

THE OMAHA SUNDAY BEE

E. ROSEWATER, EDITOR. PUBLISHED EVERY MORNING. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. Daily Bee (without Sunday), one year, \$1.00.

STATEMENT OF CIRCULATION. State of Nebraska, Douglas County, ss: C. C. Rosewater, Secretary of The Bee Publishing Company, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of The Daily Morning Evening and Sunday Bee printed during the month of November, 1905, was as follows:

When the year opened no one could foresee the end of the mighty conflict in the far east. Vast armies confronted each other in preparation for what was expected to be the greatest battle of modern times.

We are once more at the parting of the ways. Good-bye, 1905. That Boston copper brokerage firm which failed evidently took Tom Lawson seriously.

Governor Mickey is not a candidate for re-election, says the Lincoln Star, and that should be taken for official and final.

Resumption of traffic by Russian railroads may mean that a number of socialist leaders desire to move to a less dangerous climate.

Attorney Jerome promises to be responsible for much of the good work of the mayor's subordinates in New York for the next four years.

The German lieutenant who succeeded in capturing Miss Busch of St. Louis exhibited a degree of strategy which would have made Von Moltke proud.

Now that the insurance investigation is about closed, numberless nostrums as a sure cure of the insurance graft will be patented and put upon the market.

Bryan is studying the Filipinos and Filipinos are studying Bryan at close range. When they get acquainted with each other they will know more about each other.

The day may come when lawyers will be held as strictly accountable for their statements in court as witnesses; and in that day there will be fewer courts and wider justice.

No Tammany leaders have been appointed by Mayor McClellan, but it is not difficult to foresee the result of the election in Tammany hall—for the fish follow the food.

The New York insurance hearing has closed and it is now in order for the members to discover the real value of publicity in crystallizing public sentiment into adequate laws.

Federal grand juries in Chicago seem to be made of different stuff from federal grand juries in Nebraska. They have no Jim Crows or Joe Crows or Pat Crows as foremen.

If Nebraska is to have a big man for governor next time why not recall Governor Maxson from Panama. He is a six-footer and weighed 275 pounds before he went to the isthmus.

THE CLOSING YEAR. A most eventful year ends with today—a year whose record constitutes one of the most interesting chapters in the world's history and will for an indefinite time exert an influence upon the relations and the affairs of the nations.

For the United States 1905 has been a year of peace, progress and unprecedented prosperity. Great crops have rewarded the labor of the agricultural producers, their aggregate value exceeding that of any previous year. The output of the manufacturing industries has been greater than ever before in a twelve-month. There has been a vast increase in internal and foreign commerce.

Our northern neighbor, Canada, has had a year of prosperity, as also has our southern neighbor, Mexico, which during the year took steps to put her currency on a gold basis. The south and Central American countries, with the exception of Venezuela, have experienced no serious troubles during the year, and there is promise that Venezuela will reach an amicable settlement of her difficulties.

That the work of civilization and enlightenment has gone forward during the last year is unquestionable and so far as our own country is concerned by no means the least important of the year's benefits is the awakening of the public conscience against corrupt political bossism and the strengthening of the popular determination to put a stop to corruption abuses and lawlessness.

A COMMENDABLE NEW DEPARTURE. The policy pursued by the Burlington railroad ever since it obtained a foothold in Nebraska has been to build up local traffic by the encouragement of the settlement of thrifty and industrious farmers on the lands within its land grant, as well as the lands that are tributary to it.

As a result of this policy the lands in the South Platte country, traversed by the Burlington lines, have been densely settled by progressive and industrious farmers and villages and towns have been built up at comparatively short distances along its entire route between Plattsmouth and McCook. The same policy that has been successfully pursued by the Burlington south of the Platte is being extended along its branch lines north of the Platte.

In order to carry out this policy more effectively the Burlington now proposes to establish a bureau of information to assist legitimate homeseekers to locate lands still available and utilize its resources with a view of settling up the state. In selecting D. Clem Deaver as manager of its homeseekers' land bureau the Burlington has made an excellent choice.

Events in Europe during the year have been of great interest and of large import. Foremost in the stage of affairs is the revolutionary movement in Russia, the final outcome of which cannot be predicted with confidence. It is a protest of the people against despotic rule and bureaucratic oppression and corruption which it is safe to say cannot fail to result in radical political, social and industrial changes to the material benefit of the masses.

It is announced that from and after tomorrow the price of structural steel beams will be raised by \$6 per ton over the price that has prevailed during the year 1905. This increase of 10 per cent would not seem to be extravagant were it not for the fact that structural steel rails have for years been selling at double the price that steel railroad rails have commanded in the American market.

