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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.

The ripened crops are doing all the talking in Nebraska this year.

Railroads holding exclusive contracts with the Armour Car Line company may pose as victims rather than confederates of monopoly.

When all things fall the Rockefeller spook is projected to the front to rally the popocracy of Nebraska to its forlorn hope candidates.

Now that "graft" has been uncovered at Peking some of our politicians will be willing to admit China to the sisterhood of nations.

The statement that more priests are needed in the new republic of Panama is conclusive proof that the Yankee adventurer has arrived.

If Cumfere is not permitted to confer with lawyers immediately he will not have enough of that stolen money to pay for the conference.

It will be noted that Congressman Tawney crossed the Missouri river before declaring that neither Arizona nor New Mexico were ready for statehood.

Unfortunately the president is not apt to stop long enough in Florida to fan into flame that spark of protectionist sentiment found there by Secretary Shaw.

The pronouncement of Datto Ali to Morse friendly to the United States should make those worthies fight the harder, since death is to go with defeat.

The chief obstacle confronting the political campaign managers is the eminent danger of an abnormally light vote at the coming election, due to contentment and indifference.

Theodore Roosevelt's march through Georgia has not been quite as arduous a task as the famous march through Georgia of William Tecumseh Sherman just forty years previously.

Just now Louisiana is undecided whether it desires a frost which may kill the mosquito and ruin the sugar cane or prefers to fight the stegomyia with drugs and harvest a big crop.

If the argument over the relative ability of Irving and Gattick should reach a showing of financial returns from their work the first knighted British actor would be likely to win in a walk.

The homeopaths and the regulars are having their differences out over in Council Bluffs. The homeopathic treatment seems to have taken with the court, but the members of the regular school declare that the court's prescription will not take on them.

One does not always have to go far away from home to hear the news. The very latest sensation spring in these parts is the announcement that the Omaha Hyphenated is one of the ten greatest newspapers published in Europe and America.

Superintendent Davidson disagrees with the assertion that public schools hamper the development of girls who attend them, and inasmuch as most of the best womanhood of the country has gone through the public schools Mr. Davidson has the best of the argument.

SHOWING THEIR HANDS TOO EARLY

In pursuance of the resolution adopted by the Interstate Commerce Law association at its convention held at St. Louis last year, a call has been issued for a convention of delegates representing the various trades, industrial and producing interests of the country, to be held at Chicago next Thursday.

The object of the convention, as expressly defined in the call, is "to impress upon congress the extent and persistent demands of the American people for the legislation outlined in President Roosevelt's last annual message in the following language:

The Interstate Commerce commission should be vested with the power, where a given rate has been challenged and after full hearing found to be unreasonable, to decide, subject to judicial review, what shall be a reasonable rate to take its place; and the ruling of the commission to take effect immediately, and to obtain until and until it is reversed by the court of review.

The promulgation of this call was promptly followed by a counter movement on the part of the railroads, with a view of either capturing or breaking up the convention by main force. With this end in view their mercantile and mercantile allies were lined up and a counter call was issued, signed by high officials of lumber and coal companies, and two or three subservient trustees that hold executive positions with commercial bodies, urging them to appoint the number of delegates to which they would be entitled under the original call, with a view to a full and free expression of their views at the forthcoming Interstate Commerce Law convention.

This counter call also plainly intimates that in case the stool pigeons of the railroads are denied the privilege of participation in the proceedings of the interstate commerce regulation convention they are to secede and convene in another place, there to give expression to their views and have them properly presented to congress at its forthcoming session.

The most amazing effrontery of the counter movement is the preemptory demand for "an absolutely free and full discussion of the whole railroad issue." What would be thought of the attempted intrusion of free traders in the proceedings of a republican convention and their demand for a free discussion in order to convince its members that the protective policy is wrong? What would be thought of the attempt of Protestant clergymen to break into a Roman Catholic convent to discuss articles of Christian faith, in order that both sides may be heard? What would be thought of an attempt of homeopaths, osteopaths and eclectic doctors to take part in the proceedings of a regular medical society, or an attempt of trades unionists to take part in the deliberations of the employers' association?

