

THE OMAHA DAILY BEE

E. ROSSWATER, EDITOR.

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Subscribed in my presence and sworn to before me this 1st day of December, 1905. M. B. HUNGATE, 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.

Where does Mr. Baxter's deputy, Mr. Lane, come in? Is he simply a wall flower, or a sinecure?

Sarah Bernhardt will know what real work means if she has decided to enter the lists against the Theatrical Trust.

With a "state of war" existing in Tennessee it need surprise no one if the St. Petersburg date line is crowded from the first page.

The success of the new merger of steel manufacturers cannot be known until the number of resultant free libraries is determined.

The sewer question is still uppermost in the South Omaha and it will not down until it is settled, but the question is, will it be settled right?

Wall street needs another lesson like that given by Peter Cooper to one of the speculators who desired to borrow money at 125 per cent.

Andrew Hamilton's statement that he had had representatives at all state capitals naturally suggests the query: Who was the man at Lincoln?

The proposed long trip of the dry dock Dewey may break a record, but it is more likely to break a number of cables before the craft reaches Subig bay.

The report that the Balkan states are drawing closer together is proof conclusive that the diplomats of Russia are confining their attention to domestic affairs.

The general agent of the Milwaukee has told the Nebraska Grain exchange where his road stands, but where does the general agent stand on the pivotal point?

The Kentucky senator who complains that his mail was tampered with at the state capital showed discretion in going to Washington before making his troubles known.

Governor Hanly of Indiana is apparently of the opinion that the big stick should not be confined to national affairs and that graft should know no concession for political reasons.

In tendering Tangiers for the use of the Moroccan conference the sultan of that country probably desires to show the native chiefs just what they will be "up against" if they do not behave.

The land grabbers are not very scared, over the announcement that they are to be prosecuted by Special Attorney Rush, unless, indeed, they happen to be little grabbers, with only a mile or two of openly.

The report of missionaries on the state of the work in Turkey makes the recent visit of a Kansas mob to a self-styled "prophet" look like a Mohammedan propaganda in the United States would not be entirely without excuse.

And now it is given out that the lack of jail facilities in the present city hall building of South Omaha is the principal incentive for the irremissible movement in favor of bonding the town for a city hall building. Most people in these parts suspected that it was the desire to unload some real estate at two prices that was the incentive.

FIXING A MAXIMUM RATE.

In his annual report Attorney General Moody said that if the power, upon complaint, to fix a future maximum rate and put it into effect within a reasonable time, subject to appeal to the courts, should be given to some administrative body created by congress, a weapon against discriminatory practices, much more potent than any now available, would be put into the hands of the government.

It is reported that upon proof that a lower rate had been given to some preferred shipper, the body clothed with the power to fix a future maximum rate might well determine that the rate which the railroad could afford to give to the preferred shipper it could afford to give to all shippers in like situation.

The attorney general expressed the opinion that such a finding of the courts upon appeal would not reverse, "for no better evidence of the legality and justice of the rate thus fixed could be found than in the action of the carrier itself. It would be difficult for the carrier to maintain that a rate actually charged by it was confiscatory or unjust."

Mr. Moody pointed out that instead of long-drawn-out proceedings a speedy remedy, with few delays and no embarrassing constitutional questions, would be available. "Such a remedy would not only be speedy, but its very existence would act as a powerful restraint upon all discrimination between shippers.

The New York Tribune expresses the belief that the diplomacy of Secretary Root and the German ambassador will prove gratifyingly successful and the numerous interests in the United States that are deeply concerned will very earnestly hope that such may be the case.

Every effort should be made to avert a tariff war between the United States and Germany.

The principal objection urged to this is that to make the low rate given to a shipper the maximum rate for all on the offending line would have the effect to compel unoffending lines to come down to it or lose the competitive business.

This objection, however, will not have much weight with those who demand that the public shall be adequately protected against rate discrimination. The railroads must take care of themselves. They can, if they will, put a stop to rate and every other form of discrimination and if they do not do so they will have to take the consequences. The evil-doer must be punished in order to deter others from doing evil.