PROBLEMS IN MUNICIPAL REFORM. The problem of local self-government touches a larger number of the American people than almost any other issue with which they are confronted. The tendency of rural populations to gravitate toward population centers is manifested by the rapid growth of large cities, and the greatest difficulty American cities have encountered has been to secure an efficient and honest municipal government.

The experience of all the cities has taught one lesson, namely, that dishonesty in public office is not confined to any particular party and that extravagance, wastefulness and graft permeate almost every city hall and court house in the land to a greater or lesser degree, regardless of political conditions.

Germany has had a peaceful year, without any very notable happening, and at its close is enjoying a good degree of prosperity. For Italy the year's record presents nothing of unusual interest, and this is also the case with other continental countries of which special mention is not made above.

Great Britain has during the year been rather more than ordinarily active in international affairs and her influence has been in the interest of peace. Her treaties with Japan and with France, while of course prompted by the desire to protect her own interests, are yet peace promoters. The change in the ministry, by which the liberal party has been restored to power, will be followed by a dissolution of Parliament and a general election which will determine whether or not the existing fiscal policy of the nation is to be maintained.

One of the most eminent political economists, Prof. Taussig of Harvard, advocates long terms of service for the administrative officers, reduction in the number of elective officers and the enlargement of the appointing power. In other words, Prof. Taussig would center responsibility on the executive of the city rather than leave the selection of public officials to political organizations and irresponsible voters.

The irrepressible trend of public sentiment is in favor of divorcing municipal government from all politics, but that reform cannot be accomplished so long as city charters are fabricated by legislatures. In other words, politics cannot successfully be eliminated from our municipal governments until the cities make their own charters. The Toledo plan commends itself as the most practical measure for the election of municipal officers regardless of their political affiliations, but as yet it is confined to the election of school boards.

Under the Toledo system of school elections no party nominations are permitted. Each candidate must have his name filed without political designation and the names are placed on the ballot, in their alphabetical order, without party designation. As a consequence the candidates for the school board of Toledo are not nominated at primary elections, caucuses or conventions, but they are simply voted for on their reputations for capacity and integrity.

Sooner or later the Toledo plan will be adopted for all American cities, and when once adopted municipal officers will be elected on their individual record and merit and not as representatives of any political organization.

With the closing of the year Mr. W. R. Kelly, for many years head of the law department of the Union Pacific railway, severs his relation with the great transcontinental railway system. Mr. Kelly has achieved a national reputation as one of the foremost corporation lawyers in America and made an indelible impression upon the history of the Union Pacific, which, during his incumbency as its chief legal adviser, has bridged a critical period of insolvency and become one of the best managed and best paying railroad systems on the continent.

It required a legal mind of the highest order to pilot the successive owners of this property through the intricate channels and dangerous shoals of litigation, and few men in the legal profession could have guided it through the ordeal as safely and as successfully as did Mr. Kelly. It is to Mr. Kelly's credit that he has been strictly a law officer and not a political manager or manipulator of the Union Pacific railroad during its various regimes. His retirement, owing to declining health, will be universally regretted by all classes of people who have enjoyed his acquaintance or come in contact with him.

with qualms of conscience that would prevent them from accepting rebates and drawbacks, even at the risk of being classified with the Steel trust or Standard Oil Oligarchs; but, in this world of perpetual change, all things are possible.

The next meeting of the national educational convention has been set for July and President Jordan of Stanford university has been invited to deliver an address on "Beautiful California." What light President Jordan's address will shed on national education has not been divulged, but if he can persuade the overland railroads to supply the necessary passports for the national educators they will doubtless appreciate the Jordan lecture as a practical illustration of America's Eldorado.

The home of Dante, Italy's greatest poet, which is the center of attraction for visitors in Florence, was recently robbed of valuable relics by burglars, which reminds us of Adeline Patti's response when she was told that burglars had entered a church and carried away the jewels of the Madonna: "Robbers have no respect for Madonnas nor primadonnas," exclaimed the great singer. By the same sign robbers have no fear of the Inferno.

The Western Fruit Dealers' association has adopted a resolution demanding legislation at the hands of congress that will wipe out all of the private car lines and point out the insufficiency of pending legislation before congress in this respect. Manifestly members of the Western Fruit Dealers' association have not been able to enjoy the fruitful sources of the refrigerator car craft, and there are still others.

Germany has been stung into issuing a statement of its contention regarding Morocco and another precedent of Bismarck has been shattered, showing the increased power of public opinion in the realm of the kaiser, probably not due so much to the attitude of France as to the social democracy.