What right have those who are opposed to railroad regulation, as recommended by President Roosevelt, to participate in a convention or conference expressly called for the purpose of endorsing President Roosevelt's plan? What right have they to demand that a convention called for the purpose of strengthening the president's hands shall entertain any proposition that would thwart the object for which it was convened?

The American people like fair play. They believe in a full and free discussion of every issue affecting their welfare, but they have no sympathy for the suppression of any movement designed to promote reforms by mobs organized under the guise of delegates or spectators. We feel sure that if the anti-American program of the anti-regulation combine is carried out it will react severely against the railroads in the high court of public opinion.

FAIRNESS TOWARD THE CHINESE

Whether or not congress will take any action for the modification of the Chinese exclusion law cannot be foretold with certainty, but the attitude of the administration on the question has been shown in the instructions to the immigration authorities and is very explicitly defined in the remarks of the president on the subject at Atlanta. Mr. Roosevelt has conclusively shown that he is as strongly opposed as anybody to the admission of Chinese coolies, but he believes that those Chinamen who are not of the laboring class should not only be admitted to the country, but every encouragement given them to come here. In regard to this he said: "Every Chinese traveler or student, business man or professional man, should be given the same right of entry to, and the same courteous treatment in, this country as are accorded to the student or traveler, the business man or professional man, of any other nation." He declared that our laws and treaties should be so framed as to guarantee to all Chinamen, save of the excepted coolie class, the same right of entry to this country and the same treatment while here as is guaranteed to citizens of any other nation.

This is an entirely sound and rational view of what the attitude of our government should be and it is absolutely certain that if it shall not be adopted there will be such resentment and retaliation on the part of the Chinese as will do great injury to our commercial interests in Asia—not only in China, but in all that portion of the world, for there is very general sympathy with the Chinese in this matter. There is an abatement of activity in the boycott against American goods, but it would be a mistake to assume that the feeling of hostility thus manifested has died out. As a matter of fact the organization which led to the movement, or was created by it, still exists and may renew its activity at any time. As now understood it is waiting to see what sort of treaty our government will be disposed to negotiate in regard to ex-

clusion. If this shall be satisfactory, the boycott will be abandoned, but otherwise it may be renewed with increased aggressiveness. It is not altogether, however, as the president said, from considerations of trade that our exclusion policy should be modified, but because it is just and right to do so. China is a friendly nation and is entitled to the same consideration as other nations with which we are on terms of friendship. And she is showing a determination to demand this and insist upon it.

FREE TRADE FOR PHILIPPINES

It appears that some of the congressmen who went to the Philippines became convinced that in order to build up the industries and commerce of the islands it will be necessary to admit their products free to the American market, as is done with the products of Porto Rico. Representative Payne of New York, who was chairman of the ways and means committee in the last congress and probably will be continued in that position, is quoted as saying that he is in favor of free trade with the Philippines when the treaty with Spain expires, which will be four years hence. In the meantime Mr. Payne thinks the duties should be reduced to 25 per cent of the Dingley rates, the revenue to go, as at present, to the treasury of the islands. Other representatives are said to be of the opinion that free trade can and should be granted at once.

Secretary Taft has long urged a reduction of duties to 25 per cent of the rates of the present tariff law and it is not improbable that this will be done, but no movement for free trade with the archipelago is likely to succeed in the coming congress. Not only is there an obstacle in the treaty with Spain, but there would be a very vigorous opposition on the part of American industries with which Philippine products would come into competition. Promotion of the industrial and commercial interests of these insular possessions is certainly to be desired, but not at the expense of any home industry.

NATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

It is an unquestionable fact that a very considerable number of the American people do not fully appreciate the greatness and power of their country. They realize in a general way that the United States is a nation of vast resources, that it occupies a prominent place among the industrial and commercial countries of the earth, and that it exerts an important influence in world affairs. They know that this republic has become a potent force in international affairs and that its influence is steadily growing. But in regard to the duties and responsibilities which this position imposes they have little if any conception. They do not thoroughly understand what is meant by world power as applied to this country.

In his Richmond speech President Roosevelt referred to this and pointed out that as a great people we must play a great part in the world whether we choose to do so or not. The old school conservatism, which believed in isolation, and which still has adherents, will doubtless depreciate this view, yet there can be no doubt that it will commend itself to the approval of the very great majority of our people. The part this country has been playing within recent years in world affairs is most meritorious, most honorable, and most beneficial to mankind. It has made for improvement in international relations, for a better understanding between governments and for the advancement of the cause of amity and good will throughout the world. Every action of our government during the past seven or eight years has had reference to the establishment of better conditions for the preservation of peace and the policy thus pursued has had the most beneficent results, contributing very greatly to the honor and glory of the country.

This necessarily imposes obligations and responsibilities which must be met. We cannot, without sacrificing our place in the respect of the world, recede from the position we have taken. As was said by Mr. Roosevelt, we have to play our part, and all we can decide is whether we shall play it well or ill. "Our mission in the world should be one of peace, but not the peace of craven, the peace granted contemptuously to those who purchase it by surrendering the right. Our voice must be effective for peace because it is raised for righteousness first and for peace only as the handmaiden of righteousness. We must be scrupulous in respecting the rights of the weak, and no less careful to make it evident that we do not act through fear of the strong. We must be scrupulous in doing justice to others and scrupulous in exacting justice for ourselves." In this is outlined a policy which all Americans can unqualifiedly approve.

An important part of the speech from which the above quotation is taken related to the position of the United States toward countries in this hemisphere. The president said that "in undertaking to build the Panama canal we have necessarily undertaken to police the seas at either end of it, and this means that we have a peculiar interest in the preservation of order in the coasts and islands of the Caribbean." There can be no mistake as to the meaning of this. It implies a responsibility which our government has never before assumed, but which has now become essential to our security. We must insist upon peace and order within all that region where we have enlarged interests and we shall be justified in using all just and proper means to secure and maintain peace in that region, at the same time doing what we may to improve the condition of the people of the neighboring islands. President Roosevelt has clearly defined the American position, so far as our interna-

national responsibilities and obligations

are concerned, and they will have very general popular endorsement.

THE BLUE AND THE GRAY

In his last empire address delivered before the United Confederate Veterans, General John B. Gordon, their late commander-in-chief, made this declaration: "We shall never know who was right until we join the majority on the other shore." This sentiment was acclaimed by the veterans who fought under the stars and bars, but it found no sympathetic response in the breast of any man who fought under the Stars and Stripes.

The blue and the gray rest in tranquility under the sod on the battle fields and in the national cemeteries. In recent years the blue and the gray have not only fraternized socially and commercially, but they have fought side by side under the old flag in Cuba, Porto Rico and in the Philippines. But while the men who imported their lives in the sanguinary conflict for the preservation of the union have generously forgiven they cannot forget, nor will they turn agnostic in the great cause for which they battled.

In that terrible conflict there was a right and a wrong, and the line of demarcation between right and wrong was as broad as the gulf. On the one side were arrayed the men who fought for freedom and union and on the other the men who fought to perpetuate slavery by disunion.

The memorable declaration of General Gordon is recalled by the utterances of President Roosevelt on his southern tour, in which, unconsciously doubtless, he places the men who wore the blue and the men who wore the gray upon the same level of loyalty and patriotism by giving expression to a feeling of equal pride in the valor of "those who fought on the one side or the other, provided, that each did with all his might and soul and mind his duty as it was given him to see his duty."