The view of Attorney General Moody, that if the power to fix a future maximum rate should be exercised in the manner he indicates it would prove effective in preventing rate discrimination, appears to be entirely sound and reasonable. A bill has already been introduced in congress which provides that when a road gives a rebate the net rate so produced shall become the maximum tariff rate, and competing roads, innocent of rebating, shall have an action for damages for all losses so incurred against the cutting road.

PLAYING THE GAME OF PHAROAH. Once upon a time, about 3,000 years ago, an Egyptian monarch by the name of Pharaoh was admonished to emancipate his slaves, but he would not heed the warning, and, as a consequence of the stony heart, he perished miserably in the Red sea. It is beginning to dawn upon the people of Nebraska that the railroad managers are playing the game of Pharaoh and will not heed the warning until they are submerged by the tidal wave of popular resentment, horse, foot and draughts.

These thoughts suggest themselves by the announcement that the federal district court is on the eve of granting a permanent injunction against the collection of taxes for the years 1904 and 1905 from the Union Pacific and Burlington railroads in the various counties of Nebraska. Suppose Judge Munger should grant this injunction. How many years will it take before the final decision is rendered by the United States supreme court? Will the people of Nebraska remain dormant and indifferent during all these years of the suspension of tax collections when they have within their reach the right to exercise the power conferred upon them by section 7, article xi, of the state constitution, which reads as follows:

The legislature shall pass laws to correct abuses and prevent unjust discrimination and extortion in all charges of express, telegraph and railroad companies in this state, and enforce such laws by adequate penalties to the extent, if necessary to that purpose, of forfeiture of their property and franchises.

Incidentally another provision of the constitution suggests itself, namely, section 2 of article ii, which reads as follows:

The rolling stock and all other movable property belonging to any railroad company or corporation in this state shall be liable to execution and sale in the same manner as the personal property of individuals, and the legislature shall pass no law exempting any such property from execution and sale.

Query—If the legislature cannot exempt Nebraska railroads from the seizure of their rolling stock and other personal property for delinquent taxes, can the federal court suspend the constitution of Nebraska by enjoining the collection of taxes? Whither are we drifting? Are we drifting out of a constitutional government into anarchy? Will the railroads, by the lessons of the past, force Nebraska to emulate

THE EXAMPLE OF THE EMBATTLED FARMERS

of Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa, who in the seventies enacted the Granger laws by which arbitrary taxation levied upon producers by public carriers was curbed? Manifestly the railroad managers are playing the game of Pharaoh with the people of Nebraska. It does not take a prophet or son of a prophet to foresee that they are sowing the wind to reap the whirlwind.

SEEKING A SOLUTION.

It appears that Secretary Root is still earnestly seeking a solution of the question of future trade relations between the United States and Germany, but at present the outlook is not as favorable as could be wished. It is stated that the president and secretary of state are heartily in favor of some arrangement or agreement that will serve to continue the trade relations between the two countries, but there are difficulties in the way not to be easily overcome.

The German ambassador appears to be equally anxious to find a satisfactory solution. He is reported as saying that it would be a matter of great regret to the business men of Germany if the negotiations which have been instituted should fail of accomplishing an agreement which shall insure the perpetuation of existing relations.

The New York Tribune expresses the belief that the diplomacy of Secretary Root and the German ambassador will prove gratifyingly successful and the numerous interests in the United States that are deeply concerned will very earnestly hope that such may be the case.

Every effort should be made to avert a tariff war between the United States and Germany.

INCREASING PHILIPPINE FORCE.

The military force in the Philippines is to be increased by two regiments of infantry and two batteries of artillery. It is stated that this is due to a belief at Washington that it may soon be necessary to land troops at one or more points on the China coast as the result of the growth of boycott conditions and anti-American agitation. It is probable that this is merely conjecture, since it is scarcely conceivable that our government has any idea of a military invasion of China because there is a feeling in that country hostile to American trade.

Undoubtedly that feeling is very strong and seems to be growing. The most trustworthy reports show this. But however active and general the boycott of American goods may become it would not justify sending troops into China.

