would be interesting to the taxpayers to know just how they came to be creditors of the state to that amount and who, if anyone, is blamable.

Attorney Jerome declares he will continue as prosecuting attorney if elected by the people regardless of party. Evidently he is resolved that Tammany shall have none of the glory of his work, even though it was once responsible for placing him in office.

With cholera at Madras the British physicians have an opportunity to enter into a friendly contest with those of America. If they eradicate the Asiatic disease before the Yankees kill the yellow fever they will be entitled to the most honor.

Having learned that there was no politics in the meeting of Emperor William and King Christian at Copenhagen the Norwegians may proceed to vote to decide between reunion with Sweden and a republic.

The proposed boycott of southern cotton planters by European spinners would not be so unwelcome to America if it should result in shipping manufactured goods rather than raw material across the water.

THE LIMIT OF BRAVERY. The Japanese are very brave. They even dare to put "Oyama chestnuts" and "Togo lobsters" on their menu cards.

ONE WAY TO GET THERE. Somerville Journal. The man who is thinking all the time of making money seldom makes much. To get rich, it is necessary to stop thinking early every day and go to work.

SWELLING THE WORLD'S GALETY. Chicago Tribune. The illustrious governor of Pennsylvania says Quay was a "greater statesman than either Webster or Clay." This ought to hold the country for a while.

MARCHING THROUGH GEORGIA. New York Globe. The telephone and rural free delivery of mail have increased Georgia farm lands from \$10 to \$100 an acre. The march of prosperity through Georgia meets no opposition.

PRECEDENTS CITED ABOUT. Chicago Tribune. Secretary Bonaparte has not only kicked over the whitewash bucket, but has astonished the natives by declaring to further allow naval paymasters to be collection agencies against Jack Tar.

SAVING SENSE OF HUMOR. Washington Post. Secretary Blaine is flooded with invitations to address public meetings in all parts of the country. This should be answer sufficient to those who contend that the American people are losing their sense of humor.

NO TRUMPETS HERE! Philadelphia Press. In the golden list of those who have given not much but noble ample space must be made for the name of Michael K. Warner, the Baltimore physician who destroyed his books just before his death, in order that the administrators of his estate may not press those indebted to him, many of whom are poor.

High Examples for Governor Miskey. Brooklyn Eagle. When Benjamin Harrison was president of the United States, he refused to appoint persons to office in the District of Columbia who "played cards for money."

BITTS OF WASHINGTON LIFE. Minor Scenes and Incidents Sketches on the Spot. The usual summer overhauling of the national capital and the way with a larger force of workmen than in recent years. Improvements, renovation and repairing is going forward on extensive plans, which, when completed, will transform much of the interior. All chimneys about the roof are to be removed and replaced with ornamental 18-inch pipes. The entire system of ventilation is to be changed. In the senate wing the room of the committee on finance and fifteen other committee rooms are being painted and decorated.

President Roosevelt's Night with the Boys Means Something. New York Mail. A great deal could be pardoned, if there were things to pardon, to a president of the United States capable of taking ten days on a camping excursion, and being no more than a simple, down-to-earth, and his own hunter and his own cook as well.

CAMP OF HAPPY CHANCE. President Roosevelt's Night with the Boys Means Something. New York Mail. A great deal could be pardoned, if there were things to pardon, to a president of the United States capable of taking ten days on a camping excursion, and being no more than a simple, down-to-earth, and his own hunter and his own cook as well.

THE WORLD'S EMPIRE. English View of the President in International Politics. London Express. It may be doubted whether the history of the world affords any just parallel to the position at present occupied by the president of the United States.

THE ROOT OF EVIL. Scramble for Money for Purposes of Vulgar Display. St. Louis Globe-Democrat. Cardinal Gibbons expressed a vital truth in saying that at the bottom of every story of corruption in public office and in "high finance" in this country is the "treacherous money." The distinguished prelate made a very wise and necessary distinction, in adding, in response to inquiry, that the "treacherous money" is not in the love of money for itself, but in the ambition to display it for purposes of extravagant or magnificent display.

ENOUGH AS GOOD AS A FEAST. Business as a Means, Not the Sole End of Living. St. Louis Republic. When the American business man turns philosopher, as he gives full signs of doing in the not distant future, and learns that enough is as good as a feast, it will be a happy day. At present he is given more to philanthropy than to philosophy and is endeavoring in various ways to rid himself of an unaccountable surplus of wealth, but is unable thereby to satisfy either his conscience or his idea of happiness.

IMMIGRATION NOT A CALAMITY. Policy of the Open Door Receives Decided Support. Boston Transcript. Railroads and steamship companies agree that the tide of immigration is agitating, and that the record of 1,000,000 people added to our population in 1904 by immigration is likely to be surpassed in the next few years. In the six years, 1900-1905, there have come to our shores 4,815,000 foreigners, while in the next preceding decade the number was 3,948,000. Many publicists view these figures with alarm and cry for increased restrictions. But a new light upon the immigration question was shed at the last meeting of the National Civic Federation, when men of widely differing points of view discussed the subject. Our traditional national policy of maintaining an open door to the people of the world received fresh and decided support.

PERSONAL NOTES. Frank M. Mahan, a hydraulic engineer of Chicago, has perfected the flying machine with four legs as models for flight. J. Howard Lacombe, the one-time associate of the railroad king, Tom Scott, and of Andrew Carnegie, the ironmaster, is a clerk in the pension office at Washington.

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Ayer's Sarsaparilla advertisement featuring a large illustration of a man and a woman, and text describing the medicine's benefits for various ailments.