

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

B. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION: Daily Bee (without Sunday), one year, \$4.00...

PROGRESS AT PORTSMOUTH

What has thus far been accomplished by the peace conference is encouraging, but it by no means gives assurance that peace will result. The minor points that have been agreed upon were not expected to cause any serious controversy.

The really vital issues are yet to be discussed and there is still fear that upon these a rupture may occur. The Japanese demands for indemnity and for the cession of the island of Sakhalin are the rocks upon which the conference may be wrecked.

It is true that the council and engineering department have recently promulgated new regulations governing the cutting of pavements and more particularly the depositing of forfeit money to cover the cost of repairing. No permission should be given to cut into any pavement unless it is amply proved that the proposed cutting is necessary.

The streets of the city constitute part of the permanent plant of the community just the same as the floors of a house for the individual householder. No private individual would tolerate the wanton disfigurement of a hardwood floor in his hall, nor would he permit the worn-out floor to go unrepaired until it became positively dangerous.

One of the grave charges brought against the distinguished Nebraskan appointed to the bench in Arizona is that he makes it his habit to sit with his feet on his desk, forcing the visiting attorneys to talk to the soles of his shoes instead of to his head.

City Attorney Breen advises the council that he proposes to resist the payment of the water hydrant bill at the instance of the Water board on the ground that the water company is not furnishing the goods as per contract.

State Treasurer Mortensen is taking up general fund warrants right along, but every time money is paid out to liquidate general fund obligations it simply piles up in the school fund which has been holding these warrants for investment.

A former candidate for the nomination for governor explains that he is not cultivating his aspirations just now because "the psychological moment" has not arrived. With most of the political place hunters the psychological moment either cuts no figure or they delude themselves into the belief that it travels with them as their constant companion.

It may be all right for the Nebraska insurance department to check up the insurance companies licensed to do business in this state, but please see to it that we have no repetition of the graft that was worked under this guise under the last fusion administration of the insurance department.

The Limit. Topeka State Journal. If Miss Tarbell keeps on unearthing Mr. Rockefeller's past it may be discovered that he is eligible to a seat in the United States senate.

Soothing the Wounds. Chicago News. As compensation for not calling it an "indemnity" Japan may feel it necessary to put the figure for a "reimbursement" a little higher.

Stepping on Tender Toes. Washington Post. "Some corporations exhaust every effort which can be suggested by the highest ability or secured by the most lavish expenditure of money to defeat the purposes of the laws on the statute books," says the president, and the boss trusts, the law

benefit of the minimum rates, while to all others the higher rates will apply and the United States is among those. It is this fact which causes so great an interest to be felt here in regard to the tariff upon our trade of Germany's effect, unless we can negotiate a treaty with that country that will entitle us to the lower rates, and it was with a view to promoting such a treaty that the Chicago conference was called.

It is altogether likely that President Castro of Venezuela has succeeded by this time in acquiring a thorough understanding of the President Roosevelt's meaning when he said this government would not go to war for the purpose of helping any other country to avoid the payment of its debts.

There is no good reason whatever why with reasonable precautions and prompt replacement of worn spots our asphalt pavements should not be kept constantly in a first-class state of repair. The difficulty in the past has been not so much a lack of rules and regulations as a reckless disregard of them.

Another instance of the greed, corporate and individual, which not only blocks the beneficent extension of government irrigation works is cited by the Tacoma Ledger in the case of the Palouse valley, state of Washington. That valley was selected by the government engineers as the first of a series of which should irrigate 100,000 acres or more.

In the good old days. Philadelphia North American. The North American doesn't take much stock in the "good old days" idea. It believes that the good old days should be "good old days" were no better than the bad young ones. In a good many aspects they were very much worse.

The members of this interesting trio were sentenced to one month "in his majesty's goal of Newgate," at the expiration of which time they were banished from Great Britain for seven years.

Former Minister from China Files a Diplomatic Demand. Baltimore American. A very interesting interview recently cabled from Peking giving the views of Mr. Wu Ting-fang, former minister to the United States, on the proposed American boycott of Chinese goods.

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Clear Case of "Have To." Chicago Record-Herald. Thomas A. Edison says: "I do not like to deal with men whose lives are devoted to getting money." Neither does any of the rest of us, but most of us have to.

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ROUND ABOUT NEW YORK

Wife desertion is crowding divorce for the record in New York City. Both evils are classed as grave menaces to domestic life. While strenuous efforts are put forth to check divorce, there is no adequate remedy for wife desertion.

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How we gained the confidence of the people in our sales

By doing just exactly as we advertised—by giving them the values that we state—by having the goods to deliver at the bona fide reductions that we claim—by making a plain statement of facts—by offering regular merchandise that this store can back up with its guarantee and not goods that were made for special sale purposes—and now when we say special prices the buying public know that it means a reduction from the regular selling price.

Orchard & Wilhelm Carpet Co.

PERSONAL NOTES. That Chicago girl who won a husband by cooking in a good dinner unconsciously answered the paramount question the women's clubs were wrangling over.

A railroad conductor recently refused to honor the pass of Congressman Frank L. Dixon of Illinois on account of Mr. Dixon's youthful appearance. A friend of the congressman on the train convinced the conductor that Mr. Dixon was old enough to sit in the house.

Prof. N. A. Cobb of Spencer, Mass., who was formerly in the employ of the Australian government in New South Wales, is on his way to the Hawaiian Islands, where he goes in behalf of the United States government to instruct the natives in scientific farming.

William J. Palmer, the founder of Colorado City, Colo., has given to that city \$100,000 or more in the way of parks, large sums to its charitable institutions, built a driveway up the Bear canyon and now has bought up another large tract of ground with the intention of turning it into a park.

It is not generally known that Dr. Washington Gladden—who has so vigorously scored the church for its acceptance of "tainted" money—and John D. Rockefeller were country boys together in Tloca county, New York, attended adjoining district schools and frequently met in rival spelling bees.

Senator Proctor of Vermont is reported to have said that the finest speech he ever made consisted of only four words. Senator Proctor in a speech the course of which he chaffed good-naturedly the senator from the Green Mountain state, made this little thrust: "No man in Vermont is allowed to vote unless he has made \$5,000 trading with Massachusetts people." Senator Proctor retorted: "And we all vote."

When Louis XIV was saying, just after the death of his great subordinate and master, Mazarin, that hereafter he would be his own premier, how small he would have appeared in his own estimation could he have taken a glance prophetically at the head of the American government of a few centuries later! With a readiness and an adequacy which is almost comic in its completeness, President Roosevelt is not only a speech maker but a speech maker.

All by himself, Mr. Roosevelt is the entire American government these days, and, according to some competent critics, he is playing his role well. The London Times, referring to the affair on the Mayflower, in which he brought the Japanese and the Russian peace commissioners together, and put them in good humor with each other and with all the world, said that "the president has performed his part with perfect judgment and tact," and remarked further that "whatever may be the outcome of the negotiations, civilized

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?