No loyal American will detract from the reputation for valor and self-sacrificing heroism of the men who battled for the confederacy on land and sea, but the men who suffered and died that the nation might live are certainly entitled to and will always occupy a higher plane on the broad field of civilization and humanity than the men who sought to dismember the union and destroy the nation.

However gratifying the reconciliation of the sections has been, it would be an awful commentary upon the standard of patriotism of the American republic to class Abraham Lincoln with Jefferson Davis, Robert E. Lee with Ulysses S. Grant, Raphael Semmes with David G. Farragut. What incentive would it be to future generations of Americans to be loyal to their country and their flag, if those who sought to destroy the one and dishonor the other were to go down in history as absolutely equal in patriotism and devotion to their mother land.

The late popocratic candidate for governor, George W. Berge, has made his debut in the literary arena through a small book entitled "The Free Pass Bribery System." The book is embellished with a portrait of the author and those of a number of railroad managers, railroad attorneys and railroad lobby pass distributors. There is little to be said about Mr. Berge's first born as a literary production, but from the political point of view it is entitled to more than passing notice. First and foremost, it contains more truth than poetry, and while its tendency is to magnify the vices of republicans and the virtues of populists and democrats, its arraignment of pass bribery and corporate domination is not too severe. In pointing out the demoralizing effect of free railroad passes upon all departments of state government and especially upon the law-making branch, Mr. Berge has simply reiterated the admonitions and remonstrances of The Bee for the past thirty years. His exhortation of the corporation lobby cannot be too highly commended, but even in this respect Mr. Berge has simply re-echoed the scorching editorials on this subject that have appeared in this paper during the succeeding sessions of Nebraska legislatures.

The Nashville Chamber of Commerce has resolved unanimously that the gifts presented to Alice Roosevelt by Asiatic potentates be admitted free of duty, but the Nashville Chamber of Commerce has nothing to say on that subject. The customs laws of the United States makes no distinction between persons. Some thirty years ago the daughter of General Sherman accepted a precious necklace from the khedive of Egypt, but as she was not rich enough to pay the customs duty, the necklace was kept in the vaults of the United States treasury for many years before it was released on payment of duty.

The express messenger who stole \$100,000 in currency that was being conveyed by him from Pittsburg over the Pennsylvania railroad has been captured and the bulk of the treasure recovered, but his explanation of the theft is suggestive. With only \$65 a month in wages, while carrying hundreds of thousands of dollars of valuables, "the temptation to better my condition was altogether too great."

It was prearranged and foreordained that Highwayman Shercliffe, with various aliases, was not to be requisitioned out of Iowa for high crimes in other states. His recent disappearance from Des Moines was only temporary, and his reappearance in Des Moines immediately after Governor Cummins had declined to allow him to be transported for trial to Oklahoma is no sur-

prise to his admiring friends in Nebraska and Iowa.

The construction of the Chicago drainage canal has involved an expenditure of nearly \$47,000,000. If the construction of the Panama canal is conducted with the same economy it will cost at least ten times that much. If there is extravagance and wastefulness it may cost a round billion before it is completed, but we are in for it all the same.

Now that Colonel Lee Spratlan and Bol' Clancy have been half-toned and cremated by the embattled standard bearer of Nebraska democracy, George W. Berge, their memory will doubtless be perpetuated in book form in the archives of the Nebraska Historical society.

If the railroads continue to tell how difficult it will be for government employees to fix freight rates the men now performing that service may suddenly discover that they are not being paid all they are worth.

The irregularities and peculiarities in life insurance companies are not confined entirely to the plutocratic American metropolis. Minneapolis also has some little Alexanders and thrifty McCurdys.

The Omaha bank clearings for the past week have climbed up to the verge of the ten million dollar mark, which affords a most tangible index of Omaha's commercial and industrial growth.

Confidence Well Placed. Cleveland Leader. Pat Crowe says that "whatever happens God will take care of me." It is to be hoped that the deity will be ably seconded in this matter by the police.