It is now alleged that the Irish have demonstrated ability to manage their local affairs; but with their usual caution English voters will probably insist that they show ability to capture Parliament before granting them the measure of home rule they demand.

Looking backward over the past year we reluctantly feel like bidding 1905 good-bye, considering that it was the most prosperous of years and has had such an agreeable ending, thermometrically, barometrically and big-stickily.

With the advent of the New Year the railroads are promising to be good, but with money at 100 per cent on call even the promises of railroad magnates do not pass current in Wall street, much less in the other parts of the country.

London unemployed are not pleased because John Burns has accepted a place in the British cabinet. Envy seems to be ready to mark the distinguished British labor leader for the fate which has met his predecessors in every land.

Ripe for Bargains. Baltimore American. Mr. John D. Rockefeller has just drawn a dividend of \$6,000,000. No danger of his not being able to buy what he wants in the January reduction sales.

Take a Vote on It. Chicago Record-Herald. Can a government which is unable to prevent such disturbances as those which are now making Russia a land of horrors be fairly regarded as anything but a failure?

A Wise Precaution. Washington Post. There may be something about all in this report that Tom Lawson has been losing heavily. One of his sons has just become engaged to a wealthy widow, possibly as a precautionary measure.

Superior Formalities. Kansas City Journal. It is not necessary to go through the formality of swearing off in order to quit a bad habit. A number of politicians are going to quit riding on free railway passes without making any resolutions about it.

Poor Kind of Majority Rule. Cleveland Leader. Do we realize how much and how often majority rule is made a mockery—a far-off marsh light flickering dimly over the bog of corruption? For example, past, present and prospective, take the question of abolishing the systems of fees for county officials. It has become so distorted in Ohio that men may make \$6,000 a year by letting subordinates do the simple duties of public "straps."

NEW YEAR'S AGAIN. Time for Resolving to Do the Best You Can. Harper's Weekly. New Year's is upon us again. Let us take up the line of march and make the best progress we can through another year. Humanity does not shape an edifying course. Day after day, year after year, it blunders along, as any day's history spelt out in the newspaper will attest.

ALL HAIL THE NEW YEAR. THE STORY OF THE OLD YEAR HAS BEEN TOLD, AND WE SAY "FAREWELL" TO 1905. 1906 USHERS IN AN ERA OF PEACE, HAPPINESS AND PROSPERITY. MAY IT BRING GOOD TIMES TO YOU ONE AND ALL. THANKING YOU FOR PAST PATRONAGE AND LIKEWISE A CONTINUANCE, WE WISH YOU A HAPPY NEW YEAR.

Store Closed All Day "Monday"; Open Tuesday Morning. Fifteenth and Douglas Sts. BROWNING, KING & CO. OMAHA, NEB. Broadway at 32nd Street NEW YORK Factory, Cooper Square

Music and the New Year. Many people believe that the natural expression of happiness is music, and that the home without a Piano is a dreary place. Time was when the prohibitive cost of Pianos made it possible for only a few to have them. That time is past. Modern methods of payments make Pianos possible almost everywhere.

A. HOSPE CO. 1513 Douglas St. You must hear the Angelus. The best place to buy a Piano. Special appointments may be arranged for any evening for the convenience of Piano buyers or Player buyers.

SERMONS BOILED DOWN. Good cheer chokes many a fear. You are never rich enough to spurn love. Sacrifice gives a heavenly grace to any life. The glowing vision comes in lowly service. The salt of the earth will have no sour virtues.

PROVERBS FOR 1906. A rolling stone makes a deal of fuss. A joyful wife is a match for any husband. If wishes were horses, beggars would be run down by automobiles. Much spending maketh lean the purse, and much saving maketh lean the soul.

PERSONAL AND OTHERWISE. The coming vehicle is the water wagon. The new year will bring much relief to New York insurance magnates. Inquirer Hughes has adjourned. Miss Gilman petulantly declares she does not care for the Steel trust magnate.

A CHANGE OF OFFICE. The books are closed, the last accounts are filed and finished now. The Old Year takes his coat and hat and makes his parting bow. A brand new pen is on the rack, and fresh ink is in the stand.

Browning, King & Co. ORIGINALS AND SOLE MAKERS OF HALF SIZES IN CLOTHING. ALL HAIL THE NEW YEAR. THE STORY OF THE OLD YEAR HAS BEEN TOLD, AND WE SAY "FAREWELL" TO 1905. 1906 USHERS IN AN ERA OF PEACE, HAPPINESS AND PROSPERITY.