It is understood that the Chinese government is doing the very best it can to suppress the anti-American movement and this is all our government can reasonably ask. The Chinese have an unquestionable right to refuse to buy our goods and if we cannot induce them to buy by peaceful and diplomatic means we shall simply have to put up with the boycott and patiently wait the time when it shall have run its course.

The cause of the existing conditions is well understood and it is with our government to effect a change by simply making such reasonable concessions as the Chinese government asks and which are no more than are accorded to other nations.

As to the sending of additional troops to the Philippines, it will probably be found that there is some other reason for it than that given in the dispatches.

The executive committee of the Civic Federation has explained once more, although no explanation was necessary. Everybody understands that the executive committee means well, but the results of its labors have not been commensurate with its program. It has furnished fees and free advertising for its lawyers, who have negotiated reciprocity treaties with the brewers and saloon keepers which could not possibly have been observed by the party of the second part, at any rate, in the district where saloons are patronized only by the lawless and the vicious elements.

The deputy state superintendent of public instruction is still carried on the pay roll, although the constitution not only prohibits the creation of new offices and substitutes for executive officers, but even prohibits the allowance of clerk hire in the office of superintendent of public instruction. The question is, have we a constitution, or if we ever had one, since when has it been suspended?

The New York police department discovers that there is no treaty between the United States and France covering the extradition of persons accused of grand larceny, showing that the New York police department can discover some things after all.

By the way, Mr. Rush has been especially delegated to prosecute Walter Moles, or is he to leave that job to another special attorney who does not have a client in one court whom he is prosecuting in another?

Louis Payn says he entered the office of insurance commissioner of New York knowing little about insurance and left knowing but little more. He must have been an ideal commissioner from the companies' standpoint.

Last Time Barred. Philadelphia Ledger. All that can reasonably be asked of winter is that it shall not come fooling around here later trying to make up for lost time.

The Mold of Form. Chicago Record-Herald. France seems to be bound to have a president with this whiskers. Perhaps this is France's round-about way of endeavoring to pattern after Uncle Sam.

Some Revelations Coming. Washington Post. Some of the western railroads have agreed to tell the Interstate Commerce

COMMISSION ABOUT VIOLATIONS OF THE LAW.

Look out for some more charges of those prosecuted on the old state's evidence docket.

Usefulness of Monitors. Chicago Tribune. Possibly there may be enough of those Roosevelt democrats in congress to interfere materially with that little scheme for sitting down on the president and his reform policies.

New York's Showings. Portland Oregonian. There are a few people in Oregon and elsewhere, who can give ex-Governor Odell a few pointers on what happens to a political boss when he gets into a quarrel with the president of the United States.

Folly of Worring About Money. New York Sun. Mr. John D. Rockefeller's money makes countless thousands mourn. So difficult it is to mind one's own business. A young man in Sioux City, Ia., has given up his fortune over the Rockefeller riches. He was a student of sociology. Soon he began to worry over a plan to make John Ford over and go to work. We trust the youth will soon recover. If he doesn't, it will be a consolation to reflect that a little insanity will rather help his standing as a sociologist.

American Way the Best. Springfield Republican. An English speaker at a meeting of the Friends Educational Association in Philadelphia gives us a bit of good encouragement. This observer, Prof. John Leys, says that the manners of boys in the United States are better than those of English lads. He says that the influence of our mothers and women teachers in the schools is responsible for this. This point of view he places picturesquely by declaring that "American boys learn their first lessons of morality at their mother's knee. English boys generally learn theirs across their father's."

Russia's Financial Straits. Chicago Chronicle. The public debt of Russia was \$4,677,000 a year ago and the annual interest charge was something over \$150,000,000. That ought not to be a great burden for over \$5,000,000,000 of national wealth and \$1 a head. But the fact that three-fifths of the interest is payable abroad tells the story of popular poverty and official profligacy. So populous a country ought to be able to borrow more than that at home and at a rate of interest not exceeding 3 per cent.

It is interesting to note that the average rate of interest on the high grade bonds of the United States is about 4 1/2 per cent. Even though they bear that average rate the securities now command an average of only about 84 on the markets, thanks to domestic troubles.

