

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily Bee (without Sunday), one year, \$4.00. Daily Bee and Sunday, one year, \$4.50. Illustrated Bee, one year, \$5.00. Sunday Bee, one year, \$2.50. Saturday Bee, one year, \$1.50. DELIVERED BY CARRIER. Daily Bee (without Sunday), per week, 10c. Daily Bee (including Sunday), per week, 12c. Evening Bee (without Sunday), per week, 10c. Evening Bee (with Sunday), per week, 12c. Sunday Bee, per copy, 5c. Address complaints of irregularities in delivery to City Circulation Department.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss. I, C. C. Rosewater, secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, depose that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily, Morning, Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of October, 1905, was as follows: Total, 492,840. Less unsold copies, 10,951. Net total sales, 481,889. Daily average, 30,171. C. C. ROSEWATER, Secretary.

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.

The bars are down for the State Bar association, which is about to hold its annual meeting here.

At any rate, Ambassador Thompson does not deny that he wrote that letter, but, on the contrary, he stands pat.

Those "krangers" who voted against the saloon can't be engaged in raising grain in the neighborhood of Peoria.

"Pass; pass; who's got the pass" beats the "button" game all hollow in official circles at the Nebraska state capitol.

Secretary Shaw is to visit Europe, but he cannot hope to find in Europe a presidential "boom" like that grown in the Philippines.

It is in the eternal fitness of things that the defense of the land-fencing cattle barons should be taken up by the byphenated organ.

Perhaps the Standard Oil company instituted that Chicago suit because it had become tired waiting for Commissioner Garfield's report.

Mr. Whitney of Massachusetts should accept the invitation tendered him by the voters of the state to retire from the limelight for a short time at least.

Someone should now be called to tell what the New York Life insurance companies bought when they paid \$10,000 annually into New York campaign funds.

Senator Platt says the life insurance companies asked no favors from him. The companies may not have considered it necessary to ask favors after they had paid over the cash.

There is a well-grounded suspicion that the impure milk crusade is fomented purely in the interest of a milk dealer's trust with a view to squeezing out the small dairymen.

The division in the senate committee on interstate commerce will be more marked when the people get a chance to say what they think of those opposing the policy of the president.

Senator Platt's memory seems to be better than that of Senator Depew, something which might naturally be expected when the number of original funnygrams told by the latter is recalled.

A Lincoln man has been named chief of the fire department of the Canal zone. If Governor Magoon cannot live in Nebraska he is doing the next best thing by taking as much of Nebraska with him as possible.

The fact that the present Board of County Commissioners can fill the vacancy created by the resignation of County Superintendent Rodwell only until the end of the year, which is for a period of less than six weeks, does not seem to head off any of the applicants. A six weeks' public job, with a chance at reappointment for a year, is not to be sneezed at.

As a matter of public convenience, as well as a matter of economy, the county treasurer should be given the privilege of occupying the present apartments of the city treasurer, after the consolidation of the two offices goes into effect. The official occupants of the court house are notoriously cramped for room and from a business point of view the city and county are very much like a man and wife.

RECONVENE THE LEGISLATURE.

When the constitution of Nebraska was adopted thirty years ago the population of the state did not exceed 300,000 and the one-hundredth meridian was the western boundary of its inhabited area. It is acknowledged by everybody conversant with existing conditions that the state has outgrown the constitution many years ago and many of its provisions have become a dead letter by reason of necessity that knows no law.

The chief aim of the framers of the constitution was to give the commonwealth the most economic government they could devise. With that end in view they limited the executive department to a fixed number of officers and prohibited any increase in their number or compensation. In the same spirit they created a low-salaried judiciary that made the acceptance of a place on the supreme bench by lawyers of high capacity a sacrifice. The result has been disastrous to the people of Nebraska in many ways.

While we are paying only for three supreme judges at \$2,500 a year, we have created a supreme court commission twice as numerous and more than twice as expensive as the supreme court itself. Instead of confining our state executive officers to the limits of the constitution, succeeding legislatures have created a horde of executive deputies and deputies of deputies that have no valid existence under the constitution, but are drawing more salary and perquisites than the executives authorized by the constitution from governor down to superintendent of schools. While the constitution has fixed \$100,000 as the limit of state debt, our bonded and floating debt now exceeds \$2,000,000. The constitution limited the investment of our permanent school funds to United States and state bonds, but, by an elastic construction, state warrants, even when issued in excess of the state debt limitation, have been included as proper securities for the investment of these trust funds.