Nothing New! Chicago News. There is nothing new in the doctors' discovery that highballs have an anesthetic effect. In police circles their power to put men to sleep has been recognized for years.

Gold Outclassed. St. Louis Globe-Democrat. In three years 2,500,000 immigrants have been added to the population of the United States. The importations of gold are a small item compared with this tidal wave of able-bodied humanity.

It's Up to You, George! Pittsburg Dispatch. Since Admiral Dewey has announced his views on the age at which officers of given rank in the navy should retire it would be interesting to know what he thinks the right age for the retirement of the admiral.

How Small It Looks. Pittsburg Dispatch. Seventy-five million of a debt charge in the Japanese budget is spoken of as an immense burden. Yet the people of the United States might recall that there was once a nation that began life after a great war with an interest charge of just about twice that sum.

Prosperity Working Overtime. Boston Transcript. In spite of the picture postal fad, which is said to be demoralizing to the correspondence habit, the postal receipts for fifty of the largest cities last month were 10 per cent greater than a year ago. Our prosperity barometers all seem to be working overtime.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE. The man with the cigarette cough was obliged to cough up.

The impression seems to be growing that policy holders "pay the freight."

"You can't work too hard or too much," says Mr. Edson. Thomas has not been on a pay roll for several months.

Boston people paid a rare tribute to the late Mayor Collins, by completing a memorial fund of \$5,000 in sixteen days.

Blue Beard Withhoff, the New York blue-bogianist, has scored a record of thirty-two wives, all living. They ought to get together and hold an experience meeting.

New York surgeons have agreed on a scale of \$5 for amputating a finger and \$10 for severing a leg. Between these figures is sufficient room to amputate the victim's purse.

One inference drawn from President McCurdy's testimony is that the size of the salary is not a true measure of the recipient's knowledge. The faculty of looking wise is often a paying asset.

Just as Peoria was recovering from the shock of educational graft, a fat man and a lean man began giving nightly exhibitions of holdup graft. As a consequence Peorians are obliged to stay in after dark or go loaded.

Just to show that there is one conscientious respecter of law in the state, a Pennsylvanian camped at the base of a tree into which he had driven a bear from Saturday night until Monday morning and then got busy. Sunday was observed by prayerfully watching the bear.

SECLAR SHOTS AT THE PULPIT. Brooklyn Eagle: The average Methodist clergyman now draws a salary of \$32, representing \$3.78 from each member of the church. It seems to be time for ministers to get into politics, or for wealthy politicians to spend more for their souls.

Springfield Republican: Queer things are sometimes said in pulpits, and Rev. Richard A. Morley, in a Chicago Methodist church, is charged with not a few in a recent sermon. His subject was the duties of a wife—an ideal wife. The dear woman must "always look her best," never scold, make it her constant duty to please her husband, "never coerce him," realize every moment that she "was created to be subject to him." And "it is unpardonable for a wife to tell a lie to her husband." He should now preach on the corresponding duties of a husband. As he has left it, the case is extremely hard on the wife. But perhaps Mr. Morley thinks that the trouble of the world came from Eve's eating that apple.

Western Policies for Western People Guaranteed by Western Securities

Is a principle, not a phrase. More than FIFTY MILLIONS of dollars in life insurance premiums are being sent to the east EVERY YEAR by the people of the west. This drain on the financial resources of the west has affected its agricultural, commercial and industrial life. Unreasonable, because unnecessary, since western life insurance companies are giving GREATER SECURITY and BETTER RESULTS, as we now know. Think of it! The company that offers absolute security beyond any other in America, because its funds are invested, not in stocks or railroad bonds, but in western farm mortgages and in municipal, county and school bonds of the west, is the Bankers Reserve Life Company of Omaha!

The company that pays more than DOUBLE the DIVIDENDS of any other company, percentage based on mean reserves of all policies, is the Bankers Reserve Life of Omaha!

The company that, in ratio of assets to liabilities, according to the sworn, published statements of all life companies, is the STRONGEST IN AMERICA, is the Bankers Reserve Life Company of Omaha.