NATURALIZATION SAFEGUARDS. Recommendations Sent to Congress by a Commission. St. Louis Globe-Democrat. No city knows better than St. Louis that naturalization methods may degenerate into a mere business transaction. Several offenders in this respect have been convicted here in the United States courts and are serving terms in the penitentiary. In some instances foreigners are schooled in perjury as soon as they land, and in this crime court officials as well as district clerks have been found implicated. Naturalization is held too cheaply and administered too loosely. The president referred to this important subject in his latest message. A report upon it has just been submitted to congress by the Naturalization commission.

Among the recommendations made by the commission is that only permanent residents who speak the English language be admitted to citizenship; that a fee of at least 75 cents be collected in each case, and that no naturalization papers be issued for at least thirty days next preceding a consular or state examination. It is also proposed that a naturalization certificate be issued by a naturalization bureau; also that the declaration of intention two years before naturalization be abolished. The commission consists of the assistant to the attorney general, the chief of the passport bureau of the State department, and the law officer of the bureau of immigration, Department of Commerce and Labor.

Congressmen and the people who elect them will bear in mind that over 1,000,000 immigrants a year are arriving in the United States. For the year ending June 30 last the number was 1,025,498. Of this multitude more than two-thirds were men. The arrivals from Austria-Hungary were 275,065, Italy 224,479, and the Russian empire 184,587. Nearly two-thirds of the total came from these countries. From Asia arrived 23,925 and from Turkey 10,299. The increase in immigration over the year 1904 was 212,623. The total for 1904 was 812,875. The arrivals from Austria-Hungary, Russia and Italy. The urgent need of naturalization reforms is clear. When to absurdly insufficient requirements are added frauds the present system of naturalization must be pronounced disgraceful in its laxness and misfit provisions generally.

PERILS OF PROSPERITY. Thoughts for People Taking Flyers on Wall Street. Jasper, in Leslie's Weekly. It is well at this time, while I wish my quarter of a million readers a happy new year, to remember that prosperity has its perils. It tends to extravagance, profligacy and luxury, and it is not infrequently the harbinger of disaster. It implies to the pleasure-seeking man or woman. Concrete examples of this have been disclosed more than once of late, and twice have involved the head of the greatest industrial corporation in the world. As a rule, prosperity turns the head of an individual, it respects nobody, and it is the enemy of the beginning. It implies to the possession of millions finds it difficult to spend his income in the ordinary mode of living. He seeks extraordinary methods. After he has exhausted all the legitimate pleasures by the purchase of white, jewels, and great houses, and the giving of costly dinners, he turns to the pin-prick path of dalliance, and concludes with "wine, woman and song." But there are men in Wall street—and a lot of them—who do not lose their heads, who endow theological seminaries, as the late Daniel Drew did, or hospitals, as the late George F. Ruxton did, or who spend prodigious amounts in the adornment of their native towns, as Henry H. Rogers has done. Even Russell Sage, to whom the public has not always done credit, is a most liberal supporter of at least one struggling church, and Jay Gould's money, and his friend, J. P. Morgan, have been prodigal in the moneys they have contributed for various benevolences, and one of the staunchest supporters of that rapidly growing Methodist institution, the Syracuse university, is John B. Archbold of the Standard Oil company. So prosperity does not mean the end of the truly good; it appears to be the beginning.

ROUND ABOUT NEW YORK.

Ripples on the Current of Life in the Metropolis. Stenographers and typewriters engaged in taking down and printing the testimony given at the life insurance investigation yesterday completed a large task as the craft has undertaken for many a year. The investigating committee expects to close public sessions on Saturday. Then will follow sitting of testimony, the review and the recommendations. Some idea of the job may be gained from the statement that the testimony will cover 10,000 pages. The investigation has yielded longer records. It is said, than any similar proceeding ever held in the country. The official stenographers, who average from 30 to 25 pages a day, each of typewritten pages containing 20 words, have filled more than 100 pages altogether in the afternoon session of yesterday. The 10,000 mark was reached last Tuesday afternoon.