The imperative need of a revision of the constitution was recognized ten years ago, when the legislature submitted twelve separate constitutional amendments, embodying the most salient features of reforms and safeguards deemed essential for the necessities of the state. Unfortunately these amendments were submitted during the whirlwind excitement of a national campaign, in which Nebraska was cyclone center. The defeat of the proposition for a constitutional convention in the presidential election year 1904 is due to the same causes that defeated the amendments in 1895. Had these propositions been submitted at the general election, when only state issues are before the people, they would have been overwhelmingly ratified.

The submission of constitutional amendments or a call for a constitutional convention by the next legislature could not be voted on until 1908, another presidential election year, and that would almost inevitably result in another postponement of constitutional reform and the continuance of the reckless disregard of all constitutional forms by our people. Manifestly, the proper time for submitting a series of constitutional amendments is at the general election of 1906.

The legislature at its regular session last winter submitted but one amendment, providing for the creation of an elective railroad commission. Instead of voting for only one amendment the people should be given the opportunity to vote for a dozen amendments to cure all the defects of the constitution. This can be done only by reconvening the legislature in extra session, when it would have no other business to consider.

The objections to the reconvening of the legislature are frivolous. The assumption that it would refuse to submit amendments universally demanded by the people is not well grounded. The great majority of the legislature are men who are ambitious to gain favor with the people. They will not dare to refuse the people an opportunity to revise the organic law in the interest of better government.

The plea that an extra session would not meet with popular favor on account of the expense involved is groundless. The cost of a constitutional convention, if the proposition had carried, would have been anywhere from \$200,000 to \$250,000. The expense of a legislative session will not exceed \$1,000 per day, and inasmuch as both houses are organized and no other business would come before them, the session could readily be closed within two weeks, or in any event within twenty days, and \$20,000 would be a very low price to pay for expediting constitutional revision by four years.

POSTAL SERVICE ESTIMATES. The postal deficit for the last fiscal year was nearly \$15,000,000, largely due to the free rural delivery service. For the next fiscal year the estimates of the department are \$12,000,000 in excess of the appropriations for the current year, and aggregate \$103,000,000. Of this \$29,000,000 will go to the rural delivery service, which is a considerable increase over the current year. The rural service is being steadily extended and it is needless to say will continue to be as long as there is uncovered territory having a claim to it.

The chairman of the house committee on postoffices and postroads, Representative Overstreet, is quoted as saying that there can be no thought of retrenchment in any department of the service that will lower the present high standard of mail facilities. This, he urges, must be maintained even though it should become necessary to issue bonds to get the money required to run the department. At the same time nothing

can be thought of that has in it the elements of increased expense, so that employees in the postal service may as well give up hope of having their compensation increased. As to increasing salaries it is the opinion of Mr. Overstreet that as long as the books show a difference between outlay and income legislation looking to salary increase would be business folly. The probability is that the chairman of the house committee on postoffices and postroads will have no difficulty in persuading a majority of congressmen to accept this view.

TARIFF IN THE MESSAGE.

According to the forecasts President Roosevelt will have something interesting to say in his annual message in regard to the tariff. It is said that the president will frankly state his own opinion that there are certain schedules which call for some modification and will express his confidence in the ability of congress to deal adequately and efficiently with the subject when the proper times for such readjustment arrives. It is asserted he will say the subject is so delicate a one that he deems it best to leave to the discretion of the legislative body the determination of the time when such readjustment shall become imperative and the extent to which the modifications, when undertaken, shall go.

It would seem that a position of this kind on the part of the president must prove satisfactory to the industrial and business interests of the country. Mr. Roosevelt could with entire propriety, of course, recommend tariff revision, or indicate particular schedules which in his judgment could be modified without injury to the industries affected. He prefers, however, according to the statement of his position, to leave the whole matter to the representatives of the people in congress, who are fully competent to deal with it as the interests and welfare of the country require. The overwhelming republican majority in the house of the fifty-ninth congress is very conclusive evidence of popular satisfaction with republican policies and notably with the party's tariff policy, which was not neglected in the last national campaign. This fact has undoubtedly been given due consideration by the president.