The ONLY company that publishes a QUARTERLY Statement of its affairs, making full and complete recital of all its transactions is the Bankers Reserve Life Company of Omaha.

Investing all its funds in the west, giving widest publicity to its management; relying upon deeds, not words; upon character, not bigness; confident of the verdict, the company that can justly invite the confidence of all western people is the

Bankers Reserve Life Company of Omaha. BASCOM H. ROBISON, President.

SERMONS BOILED DOWN.

Small sorrows are most volatile. Fidelity is the best evidence of faith. No big success can come to a little soul. Saving money is not being saved by money. Sorrow is often one way of spelling strength. The self-centered church revolves around the collection. Sins of the imagination are by no means imaginary sins. The best prayer against pain is abstinence from sour apples. Pleasure without moderation is always mixed with misery. The finest sermon is the one that makes the fur fly on the other fellow. Money has power to crush happiness only when its root get in the heart. The cream of society is easily separated from the milk of human kindness. It takes more than wind in the chest to make the wings grow on the back. Petty annoyances make good plumb lines to determine the depth of your religion. As a balm philosophy seems to be suited to wounds that have healed themselves. You do not need to prove that you are a square man by sticking your corners into everybody. Some men try to raise a \$10 collection on a 10-cent sermon and then proceed to preach on the sins of playing poker.—Chicago Tribune.

DOMESTIC PLEASANTRIES.

Cashier (coughing)—Pardon me, I didn't catch your last name. Ethel (blushing)—I haven't caught it yet, myself.—Cleveland Leader. Consoling Friend—There! there! Don't grieve so; tears cannot bring her back. Widower—I know it! That is why I weep!—Smart Set. They met at a party on Tuesday, went to the theater on Wednesday and the following Sunday he proposed. "I love you," he declared. "Will you marry me?" "I will," she replied. "But didn't it take you a long time to make up your mind?"—Philadelphia Press. Mrs. Syllie—My husband takes a deep interest in art. Mrs. Oddie—You surprise me. Mrs. Syllie—Well, it was a surprise to me. But I heard him telling Jack Rownder last night that it was a good thing to study your hand before you draw.—Cleveland Leader. "Your friend Little tells me he's got his wife pretty thoroughly trained now." "Yes, he's got her trained so that he can make her do pretty nearly anything she wants to do."—Topeka Journal.

THE CELESTIAL POPULATION.

New York Sun. Before the gates of pearl and gold A Pilgrim bent and prayed. Arrived at last, and entrance claimed. His shining robes the city fair And roused an order up for wings. The good Saint Peter heard and smiled; He opened wide the gates, and bled The Pilgrim down with crowns and things And roused an order up for wings. The Pilgrim saw with joyful eye The throngs of angels floating by; He heard the music, breathed the air, Felt light and motion everywhere. But as he looked and donned his clothes Of shining white, he noted those Who sang were men, all passing fair— There were no lady angels there! He paused, his crown and wings lay so; He sought Saint Peter high and low— And as he walked the city through, He met no ladies—old or new. The horror of his plight at length Exhausted quite that Pilgrim's strength— To reach through toll the city fair And find no lady angels there! He dragged him to the shining gate— He would not stay, he dare not wait; His right to Heaven let him forever! Were there no lady angels there! They gazed him forth to utter gloom— He pined for brimstone tint the air, To look for lady angels there!

Glasses

If worn when first needed will save a heap of trouble. You may put it off and put it off—if the eye needs glasses the sooner you know it the better—for both your eyes and your pocketbook. That which helps you to accomplish more is an investment—not an expense. It will require an investment here of \$1 up, depending on your individual requirements, selection of frames and mountings, to fit you with glasses. The first cost is the least cost—there's nothing gained in delay. Think this over carefully. See us right away.



Huteson Optical Co. 215 South 16th Street, Paxton Block. Established 1890. Factory on the Premises