As the bid of the state was 75 cents a sheet, the cost of the stenographic work to the committee will be in the neighborhood of \$750,000 before the investigation ends next Saturday. After that time will be further expenses in connection with the preparation of the report for the legislature, and the total outlay may not fall far below the original estimate of \$1,200,000.

The testimony, as it is now bound up in typewritten pages, makes a pile as high as a man's waist and over 1000 pages, compactly as possible on the floor. In printed form it will fill ten or more volumes.

Some facts about the capitalization and the immensity of the traffic of the three main railroads (the Erie, the Delaware and Hudson and the New York Central) are of interest just now.

Though these roads, placed end to end, would reach only a little over 500 miles, yet altogether, in a year, they carried 1,046,770 passengers, whereas all the passenger-carrying roads of the United States numbered only 115,419,823 for the last year reported by the Interstate Commerce commission. Passengers per mile were 104.158 on the steam roads and about 1,000,000 per mile on the nickel-collecting machine, which may soon be under one man's control, as the larger part of it is already.

It is within truth to say that the dividend-paying stock and bonded indebtedness of the companies now combined falls little short of the \$400,000,000 of New York City's net funded debt. The average capital per share of the combined roads is about tenfold the \$39.88 per mile for the United States.

Just off Wall street on Broadway there is a restaurant which serves 1500 women daily within two hours. On Park Row an eight lunch room of invisible respectability has a daily average of 1000 patrons, some 1,000 of whom are served any time from 6 p. m. to 1 a. m., without being subjected to comment, criticism or undue observation. An exceptionally attractive young woman, whose home is on Staten Island and who works on one of the Park Row morning papers, has taken her midnight luncheon at this place on her way to the 1 o'clock boat for months without meeting the least difficulty or incivility. Further up Park Row, at the corner of Chambers street, there is another restaurant which feeds its scores of women nightly as well as its hundreds of women daily. Over on Broadway is a high class eatery an average of 2,000 luncheons for business women between the hours of 12 and 4.

The price of seats on the New York Stock exchange has made a new record with every successive sale in the last forty days. In November, the high price was \$58.00; two weeks ago \$58.00 was reached and since then prices have climbed in \$1.00 jumps in response to an unprecedented demand up to \$60.00. At this rate the privilege of trading on the floor of the big marble building in Broad street is worth to the 11,000 men who compose the exchange membership the enormous total of \$40,200,000.

Brokers are now predicting that the price will reach \$100.00 before it goes any lower; and the hope seems reasonable. This year on 'change is well under way to break all records. Already the bond transactions have passed the million mark, totaling up to the close of business Saturday \$12,526,420. In 1901, the great boom year, the bond transactions were, in round numbers, \$69,000,000. The total shares of stock sold in that year were 265,000,000. To date in 1905 the total is 236,727,154.

Going down town on the rear platform of a Fourth avenue car the other day we saw two eight-year-old Englishmen, and wedged in behind them a laborer whose features bore the cast of the Celt.

"It is striking," drawled one of the Britishers to the other, "how many of these fireproof buildings one sees in America that are not fireproof at all," to which his companion readily agreed and went him one better by declaring that not a single fireproof building existed in the city.

"And that's where you are wrong," volunteered the Irishman, aggressively. "Sure I know one myself, 'cause I worked on it." "Ah, my fine fellow," said the Englishman, turning around, "maybe you can give us the name of this remarkable building?" "The Jerome Park Reservoir," said the Irishman.

In the hearing in the Harlem police court of William Hays, chauffeur for Mrs. Marcus A. Hanna, on the charge of speeding her automobile too fast, the fact was brought out that the police on the upper West Side have evolved an original and unique method of timing machines that attempt to "do" more than the law allows. Bicycle Policeman Hickey, who made the arrest, swore that the machine in which Mrs. Hanna and Mrs. Mary Phelps were riding was going down Lafayette boulevard at the rate of twenty-two and one-half miles an hour and that it ran from One Hundred and Eighty-fourth street to One Hundred and Eighty-fifth street in eight seconds. When asked how he got the time down to a half mile's exactness in an hour, Hickey said that they had a system of timing that could not fail.