Mr. Roosevelt is doubtless also influenced by the fact that there is no general demand at present for a modification or revision of the tariff. With all the industries of the country in active operation and labor well employed, the large majority of the people do not desire any action which would tend to disturb and unsettle these conditions, which promise to be long continued. The tariff agitation in Massachusetts, where both parties favor revision, by no means reflects general sentiment. Mr. Roosevelt, it appears evident, has not been in the least influenced by it.

If the president's position in regard to the tariff is correctly reported we think there will be very general agreement that it is wisely taken. Democratic opponents of protection will of course assail it and it is possible they will find a few allies among the more radical republican "readjusters," but the sincere friends of American industries and labor will heartily approve it. It means that our unprecedented industrial and commercial activity is to be allowed to go on undisturbed and that the great army of labor employed in the industries is to continue at work with undiminished compensation.

PLEA FOR THE PHILIPPINES.

Secretary Taft's address at Kansas City is a plea for the Philippines that is very likely to make a strong impression upon all who believe with him that the islands must remain ours for an indefinite time and that our duty is to do all that is possible for their development and prosperity. The secretary of war called attention to the act applying the coastwise laws to the Philippines and to the tariff on the products of the islands. In regard to the former he urged that it would not prove helpful to the American merchant marine, while as to the latter he argued that it is not necessary to the protection of our domestic sugar and tobacco industries. In support of this view Mr. Taft presented instructive statistics. From these it appears that the United States has been expending 3 cents for sugar from the Philippines every time it spends a dollar for Cuban sugar. In regard to the possibilities of future competition Mr. Taft held that there was no danger to the home industry to be apprehended. As to tobacco, none is now exported commercially from the Philippines to the United States and the quality of the tobacco grown in the islands is such that it can never successfully compete with the American product.

What Secretary Taft is seeking to accomplish is the extension of the coastwise act three years beyond the time now provided for it to go into effect, or until July 1, 1909, and a reduction of the duty on sugar and tobacco from 75 per cent to 25 per cent of the Dingley rates, other Philippine products to come into this country free. Mr. Taft said he was chiefly interested in having the proposed legislation enacted at this session of congress in order to "convince the Filipinos that the American government is anxious to do what it can to stimulate their prosperity." It is understood that President Roosevelt favors the proposed legislation and the members of congress who visited the Philippines with Secretary Taft are likely to support a measure to carry out the recommendations of the secretary of war. It is therefore very probable that the legislation thought necessary to improve Philippine industrial

ROUND ABOUT NEW YORK.

Ripples on the Current of Life in the Metropolis. A foreign observer expresses in print his astonishment at the continuous rapid pace of New York. He thinks the strenuous life has reached a dangerously high level there, but offers no remedy to check it. Really the pace is not so rapid as many people imagine. People are so cramped for elbow room that they are obliged to move with the human current or take the risk of being run over. The streets are too narrow for the human stream. Compressed on all sides it moves steadily and at certain hours under high pressure. Besides there is always "something doing" to stir energies. Every six minutes, for instance, a child is born, and every seven there is a funeral. In the course of last year, according to the statistics of the New York City health department, 99,555 babies opened their eyes on this busy, restless town, and in the same length of time 78,000 human beings, weary of its din, found their rest in the grave. Should New York therefore be regarded as one great family it could not be accused of race suicide.

The quietest place in the whole world at night is Wall street. Many of the big financial magnates have found this out and they have fitted up sleeping apartments on the top floors of the big skyscrapers. A whisper may be heard a block in this quarter after midnight, and at midnight there is no spot on the western roof restaurant, the financial district are becoming popular for the same reason. There is an air of quiet about these places 200 feet above the street level which attracts the man who has been in the hum of the street all morning.

The Thirteen club held a dinner November 15 in the Cafe Liberty, the East Side Hungarian hostelry at which President Roosevelt was entertained a short time ago. The dinner was served in the wine vaults, where the club promulgated all sorts of whims and fancies calculated to defame superstition. Every idea that has ever been regarded as a superstition has been revived and then repudiated. The weird surroundings gave the function a sort of fantastic character. It was not sufficient that the dinner was held on the thirteenth of the month, at 13 o'clock, but there had to be thirteen tables of thirteen covers each and the ruler of each table held a yardstick beneath a raised umbrella. Modern methods of illumination were discarded, and the only light which the Thirteen club could endure came from candles mounted upon skulls placed before the guests.

In April people kill themselves faster than in any other month of the year. On an average in that month someone ends his or her life every eight hours, whereas in the exhilarating winter month there is hardly a suicide a day. The great increase in the number of voluntary deaths in April is attributed to the low vitality which characterizes most people in the spring and the depressing effect of alternate heat and gloom. Contrary to general belief, suicide is also rare in summer, and as a rule in the month of July, which for many years past has been the hottest month of the calendar, there has been a suicide only once in every sixteen hours.

Murder in New York strikes down a victim once every two days and every eight hours an attempt is made to kill. The expense to New Yorkers of simply trying to take care of their city costs two-thirds as much as their new buildings. Every second they pay \$10 to maintain blank editorial columns than to fill them with copy for the year now amounts to more than \$100,000. Just how each citizen makes this tribute he may not know, but nevertheless it is made. He either contributes to the city directly in taxes or indirectly in rent or in food and clothing. The municipal government is also a heavy burden on the city, and the operating expenses have jumped. On the old boat station ten firemen did the work at \$9 a month each, or a total of \$90. Under the regime of the municipal ownership the firemen are paid \$14 a month each, and the operating expenses have jumped. On the old boat station ten firemen did the work at \$9 a month each, or a total of \$90. Under the regime of the municipal ownership the firemen are paid \$14 a month each, and the operating expenses have jumped.

There are hundreds of boy pickpockets in New York and they work scientifically. Election time is always a harvest for them, because where crowds gather it is easiest to operate. Whenever a big gathering is announced some Eastside Fagin sends his bright boys out to work. Many of these professionals who are able to dress well make visits to hotels and when they see a man dosing in a chair they sit next to him. The rear platform of a Broadway street car is also a favorite place, as is the big subway stations, where changes are made from local to express.

PERSONAL NOTES. Thomas B. Viall, the last survivor of the Monitor, has just died at Norwood, R. I. He was 89 years of age.

Miss Susan B. Anthony, appearing at the White House, declared recently that she came not as a woman but as a citizen. The Chicago woman who threw \$15,000 of her money into the fire, and then sued her husband for support, must have regarded her own cash as tainted.

The better class of Japanese, who have been engaged mostly in commercial pursuits in California, are flocking homeward. They think they have better chances in Corea and Manchuria than America affords. The leaders of the San Francisco colony say that not again for many years will Japanese immigration set toward the United States.

Dr. Thwing, president of the Western Reserve university, is credited with a clever mot in connection with the recent horse show in New York. In company with another educator he visited the show one evening and his friend remarked that it seemed more of a dress exhibition than one of equine excellence. "In other words," said Dr. Thwing, "it is a clothe-line instead of a horse rein."

According to a report current at the Brooklyn navy yard Miss Helen Miller Gould, founder of the naval branch of the Young Men's Christian association, was an unsuccessful bidder for a piece of saloon property near the branch which she desired to have devoted to some other purpose than liquor selling. Many of the patrons of the place are men from the warships and barracks at the navy yard. When the property was sold at auction to settle an estate the lively bidding for it caused surprise. The price was raised to about \$2,000, the property being knocked down to a brewer.

FLASHES OF FUN.

Bellevue Gazette: Rosewater may have lost out at the Douglas county election. We guess he did. But his talk at Chicago the other day before the railroad rate convention would indicate that he understands the railroad situation.

Norfolk Press: The republicans of Nebraska who are honest supporting the president in his rate regulation program have the fight of their lives before them. The railroads will not surrender their grip on the law-making body of the state without a struggle.

Blue Springs Sentinel: One of the things the coming state legislature should do is that of placing all so-called child saving institutes, old people's homes and every other institution that thrives off of public charity under the control of the State Board of Charities and be subject to their regulations and inspection.

Rushville Recorder: Bartlett Richards and W. G. Comstock, who were charged in the United States court with illegally fencing 20,000 acres of government land, were fined \$200 each after pleading guilty. This looks like a pretty mild sentence considering the amount of land involved, but the court took into consideration the fact that the defendants were taking down their trousers. This looks like a joke, but the defendants have used the land for nothing for years.