"But tell us what it is," said Police Magistrate Whitman, who was on the bench. "You see, it is this way," the officer explained. "The men on duty on Lafayette boulevard and Riverside drive, where the 'shovers' are tempted to shove the machine ahead too fast, are divided into two off in half miles and quarter miles and at the end of each quarter we drop a newspaper that is held down by a stone. When an officer has passed four of these papers he knows he has done a mile. See, you honor?" "I see," said the magistrate.

Prof. Felix Adler, speaking before the Society for Ethical Culture, said among other things: "A new kind of slavery which has grown up in the last few years is the employment of young children in southern mills there are 50,000 children of the age of 14 working from ten to fourteen hours a day, besides being compelled to work alternate nights. Four or five years ago there were only 25,000. There are also 8,000 children working in and about mines and thousands employed in clothes factories when they should be at home and doing the work of a man."

AN EASTERN VIEW.

Comment on the Fall of Federal Officers in Nebraska. Pittsburg Dispatch. The president's summary dismissal of United States District Attorney Baxter in Nebraska, growing out of the leniency shown to two wealthy cattlemen who pleaded guilty to fencing the public lands, directs attention to the remarkable condition of public opinion in the cattle country. Richards and Comstock were indicted for inciting a quarter of a million acres of public land. Entering a plea of guilty, they were sentenced to pay a fine of \$50 and spend six hours in the custody of the United States marshal, who promptly turned them over to their attorneys, the six hours being spent in a justification of the punishment (?) inflicted. President Roosevelt dismissed the marshal and has now removed the district attorney upon his refusal to resign.

Although it is comparatively easy to procure evidence to convict those who steal public lands, it is next to impossible to secure conviction and punishment. Of some 500 indictments returned in twenty states convictions were obtained in but thirty cases. The reason is the public attitude in the west toward the robbing of the government. It is looked upon much the same way as the east does beating a road or other corporation, or as politicians regard graft in office something more in the nature of a joke than serious offense against the law and the public. This popular sentiment is reflected in the reluctance of juries to convict and of judges to impose sentences that are not a cause for congratulation among the defendants.

The president's anger at the Nebraska incident is justifiable, but it is evident that the federal officials were simply swayed by the same sentiment as their neighbors. So little is thought of stealing the public lands that the fencing is done openly in many places. The dismissal of the Nebraska officers and the stern measures taken by Secretary Hitchcock in prosecuting all cases with rigor may in time bring about a revolution of opinion, but it is going to be an uphill fight.

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UNCLE JOE'S OPTIMISM.

Speaker Cannon Works the Smiles that Won't Come Off. Kansas City Journal. It is cheering to find Speaker Cannon preaching an optimistic sermon to the newspaper boys in Washington. It was the day after Christmas too. "Uncle Joe" thinks that the world is better, or, at least this country is better, than ever before. He is not for "the good old days" and that is rather unusual in a man of his years. Mr. Cannon regards the house of representatives as quite as representative of the people as it was in times past—even more so. He protests against the talk about imperialism, aristocracy, monarchy and all that sort of thing. And wisely too. There is no danger of a monarchy, or an attempt to establish a monarchy, in this country, and only demagogues or light-headed people think about such things seriously.

But really there is not much cause for making comparisons unfavorable to the present against the past. The great point is that conditions are not what they ought to be, and even Mr. Cannon admits as much. The object should be to ascertain the evils that exist, to do all that can be done to remedy them and to secure the country against the recurrence and so far as possible against the growth of new evils. There should be no quarrel with those restless spirits that hold their pessimism within reason. If nobody was dissatisfied there would be mighty little progress in morals or anything else. And dissatisfaction with national tendencies is sure to throw strong light on the men in high places, especially on members of congress. Whenever the people feel the least insecurity, whenever they believe they are menaced by graft or favoritism or plundering or betrayals of any kind, they instinctively scrutinize those who represent them as lawmakers and residence in high places, especially on members of congress. Whenever the people feel the least insecurity, whenever they believe they are menaced by graft or favoritism or plundering or betrayals of any kind, they instinctively scrutinize those who represent them as lawmakers and residence in high places, especially on members of congress.

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