Bancroft Blade: The railroad-made editorial, "The Call for Nebraska's Flour," has succeeded in finding its way into a few of the papers of the state. It argues that the president's railroad rate ideas would prohibit Nebraska farmers from selling their flour in eastern American cities. We can't see the necessity of wasting ink on such editorials for we are not having any overproduction of wheat and not likely to have as each year the acreage grows less. It would be better for the press to run blank editorial columns than to fill them with railroad-made matter.

St. Paul Republican: Announcement is made that the literary bureau, which mysteriously sprung up all over the country about six months ago for the purpose of educating the people (through the newspapers) against the already strong sentiment against government regulation of railroads, has been ordered closed. It is stated that some of the magnates who furnished the financial backing are disgusted with the results accomplished, and feel that they can well afford to disburse what they probably expended in the bureau, and have brought them. There is no question but that an honorable, open campaign would have received a fair hearing from the press and public, but the methods pursued were so manifestly intended to deceive that they served only to intensify the already strong sentiment antagonistic to the railroad position. The literary bureau was one of the biggest tactical blunders ever committed by men who are supposed to be past masters in the gente art of lobbying.

Fremont Tribune: The Department of Justice takes a view of the illegal fencing of public lands which is slightly different from that held by Judge Munger of the federal court in the case against Richards and Comstock. The judge imposed a light penalty because, he said, the defendants were not shown to have been guilty of any moral turpitude. They had illegally enclosed 22,000 acres of the government's lands, by which the department is inclined to think them guilty of moral turpitude, as well as legal infraction. Attorney General Moody feels that having made such slow progress in bringing down the fences there ought to be more to show for the work than \$200 fines and six hours in the agreeable company of United States Marshal Mathews. Both Richards and Comstock are men of much prominence and influence, but we can scarcely be brought to believe Judge Munger is an official who would be disposed to permit them to go unwhipped of justice. It is true that he is sympathetic and wanting in spleen and vindictiveness, but when Attorney General Moody gets to the bottom of the matter he is likely to find the judge has weighed the situation and the arguments well.

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ROYAL BAKING POWDER CO., NEW YORK.

STATE PRESS COMMENT.

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FLASHES OF FUN.

He—They say tobacco is a great disinfectant. She—Yes, I've noticed it often cleans out your pocketbook in good shape.—Detroit Free Press.

Dickenson—Lost an election bet, have you? I suppose it was one of those freak bets. Tomwalker—Yes, it was the most I'd ever made. I bet the cash this time.—Chicago Tribune.

"Am I your little sweetheart?" she asked lightly as she finished ironing his shirt. "You're my bosom friend," said he fondly.—Judge.

First Humorist—Does your wife laugh at your jokes? Second Humorist—No. She only smiles pityingly.—Sensational Journal.

"This gentleman," said the judge, "declares he saw you in his yard." "What! Me, sir?" exclaimed "Rastus," with an air of injured innocence. "Ah! I thought you'd attempt to conceal an alibi, by way of defense." "No, sir, ah, didn't concock de alibi by way of de fence. I jes' walk out de gate."—Cleveland Leader.

The Freshman—Our star halfback "Biff" Gouger, broke four toes and sprained an ankle in yesterday's game, but the captain roared him to a turn! The Bartender—What for? The Freshman—Broken judgment. "Biff" tried a kick for the stomach, but the guy ducked and blocked it neatly with his head!—Fuch.

ON THE LIMITED.

New York Sun. On through the sunlight and over the river. Shooting through canons that open a way. On where the mountains are green, and wild flowers. Bow their bright heads to us, nodding good-day. Skimming away over upland and meadow, flitting through tunnels and shrieking a song. Clickett, pickety, pickety, clickett. Murrain the wheels as we hurry along. On till the landscape grows strange, and the people. Differ in aspect, as town follows town. On till the mountains grow black, and the glory. Of the full moon sheds a white splendor. On where the swarms of a thousand lights dim. Hint of a city with streets all athrong. Clickett, pickety, pickety, clickett. Murrain the wheels as we hasten along. Lonely the hearts we have left far behind. Tears may bedim the soft eyes of a friend. Happy the heart beats of fond expectation. Some one to greet at the long journey's end. Making up time with the speed of a rocket. Ah, but the great, burning monster is strong! Clickett, pickety, pickety, clickett. Murrain the wheels as we hurry along.



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